



**SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**S.E.A.C.**  
**Minutes**

**Date: Wednesday, January 31, 2024**

**Location:**

**Time: 4:00pm - 6:00pm**

**Google Meet:** <https://meet.google.com/reb-ozpz-kzk>

**Attendance:** Tina Coombs, Theresa Coccimiglio, Sherri Kitts, Jared Lambert,  
Fil Lettieri, Jacques Ribout, Melanie Ross, Tiana Rushon, Gary Trembinski, Rosanne Zagordo

**Student Trustees and Guests:** Kenzie Garson, Owen Middleton, Justin Pino

**Regrets:** Irma DiRenzo, John Caputo

AGENDA ITEMS		ACTION	WHO	WHEN
1.	WELCOME LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT PRAYER FOR SEAC <a href="#">Indigenous Education - HSCDSB</a> <a href="#">Catholicity - HSCDSB</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prayer was said by all.</li> </ul>	Fil Lettieri	
2.	ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MINUTES (December 6, 2023)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes were accepted.</li> </ul>	Tina Coombs Sherri Kitts	
3.	AGENDA ADDITIONS/CHANGES			

4.	<p>GUEST(s): REPORTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SMC student trustee report</li> <li>Justin Pino</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Justin Pino, shared the Special Education Expenditure Comparison. <a href="#">2023-24 SEAC Report.pdf</a></li> <li>Student trustees shared the SEAC report. <a href="#">January '24 SEAC Report</a></li> </ul>	<p>Justin Pino Owen Middleton Mya Jensen Kenzie Garson</p>	
5.	<p>MINISTRY UPDATES</p>	<p><a href="#">MACSE Template</a> - Due Feb. 8th to OCSTA Representative</p> <p>Ministry Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Kindergarten Programming</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Minister of Education announced changes to the curriculum that will take effect September 2025</li> <li>Updates will be related to reading, math and STEM to align with Grade 1 to 8 curriculum revisions.</li> <li>No changes will be made to areas such as play-based learning pedagogy, student to teacher ratio and no changes to the actual structure of the kindergarten program.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Fil Lettieri</p>	
6.	<p>SEAC BUSINESS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MASCE UPDATES</li> <li>Criteria for eligibility for CTCC- Section 265</li> <li>Supports for literacy at the intermediate level</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Ministry of Education Letter - SEAC JAN</a></li> <li>We will defer the items: Criteria for eligibility for CTCC and Support for literacy at the intermediate level.</li> </ul>	<p>Gary Trembinski</p>	<p>February</p>
7.	<p>BUSINESS CARRIED FORWARD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Committee members for PIC, FOF, Wellbeing Committee. Members from SEAC are welcome.</li> <li>Jacques has volunteered to sit on the Wellbeing Committee.</li> <li>Criteria for eligibility for CTCC- Section 265</li> <li>Supports for literacy at the intermediate level</li> </ul>	<p>Gary Trembinski</p>	<p>February</p>
8.	<p>SUPERINTENDENT, COORDINATOR and MENTAL HEALTH LEADER'S REPORTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Special Education updates</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Vision Itinerant Teacher</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inquired into possible partnership with ADSB for the remainder of the year.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Fil Lettieri Rosanne Zagordo Jared Lambert</p>	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Their special assignment teacher is undergoing training and would not be able to take on the role at this time</li><li>• This arrangement can be revisited for September should we not be able to fill the position going forward</li><li>• Other staffing options include posting as a combined position or to offer training.</li><li>• Rosanne will follow up with the CNIB to see what services they can provide.</li><li>• <b>ASD &amp; Behaviour Advisor</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Desiree MacKenzie is on a leave of absence</li><li>- Kathy Sutherland has assumed her responsibilities in addition to her current schools</li><li>- A posting for a replacement is forthcoming</li></ul></li><li>• <b>STAR PROGRAM</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Refer to Overview</li><li>- SMFI was selected as the site because:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) Availability of classroom space, in particular a Kindergarten Room which includes access to a dedicated playground and washroom</li><li>(b) Ability to integrate both English and French Immersion students</li><li>(c) Opportunities for partnership with THRIVE's Entry to School Program for autistic students, currently housed at SMFI</li><li>(d) Access to administrator/LRT support (0.5 VP Release)</li></ul></li><li>- Interviewing permanent teachers for the position</li><li>-</li></ul></li></ul>		
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9.	ASSOCIATION REPORTS			
a.	NORTH SHORE TRIBAL COUNCIL (S. Kitts)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Letters from North Shore Tribal were sent to the school board indicating that Rachelle Lambert will be the primary representative and Sherri will be the alternative.</li> <li>● Sherri Kitts continues to meet with school administration and LRTs.</li> <li>● NOG will be coming in to do a presentation on the 'Duty to Report'</li> </ul>	Sherri Kitts	
b.	AUTISM ONTARIO SSM CHAPTER PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE (I. DiRenzo)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● No report at this time.</li> </ul>	Irma DiRenzo	
c.	ALGOMA FAMILY SERVICES (T. Coccimiglio)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Dr. Ulzen is working with Alternatives for Youth /AFS which provides students the opportunity to see a Child Psychiatrist.</li> <li>● Sally McMinn, a longstanding employee at AFS - Supervisor of Children's Services 0-6 has passed away.</li> </ul>	Theresa Coccimiglio	
d.	THRIVE – WELL BEING COMMITTEE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Transitions to school meetings with HSCDSB are starting up next week.</li> </ul>	Tina Coombs	

	( T. Coombs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Coffee Break session was provided for upcoming parents who have students with special needs.</li> </ul>		
e.	COMMUNITY LIVING ALGOMA (J. Ribout)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inclusive education month is February and CLA is having a contest Together we are Better.</li> <li>• Shelley Moore’s sessions will be made available on February 13 and 28. Links will be shared shortly.</li> <li>• Those interested in summer employment through CLA can apply to: <a href="mailto:summerjobs@cla-algoma.org">summerjobs@cla-algoma.org</a> by March 1 at 4:00 pm</li> </ul>	Jacques Ribout	
f.	MEMBER-AT-LARGE (M. Ross)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marketing and recruiting has been up and running. A new flyer was developed and distributed to members. It includes some highlights of the program.</li> </ul>	Melanie Ross	
g.	MEMBER-AT-LARGE – FOCUS ON FAITH (I. DiRenzo)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No report at this time.</li> </ul>	Irma DiRenzo	
h.	EASTER SEALS (T. Rushon)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Easter seals has asked members to reach out to SEAC to see if the Red Shirt Day</li> <li>• May 26 to June 1 is national Red Shirt Day to increase awareness - Accessibility Awareness</li> </ul>	Tiana Rushon	
i.	TRUSTEES’ REPORTS (J. Caputo, G. Trembinski)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trustees participated in a PD session in Toronto in January. It was an excellent presentation and the PD was very well received. Artificial Intelligence was one of the presentations. There was also a guest speaker on Truth and Reconciliation who made a tremendous impact.</li> </ul>	Gary Trembinski	
10.	ADJOURNMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting was adjourned at 5:42 pm</li> </ul>	Theresa Coccimiglio Tina Coombs	
11.	NOTES: February- SFFI March- SMFI, April- St. Paul May- St. Basil- future meetings Schools to invite Parent Councils			

**Next Meeting:** February 28, 2024

**Location:** SFFI

**Time:** 4:00-6:00 pm