

# SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Wednesday, March 1, 2023, at 6:00pm**

**Hybrid Meeting:**

In-Person: St. Francis (2<sup>nd</sup> 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.*

**CO-CHAIRS: Cindy Benedetti and Laura Shoemaker**

## **MEMBERS**

WCDSB Trustee - **Bob Sikora**

WCDSB Trustee - **Sally Fuentes**

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

Waterloo Regional Police - **John Gilbert**

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

Waterloo Region Family Network - **Erin Sutherland**

Centre for ADHD Awareness - **Daina Colbourne**

International Dyslexia Association Ontario - **Laura Shoemaker**

Member at Large - **Jeanne Gravelle**



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

35 Weber St. W., Unit A  
Kitchener, ON, Canada N2H 3Z1  
519-578-3660  
[info@wcdsb.ca](mailto:info@wcdsb.ca)



## SEAC Committee Meeting Agenda

<b>Date&amp; Time:</b>	March 1, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.
<b>Location (Hybrid):</b>	In-Person: St. Francis (2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor), Catholic Education Centre Online: Via Teams <a href="#">Click here to join the meeting</a>
<b>Next Meeting:</b>	April 5, 2023
<b>Committee Members:</b> Kim Murphy, John Gilbert, Cindy Benedetti, Erin Sutherland, Daina Colbourne, Laura Shoemaker, Jeanne Gravelle, Bob Sikora, Sally Fuentes	
<b>Administrative Officials:</b> Gerald Foran, Erin Lemak	

1. <b>Opening Prayer</b> Welcome	Erin Lemak
2. <b>Approval of Agenda</b>  Motion by: Seconded:	
3. <b>Declared Pecuniary Interest</b>	
4. <b>Approval of the January 11<sup>th</sup> minutes</b>  Motion by: Seconded:	
5. <b>School System Operational Business</b> 5.1. Programs and services for students who are blind, partially sighted and deafblind 5.2. Programs and services for deaf and hard of hearing	D Maggiacomo <b>Provincial School</b> A King <b>Consultant, Provincial and Demonstration Schools</b>
6. <b>Ministry Updates (10 min)</b>	
7. <b>SEAC Committee Functions</b>	
8. <b>Policy Advice to the Board</b>	
9. <b>Updates</b> 9.1. Association Updates 9.2. Trustee Updates	
10. <b>Pending Items</b>	



<b>11. Adjournment</b>  Motion by: Seconded:	
<b>12. Action Items Place Holder</b>	



## SEAC Committee Meeting Minutes

<b>Date&amp; Time:</b>	February 1, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.
<b>Location (Hybrid):</b>	In-Person: St. Francis (2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor), Catholic Education Centre Online: Via Teams <a href="#">Click here to join the meeting</a>
<b>Next Meeting:</b>	March 1, 2023
<b>Committee Members:</b> Kim Murphy, John Gilbert, Cindy Benedetti, Erin Sutherland, Daina Colbourne, Laura Shoemaker, Jeanne Gravelle, Bob Sikora, Sally Fuentes	
<b>Administrative Official:</b> Erin Lemak	
<b>Regrets:</b> Gerald Foran, John Gilbert	

1. <b>Opening Prayer</b> Welcome	Erin Lemak
2. <b>Approval of Agenda</b>  Motion by: Kim Murphy Seconded: Jeanne Gravelle	
3. <b>Declared Pecuniary Interest</b> N/A	
4. <b>Approval of the January 11<sup>th</sup> minutes</b>  Motion by: Erin Sutherland Seconded: Kim Murphy	
5. <b>School System Operational Business</b>  5.1. Assistive Technology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ SEA Funding is Special Equipment Amount for technology for students with special needs.</li> <li>➤ Guiding Principle is the Universal Design for Learning: Gives students equal opportunities to succeed.</li> <li>➤ Initiated by student's educational and psychological assessment Special Education Teacher/SLP/Vision Itinerant submits the request for SEA equipment</li> <li>➤ Software that Supports Students: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read&amp;Write</li> <li>• iPads</li> <li>• Boardmaker</li> <li>• Accessible coding</li> </ul> </li> </ul> Members tried the accessible coding equipment. (CUBELETS) Q&A	<b>E. Mazan</b> Assistive Technology Resource Teacher
6. <b>Ministry Updates (10 min)</b> N/A	



7. <b>SEAC Committee Functions</b> N/A	
8. <b>Policy Advice to the Board</b> N/A	
9. <b>Updates</b> 9.1. <b>Association Updates</b> <b>WWDSS:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Continues to offer cooking classes to members, speech &amp; music social groups for all ages, New Parent Program, Mother's Connection, Adult Hangouts, independence sessions in partnership with KW Hab and so much more!</li><li>➤ Planning World Down Syndrome Day celebration, which is observed on March 21, this date signifies the triplication of the 21st chromosome which causes Down syndrome.</li></ul> <b>WRFN:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Kaleidoscope Kids is back! Kaleidoscope Kids – it is now running every Thursday from 3 – 5 pm at KidsAbility in Waterloo. This is a partnership program between WRFN and KidsAbility offering a drop-in play group for parents and their child to attend (<a href="#">flyer</a>).</li><li>➤ Caregiver Art Break Series – offering another round as the first sessions filled quickly (<a href="#">flyer</a>).</li><li>➤ Acknowledging the Sibling Experience (ASE) – ASE was created to bring siblings of neurodiverse individuals together. Come and connect with other siblings and explore the ASE curriculum over some food and drinks (<a href="#">flyer</a>).</li></ul> 9.2. <b>Trustee Updates</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ <a href="#">Board of Trustees (January)</a></li></ul>	
10. <b>Pending Items</b> N/A	
11. <b>Adjournment</b>  Motion by: Jeanne Gravelle Seconded: Kim Murphy	
12. <b>Action Items Place Holder</b> N/A	