



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

**Date: Wednesday November 26, 2025**

**Location: Board Room  
Time: 4:00pm - 6:00pm**

**Attendance:** John Caputo, Theresa Coccimiglio, Irma DiRenzo, Jared Lambert, Rachelle Lambert, Fil Lettieri, Tiana Rushon, Sandra Turco, Rosanne Zagordo

**Student Trustees and Guests:** Abbie Dasa-Kumar, Chrissy Dewar, Michaela Kyle, Alexander Oraziatti

**Regrets:** Franca Spadafora, Jacques Ribout

**Google Meet:** <https://meet.google.com/yff-gcgh-aih>

AGENDA ITEMS		ACTION	WHO	WHEN
1.	WELCOME LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT PRAYER FOR SEAC	<a href="#">Catholicity - HSCDSB</a>  <a href="#">Land Acknowledgement</a>	Irma Drenzo	
2.	ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MINUTES -October 29, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes were accepted</li> </ul>	John Caputo	
3.	AGENDA ADDITIONS/CHANGES			

4.	<p>GUEST(s): REPORTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● SMC Student Trustees</li> <li>● AT teacher presentation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● SMC Trustees Report</li> <li>● <a href="#">November 25' SEAC Report</a></li> <li>● Chrissy, provided an overview of Magic School.</li> <li>● MagicSchool for Educators is an AI platform built by teachers for teachers.</li> </ul>	<p>Micaela Kyle Abbie Dasa-Kumar Alexander Orazietti</p> <p>Chrissy Dewar</p>	
5.	<p>MINISTRY UPDATES</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Webinar -on Nov. 19</b> - led by the Safe Schools Branch at the Ministry of Education – the focus of the session was on bullying prevention and awareness in recognition of Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week. The session included a showcase of best practices, programming, and promising initiatives from school boards across the province</li> <li>● <b>Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week 2025 – November 16-22</b></li> <li>● <b>Geneva Centre for Autism Training for the 2025/26 School Year</b> In the 2025/26 school year, the Ministry of Education is continuing to partner with the Geneva Centre for Autism to offer training opportunities for educators working with autistic students. Geneva Centre for Autism will be communicating directly with all school boards to provide each school board's allocation of spots and instructions on how educators can enrol in courses.</li> <li>● Bill 33 was passed which includes that the Minister can take control of school boards more quickly. More than 3 years of deficits in the past</li> <li>● School boards are encouraged to offer Resource Officers which we have in practice.</li> <li>● EQAO results are being released.</li> <li>● Student and Family Offices are being developed-more information to follow. Our plan has to be submitted in March.</li> <li>● MYSP-approved consultant from the Ministry is</li> </ul>	<p>Fil Lettieri</p>	

		<p>helping us with our plan, trustees and members of the senior team. Based on that session the trustees felt that we would look at refreshing it rather than re-doing. There will be stakeholder investment, the trustees and SO responsible for board committee- SEAC, FOF, IEAC, PIC, Audit committee- get feedback and a survey to all stakeholders to act on. This will be underway in the new year.</p>		
6.	<p>SEAC BUSINESS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MASCE UPDATES</li> <li>SEAC recommendations</li> <li>Letter to Minister of Ed.</li> <li>Article-re: seclusion rooms</li> </ul> <p> Special Education Advisory ...</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Letter to Minister of Education P. Calandra</li> <li><a href="#">Letter to Minister of Education P. Calandra - Education Funding Timing (003).pdf</a></li> <li>The members agreed that a letter of support be provided to the Minister of Education to have the funding announced by March to School Boards.</li> </ul>	Irma DiRenzo	
7.	BUSINESS CARRIED FORWARD			
8.	<p>SUPERINTENDENT, COORDINATOR and MENTAL HEALTH LEADER'S REPORTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SLP update</li> <li>Blind /Low Vision</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New trustee Wayne Greco to join SEAC in December</li> <li>Three new Community at Large members to join SEAC committee</li> <li>Transition to Kindergarten notices are being sent in by THRIVE and community partners,</li> <li>This month at the Catch up with the Coordinator session, CLA, Sergio Iacoe, Manager of Inclusion provided a presentation to the LRTs.</li> <li>Board forms, information on Alternative report cards, IEPs and Transition to Secondary were discussed.</li> <li>A teacher of the Blind and Low Vision teacher was hired and will begin in January.</li> <li>Grant received (\$14,000) - Removing barriers for students with disabilities - part of the application involved equipping our specialized teachers with goal development and universal design</li> <li>Hiring process occurred, Stephanie Maki is now permanent. Dana Dutchak is primarily for attendance and engagement.</li> </ul>	<p>Jared Lambert Fil Lettieri Rosanne Zagordo</p>	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sarah Jackson is a new student and family counsellor</li> <li>• Possibly looking at an attendance committee in the Board-improving school attendance</li> <li>• Rolling out Preventure to all schools is in progress</li> </ul>		
9.	ASSOCIATION REPORTS			
a.	NORTH SHORE TRIBAL COUNCIL (R. Lambert)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In January we will start a school readiness program and entering school. They need to be BFN members, social skills, readiness skills, rules and routines. From 12:30-2:30 pm</li> </ul>	Rachelle Lambert	
b.	AUTISM ONTARIO SSM CHAPTER PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE ( Name required) (I. DiRenzo)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Link provided from Autism Ontario:</li> <li>• <a href="https://www.autismontario.com/news/autism-ontario-shares-widespread-concerns-students-and-families-regarding-new-support-offices">https://www.autismontario.com/news/autism-ontario-shares-widespread-concerns-students-and-families-regarding-new-support-offices</a></li> </ul>	Irma DiRenzo	
c.	ALGOMA FAMILY SERVICES (T. Coccimiglio)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth hub on Dennis Street - events for ages 12-25 are offered such as: free holiday dinner offered, movie night, move through your emotions group Inner Glow Therapy Natasha Rinaldi</li> <li>• Ruscio construction helped with the construction of an elevator that is going to the Youth Hub.</li> </ul>	Theresa Coccimiglio	
d.	THRIVE – WELL BEING COMMITTEE ( T. Coombs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transition to Kindergarten meetings are happening late January and early February.</li> <li>• The office moved in Elliot Lake to a new location.</li> <li>• On Facebook we are looking having a holiday party, skating with Santa Dec. 6 with accessibility pieces. Other sites are having Christmas parties as well.</li> </ul>	Tina Coombs	
e.	COMMUNITY LIVING ALGOMA (J. Ribout)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No report at this time.</li> </ul>	Jacques Ribout	
f.	MEMBER-AT-LARGE			
g.	MEMBER-AT-LARGE – FOCUS ON FAITH (I. DiRenzo)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasing connection with parish and parish priests. It was a recommendation from the Focus on Faith committee.</li> <li>• There was a lunch with eight priests with a fulsome discussion about engagement.</li> </ul>	Irma DiRenzo	

h.	EASTER SEALS (T. Rushon)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concerned about Bill 33. Easter Seals submitted a meeting in July about removing trustees. They are worried about the erosion of parental voice and the risk of being overlooked.</li> <li>Giving Tuesday, and Easter Seals is asking for donations which will help children go to camps who have physical disabilities.</li> </ul>	Tiana Rushon	
i.	TRUSTEES' REPORTS (J. Caputo)	<p>MYSP is underway and John will be presenting or asking questions.</p> <p>Trustees are being asked to associate themselves with a school to become part of that school community. Promoting a partnership.</p> <p>Inaugural meeting will be held in December</p>	John Caputo	
10.	ADJOURNMENT	Meeting was adjourned at: 5:53 pm	Theresa Coccimiglio John Caputo	
11.	NOTES			

**Next Meeting: December 17, 2025**

**Location:** Board Room

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