



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

Date: Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Location: Board Room

Time: 4:00pm - 6:00pm

Google Meet: <https://meet.google.com/gyv-ntuw-tqe>

Attendance: John Caputo, Kasia Ceglarz, Theresa Coccimiglio, Irma DiRenzo, Jared Lambert, Rachelle Lambert, Melanie Ross, Franca Spadafora, Gary Trembinski, Rosanne Zagordo

Student Trustees and Guests: Dave Coccimiglio, Kenzie Garson, Mya Jesnsen, Alexander Oraziatti

Regrets: Tiana Rushon, Jacques Ribout

AGENDA ITEMS		ACTION	WHO	WHEN
1.	WELCOME LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT PRAYER FOR SEAC	Catholicity - HSCDSB Land Acknowledgement	Franca Spadafora	
2.	ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MINUTES	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Minutes for March were accepted.	Melanie Ross John Caputo	
3.	AGENDA ADDITIONS/CHANGES			

4.	<p>GUEST(s): REPORTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SMC Student Trustees • Dave Coccimiglio- Plant Manager- Capital Plan Accessibility Report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April '25 SEAC Report.pdf • Dave Coccimiglio shared his presentation with SEAC surrounding Accessibility in our schools. A copy will be sent out to SEAC members. 	<p>Kenzie Garson Mya Jensen Alexander Oraziatti</p> <p>Dave Coccimiglio</p>	
5.	<p>MINISTRY UPDATES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SIP/SEA compliance exercise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarification on Addressing and Reporting Serious Student Incidents: The Ontario Ministry of Education is clarifying the rules for handling serious student incidents and reporting them, especially since principals can no longer suspend students in JK-Grade 3 for certain behaviors. Even though principals can't suspend young students for some serious incidents anymore, the rules for reporting these incidents and investigating them are still in place. Staff must still report serious incidents to the principal, and principals must still investigate. Schools must also continue to use other methods of progressive discipline (besides suspension for young kids) to address bad behavior and promote positive behavior. The standard "Safe Schools Incident Reporting Form" still needs to be used. • Website Development: Supporting Students with Special Education Needs Transition to Post-Secondary Pathways: Ontario is investing in helping students with special education needs move to life after high school. They've hired "Transition Navigators" in school boards to help with this. To further support this, Queen's University is creating a website with information and resources for these students, their families, and school staff. This website will cover things like transition programs, getting accommodations in college or university, and training for the Transition Navigators. A group of people from different school boards will help make sure the website is useful for everyone in Ontario. 	<p>Franca Spadafora</p>	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summer Mental Health Support School boards will receive funding to support students in Summer 2025, to provide consistent and reliable mental health services to students, ensuring continuity of services over the summer months. The parameters of this funding are consistent with previous years. More information to follow Policy/Program Memorandum (PPM) on Student Mental Health Annual Reporting Template for the 2024-25 School Year As outlined in PPM 169, school boards are required to report on the implementation of PPM requirements on an annual basis. Annual report needs to be submitted to the ministry by June 30, 2025. 		
6.	SEAC BUSINESS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MASCE UPDATES Questions for Clarification re: SEAC Recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Questions about the Board's Mechanical Restraint Policy were addressed. Questions were raised about the Literacy support in the Intermediate grades. 	Irma DiRenzo	
7.	BUSINESS CARRIED FORWARD			
8.	SUPERINTENDENT, COORDINATOR and MENTAL HEALTH LEADER'S REPORTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Violent Incident Reports ETFO Recommendations Jordan Principle Update 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 27 recommendations from ETFO's Promises Unfulfilled Addressing the Special Education Crisis in Ontario .pdf Franca reviewed the 27 recommendations from ETFO to SEAC. A new Mental Health and Addictions Strategy will be developed. 	Franca Spadafora Rosanne Zagordo Jared Lambert	
9.	ASSOCIATION REPORTS			
a.	NORTH SHORE TRIBAL COUNCIL (R. Lambert)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The director of BLC has resigned and is moving on to another position in the community. 	Rachelle Lambert	
b.	AUTISM ONTARIO SSM CHAPTER PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE (I. DiRenzo)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Irma has extended a big thank you to those members on SEAC for volunteering. 	Irma DiRenzo	
c.	ALGOMA FAMILY SERVICES (T. Coccimiglio)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May 5-11 is Children's Mental Health. The calendar will be shared with Rosanne then to SEAC members 	Theresa Coccimiglio	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Ulzen May 5-9 will be in person here in SSM. 		
d.	THRIVE – WELL BEING COMMITTEE (K. Ceglarz)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition to Kindergarten Meetings are in full swing. This is the second round. • ICDP Team will run a 2 week School Readiness Program in June. These families do not have any daycare. This is running at THRIVE- Queen street location 	Kasia Ceglarz	
e.	COMMUNITY LIVING ALGOMA (J. Ribout)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No report at this time. 	Jacques Ribout	
f.	MEMBER-AT-LARGE (M. Ross)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New video was complete and can be viewed on the Sault College website • May 22- invitations will be sent out for Educators and Professionals • May 19- Parent and student sign up sessions will be available. 	Melanie Ross	
g.	MEMBER-AT-LARGE – FOCUS ON FAITH (I. DiRenzo)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No report at this time. 	Irma DiRenzo	
h.	EASTER SEALS (T. Rushon)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No report at this time. 	Tianna Rushon	
i.	TRUSTEES' REPORTS (J. Caputo, G. Trembinski)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 11, the Trustees went to Elliot Lake for their Board Meeting and then went to visit OLOF and OLOL in Elliot Lake. It was a great experience and everyone was very welcoming. 	John Caputo Gary Trembinski	
10.	ADJOURNMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting was adjourned at: 6:33pm 	Gary Trembinski Theresa Coccimiglio	
11.	NOTES			

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 28, 2025

Location: Board Room

Time: 4:00-6:00 pm