

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, May 17, 2023, at 6:00pm

Hybrid Meeting:

In-Person: St. Aloysius (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.*

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@wcsb.ca



SEAC Committee Meeting Agenda

Date& Time:	May 17, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.
Location (Hybrid):	In-Person: St. Aloysius (2 nd Floor), Catholic Education Centre Online: Via Teams Click here to join the meeting
Next Meeting:	June 7, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.
Committee Members: Kim Murphy, John Gilbert, Cindy Benedetti, Erin Sutherland, Daina Colbourne, Laura Shoemaker, Jeanne Gravelle, Bob Sikora, Sally Fuentes	
Administrative Officials: Gerald Foran, Erin Lemak	

1. Opening Prayer Welcome	Erin Lemak
2. Approval of Agenda Motion by: Seconded:	
3. Declared Pecuniary Interest N/A	
4. Approval of the April 5th minutes: Motion by: Seconded:	
5. School System Operational Business 5.1. Special Education Budget 23/24 5.2. Community & ACTIVE Living Survey	R. King Manager of Budget and Financial Reporting G. Foran
6. Ministry Updates (10 min) 6.1. Letter to the Minister of Education from Kawartha Pine Ridge - SIP Claim Funding 6.2. Letter to the Minister of Education from DCDSB – Impact of Covid on the students SEAC represents	G. Foran
7. SEAC Committee Functions	
8. Policy Advice to the Board	
9. Updates	
10. Pending Items	
11. Adjournment Motion by: Seconded:	



12. Action Items Place Holder	



SEAC Committee Meeting Minutes

Date& Time:	April 5 th , 2023, at 6:00 p.m.
Location (Hybrid):	In-Person: St. Aloysius (2 nd Floor), Catholic Education Centre Online: Via Teams Click here to join the meeting
Next Meeting:	May 17 or May 24, 2023
Committee Members: Kim Murphy, John Gilbert, Cindy Benedetti, Erin Sutherland, Daina Colbourne, Laura Shoemaker, Jeanne Gravelle, Bob Sikora, Sally Fuentes	
Administrative Officials: Gerald Foran, Erin Lemak	
Regrets: Jeanne Gravelle	

1. Opening Prayer & Land Acknowledgment Welcome	Erin Lemak
2. Approval of Agenda Motion by: Karen Applebee Seconded: Sally Fuentes	
3. Declared Pecuniary Interest N/A	
4. Approval of the March 1st minutes: Motion by: Erin Sutherland Seconded: Bob Sikora	
5. School System Operational Business 5.1. Building Independence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What we are doing and what the next steps are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Looking at the student needs individually (independence rubric) ➤ The moral imperative to build independence, students to achieve maximum ➤ About 50 % needs FDK and Primary and a large percent of students are in gr 12 and above Knowledge and understanding of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Evidence based practices; system wide approach ➤ Role of Classroom Teacher ➤ Role of Spec. Ed Teacher ➤ Role of EA/CYCW Comprehensive plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Logic model ➤ Targeted professional development ➤ Direct support via collaborative team ➤ Onboarding ➤ Capacity building 	T. Battistella Senior Manager of Student Services



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class wide Universal Supports: typically, CYCW but collaborative team can offer additional supports • Peers: evidence-based program (all secondary and some elementary schools) • Pre-School life skills program: teaching skills to 4-6 old students • Skill Building Resource Tool • Direct Supports • Next Steps (monitoring logic models and programming) <p>Q&A</p>	
<p>6. Ministry Updates (10 min)</p> <p>6.1. Near North District School Board letter to the Minister of Education regarding the increase in SIP (Special Incident Portion) funding that is being clawed back.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trustees would like to support the letter. • The Committee would support the letter being sent from the co-chairs of the committee. 	G. Foran
<p>7. SEAC Committee Functions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members to review PAAC on SEAC pg. 22-23 re: next year topics and planning 	
<p>8. Policy Advice to the Board</p> <p>N/A</p>	
<p>9. Updates</p> <p>Organization updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WWDSS: Kim Murphy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Waterloo Wellington Down Syndrome Association (WWDSS) celebrated World Down Syndrome Day (WDSDD) on March 21. Thanks to the Board's Senior Leadership and schools who participated in rocking their colorful socks for awareness and participating on social media. ➢ We continue to offer our members cooking classes, speech & 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! • Trustees Updates: <p>Committee of The Whole</p>	
<p>10. Pending Items</p>	
<p>11. Adjournment</p> <p>Motion by: Karen Applebee Seconded: Kim Murphy</p>	
<p>12. Action Items Place Holder N/A</p>	



March 10, 2023

Honourable Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education
Ministry of Education
15th Floor, 438 University Avenue
Toronto, ON M5G 2K8

Dear Minister Lecce:

Re: Special Incidence Portion (SIP) Claim Funding

Trustees:

*Steve Russell
(Chairperson)*

*Jaine Klassen Jeninga
(Vice-chairperson)*

*Cathy Abraham
Paul Brown
Terry Brown
Sean Conway
Cyndi Dickson
Kathleen Flynn
Rose Kitney
Angela Lloyd
Diane Lloyd*

*Maria Mahfuz
Kelly Mitchell
(Student Trustees)*

I am writing to you on behalf of the members of the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board (KPRDSB) Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) to request your consideration of an increase in the maximum per pupil SIP claim amount. Currently, the maximum per pupil funding received from the Ministry of Education is \$28,803.00, which, while very appreciated, amounts to approximately one quarter of the Education Worker salary and benefits costs to support our students with the highest needs. The remaining cost is funded through both the Special Education enveloped grants, as well as through the GSNs.

At KPRDSB, we strive to be very efficient with our resources, yet we continue to spend beyond the Special Education funding envelope by 6.7% in order to ensure that students' programming needs are met. Expenses related to supporting students continue to outpace the revenue provided, which includes the very labour-intensive SIP claims. We do not want to reduce services which some students need to be successful at school; therefore, our entire school system is put under strain because we are required to allocate revenues from other grants to meet our moral and legal obligations to students with special education needs.

*Rita Russo
Director of Education*

EDUCATION CENTRE

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Peterborough, Ontario
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1 (877) 741-4577
Fax: (705) 742-7801*

Website: www.kprschools.ca

We urge you and your team, Minister Lecce, to review the data which is being used to determine Special Education grants in order to assess the true costs of supporting students with special needs. Specifically, we are requesting that the maximum amount of SIP claim funding per pupil be increased to accurately reflect the costs of ensuring these students have full access to education.

We look forward to your response, and we thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Angela Lloyd, SEAC Chairperson
Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board

Honourable Stephen Lecce
March 10, 2023
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Cc: Ontario Public School Boards
Chairs of all Ontario Special Advisory Committees
Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA)
Todd J. McCarthy, MPP Durham
Hon. David Piccini, MPP Northumberland - Peterborough South
Laurie Scott, MPP Haliburton – Kawartha Lakes - Brock
Dave Smith, MPP Peterborough Kawartha
Hon. Todd Smith, MPP Bay of Quinte



**DURHAM CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**
Learning and Living in Faith

April 11, 2023

Honorable Stephen Lecce
Ministry of Education
Mowat Block, 900 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 1L2
minister.edu@ontario.ca

Honorable Stephen Lecce,

On behalf of the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) for the Durham Catholic District School Board (DCDSB), we are writing in support of Dufferin Peel Catholic District School Board Special Education Advisory Committee's recent letter regarding the impact the last 3 years of this Covid pandemic has had on the education of the students we represent.

We are writing to request that the Ministry of Education consider providing the option to extend the time students with differing abilities have to remain or continue in Secondary School beyond year 7 and beyond age 21.

We too, are very concerned, but despite the considerable impact this pandemic has had on student learning and well-being, we look forward to hearing how your Ministry plans to address the residual gaps currently faced by diverse learners.

Valerie Adamo
Special Education Advisory Committee Chair
Durham Catholic DSB

cc: All Ontario Special Education Advisory Committee Chairs