

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, November 2, 2022, at 6:00pm

Hybrid Meeting:

In-Person: St. Francis Room (2nd Floor) Catholic Education Centre

Online: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

WCDSB Mission Statement

*As disciples of Christ,
we educate and nurture hope
in all learners
to realize their full potential
to transform God's world.*

CHAIR: Irene Holdbrook

MEMBERS

WCDSB Trustee – **Jeanne Gravelle**

WCDSB Trustee – **Tracey Weiler**

Waterloo Regional Down Syndrome Society – **Kim Murphy**

Waterloo Regional Police - **John Gilbert**

CNIB – **Irene Holdbrook**

Family and Children's Services of Waterloo Region - **Cindy Benedetti**

Waterloo Region Family Network - **Sue Simpson**



**Waterloo Catholic
District School Board**
Quality, Inclusive, Faith Based Education

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Kitchener, ON, Canada N2H 3Z1
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info@wcdsb.ca

SEAC Committee Meeting Agenda

Date& Time:	Nov 2, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.
Location (Hybrid):	In-Person: St. Francis Room (2 nd Floor), Catholic Education Centre Online: Via Teams Click here to join the meeting
Next Meeting:	December 7, 2022
Committee Members: Kim Murphy, John Gilbert, Tracey Weiler, Jeanne Gravelle, Irene Holdbrook, Sue Simpson, Cindy Benedetti	
Administrative Officials: Gerald Foran, Erin Lemak	

1. Opening Prayer Welcome	Erin Lemak
2. Approval of Agenda Motion by: Seconded:	
3. Declared Pecuniary Interest	
4. Approval of the October 5th Minutes Motion by: Seconded:	
5. School System Operational Business 5.1. BIEP (link in the Board report) 5.2. Special Education & Sacraments 5.3. Tutoring update	Jennifer Ritsma John Murphy G. Foran
6. Ministry Updates (10 min)	
7. SEAC Committee Functions	
8. Policy Advice to the Board	
9. Updates 9.1. Association Updates 9.2. Trustee Updates	
10. Pending Items	
11. Adjournment Motion by: Seconded:	

12. Action Items Place Holder	
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SEAC Committee Meeting Minutes

Date& Time:	October 5, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.
Location (Hybrid):	In-Person: St. Francis Room (2 nd Floor), Catholic Education Centre Online: Via Teams Click here to join the meeting
Next Meeting:	November 2, 2022
Committee Members In-Person: Kim Murphy, Tracey Weiler, Jeanne Gravelle, Irene Holdbrook, Karen Kovats	
Committee Members On-Line: Cindy Benedetti, John Gilbert, Gillian Hadden	
Administrative Officials: Gerald Foran, Erin Lemak	
Regrets:	

1. Opening Prayer Welcome	Erin Lemak
2. Approval of Agenda Motion by: Sue Simpson Seconded: Jeanne Gravelle	
3. Declared Pecuniary Interest	
4. Approval of the September 7th Minutes Motion by: Jeanne Gravelle Seconded: Tracey Weiler	
5. School System Operational Business 5.1. Special Education Support/Resources/Self-Regulation Presentation Tee's Presentation . Follow Up: Resource for Parents about roles of CYCW, etc. EDI – specific strategies that implement the dual struggle summary from Lynn that Tee can share back with group 5.2. Summer Programs Presentation Gerald's presentation 5.3. Paul Davis Follow Up Booklet shared among committee 5.4. Direction of SEAC Participation Inquiry Follow-Up Have community members joining SEAC without all of the criteria Gerald reached out to Ministry. We have to adhere to the guidelines that person must be a catholic rate payer. Motion at Board to reach out to other school boards. St. Clair, London, variety of responses, similar issues. Have shared how addressed it. Up to the Board to enforce it. Centre for ADHD Canada responded quickly indicating sharing criteria and they will put in monthly newsletter. Asking if anyone in this area that would meet the criteria. Continue to collaborate with other school boards for best practices. October 17 – Governance Meeting on agenda Director Dowling will be bringing Gerald's update to that meeting.	Tee Battistella Gerald Foran Gerald Foran Gerald Foran
6. Ministry Updates (10 min) None	
7. SEAC Committee Functions None	



8. Policy Advice to the Board	
9. Updates	
9.1. Association Updates	
<u>WWDSS Updates</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ WWDSS had our Any-Which-Way-You-Can-A-Thon on September 25th in Waterloo Park, and a record breaking (confirmed) \$69,590 was raised.➤ These funds allow us to continue offering speech and music social groups for all ages, New Parent Program, Mother's Connection, Teen & Adult Hangouts, Evening Speaker Series, and so much more!➤ Our annual calendar is now available for pre-order. Pictures from the calendar are being released daily through the month of October leading up to Down Syndrome Awareness Week in Canada October 23-29, 2022! (Previously was 1st week of Nov)	Jeanne Gravelle Tracey Weiler
<u>WRFN Updates</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Thank you to Gerald and Erin for participating in the IEP workshop on Sept 28 in partnership with WRFN, WCDSB and WRDSB. The workshop was well received by parents who appreciated the overview and opportunity to chat with Board staff following the presentation.➤ WRFN is hosting a Family Activity Day on Nov 20 at Doon Heritage Village in celebration of World Children's Day. Families will have an opportunity to tour the village as well as the museum while connecting with each other. It will run from 2 – 4 pm.➤ WRFN and KidsAbility are bringing back Kaleidoscope Kids – a weekly drop-in program for parents and children. It will be held at KidsAbility in Waterloo and provides an opportunity for families to connect with one another. We hope to start this program up again sometime in October.	
9.2 Trustee Updates	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Summer EDI planning – part of Jesus' gospel➤ Extensive work done throughout the year – Lynn new role➤ 2 other positions added:<ul style="list-style-type: none">equity systems navigatorHuman resources and equity officer – hiring, auditing, training, etc.➤ Equity update – building capacity at leadership level➤ Summer boost and programming priority for us to follow up with the province. Recommending to new board in November➤ Re-opening of schools this year➤ Covid is still out there continue to follow guidance of public health, etc. Follow best practices, promote screening, hand washing etc.➤ Have sports and events back.➤ Summer Transition Program➤ Temporary funding of CYCW's<ul style="list-style-type: none">Important that we had them in schools during the critical timeContinue to advocate for this➤ Headstart➤ Transition to grade 9<ul style="list-style-type: none">Non-credit. Offered in all five of high schools. increased academic readiness.➤ Exercises related to academic, social and spiritual connectors. <p>August 22-25</p>	



<p>1026 students participated Next summer – continue half day format</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Earlier access to IEP – learn profile sooner➤ Help reduce anxiety – opening locker, combination etc.➤ 11.7 Construction update <p>Between July and August Continues update in evenings St. Agnes – addition 190 new pupil places – scheduled for May completion Huron Brigadoon – 650 pupil places – scheduled for September 2023 East Kitchener 7-12 grade school – scheduled for September 2024 St. Patrick – 527 pupil places – September 2024 Rosenburg – 527 pupil places – September 2025 Joint school in Cambridge with Waterloo Public 354 pp for us – Sept 2025 Baden 294 pp – Sept 2026</p>	
<p>10. Pending Items N/A</p>	
<p>11. Adjournment Motion by: Jeanne Gravelle Seconded: Kim Murphy</p>	
<p>12. Action Items Place Holder</p>	



Date: November 2, 2022
To: SEAC
From: Director of Education, Superintendent of Learning: Special Education
Subject: Called to Awaken: Informing Parents, Priest and Educators in Preparing our Children with Special Needs for Sacraments

Type of Report: ☐ Decision-Making
☐ Monitoring
☒ Incidental Information concerning day-to-day operations

Type of Information: ☐ Information for Board of Trustees Decision-Making
☐ Monitoring Information of Board Policy **XX XXX**
☒ Information only of day-to-day operational matters delegated to the CEO

Origin: (cite Education Act and/or Board Policy or other legislation)

PPM 156 Supporting Students with Special Education Needs

Alignment to the MYSP:

Nurturing Our Catholic Community:

Faith is lived and witnessed in community: To strengthen and cultivate school, parish and home relationships.

Students and Staff are healthy in mind body and spirit: To strengthen system commitment to school, student and staff spiritual health.

Everyone is included, respected and welcomed: To increase improved awareness respect of differences within our school communities.

Special Education Plan:

Background/Comments:

"Preparation for Sacraments must be appropriate and never onerous to children or families. May our united efforts help children be welcomed to the Sacraments with the preparation necessary for them to feel the fullness of joy that comes with God's grace!" Most Reverend Douglas Crosby, OMI Bishop of Hamilton

Our presentation will include a survey and overview of some of the misconceptions that might exist with respect to students with special needs receiving sacraments and sacramental preparation. This presentation is designed to encourage and support parents with special needs students preparing for sacraments, and to joyfully clarify church teaching with respect to Baptism, Eucharist and First Confession.

Jeanne Gravelle and John Murphy will lead this presentation and discussion. We will include resources from our local diocese (Hamilton), official Church Documents and Teaching (the New Directory for Catechesis), as well as a wonderful video resource made to support a deeper understanding on this topic.



Links to support the presentation:

[Grace for All: Sacraments and Children with Special Needs in Our Catholic Schools Called in Baptism, Eucharist, And Confirmation \(A Resource for Parents, Priests, and catechists preparing children with special needs\)](#)
[SEAC Parent Engagement Night Video - Sacramental Preparation](#)

Recommendation:

Presented for your information.

Prepared/Reviewed By: Tyrone Dowling
Director of Education
Gerald Foran
Superintendent of Learning: Special Education

*Bylaw 5.2 "where the Board of Trustees receives from the Director of Education a monitoring report that flows from a responsibility delegated to the Director under Board Policy – **except where approval is required by the Board of Trustees on a matter delegated by policy to the Board** – the minutes of the Meeting at which the Report is received shall expressly provide that the Board has received and approved of the Report as an action consistent with the authority delegated to the Director, subject in all instances to what otherwise actually occurred."