

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, November 4, 2026, at 6:00 pm

Teams Meeting: [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 – **Conrad Stanley**

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

Waterloo Regional Police - **Amanda Hennig**

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

Waterloo Region Family Network – **Karen Applebee**

International Dyslexia Association Ontario - **Laura Shoemaker**

Autism Ontario - **Monica Wenzlaff**

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



SEAC Committee Meeting Agenda

Date& Time:	November 4, 2026@ 6:00 pm
Location (Hybrid)	In-Person: St. Francis Room (2 nd Floor), Catholic Education Centre Online: Via Teams: Join the meeting
Next Meeting:	December 2, 2026@ 6:00 pm
Committee Members: Kim Murphy, Amanda Hennig, Cindy Benedetti, Karen Applebee, Laura Shoemaker, Jeanne Gravelle, Monica Wenzlaff, Bob Sikora, Conrad Stanley	
Administrative Officials: Angela McHardy, Erin Lemak	

1. Opening Prayer Welcome	Erin Lemak
2. Approval of Agenda Motion by: Seconded:	
3. Declared Pecuniary Interest	
4. Approval of the September minutes: Motion by: Seconded:	
School System Operational Business: 5.1. SAP Report	K. Roberts/J. Ritsma
6. Ministry Updates (10 min)	
7. SEAC Committee Functions: 7.1. Terms of Reference 7.2. Sacramental Kits Event	L. Shoemaker/ A. McHardy
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:	October 7, 2026@ 6:00 pm
Location (Hybrid)	In-Person: St. Francis Room (2 nd Floor), Catholic Education Centre Online: Via Teams: Join the meeting
Next Meeting:	November 4, 2026@ 6:00 pm
Committee Members: Kim Murphy, Amanda Hennig, Cindy Benedetti, Karen Applebee, Laura Shoemaker, Jeanne Gravelle, Monica Wenzlaff, Bob Sikora, Conrad Stanley	
Administrative Officials: Angela McHardy, Erin Lemak Regrets: Bob Sikora	

1. Opening Prayer Welcome	Erin Lemak
2. Approval of Agenda Motion by: Conrad Stanley Seconded: Jeanne Gravelle	
3. Declared Pecuniary Interest N/A	
4. Approval of the September minutes: Motion by: Cindy Benedetti Seconded: Jeanne Gravelle	
School System Operational Business: 5.1. Kidsability – Presented by Sarah Witmer - Senior Development Manager <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WCDSB + KidsAbility – a partnership to raise awareness and funds to help children and youth with disabilities and developmental delays to thrive through pediatric rehabilitation. Three Entities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Kidsability Centre ➤ Kidsability School ➤ Kidsability Foundation Grouped by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Entry to School Program (transition) ➤ School Based Rehabilitation Services Q&A	Sarah Witmer
6. Ministry Updates (10 min) 6.1 Student Support Office <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information regarding the Student Support Office and its services was shared with the committee. 	McHardy



6.2 Vulnerable Sector Checks (VSCs) <ul style="list-style-type: none">The committee was informed that Ontario school boards are now required to collect police record checks from members of certain statutory committees due to recent amendments to Ontario Regulation 521/01.	
7. SEAC Committee Functions: 7.1 Terms and Conditions - Website Information <ul style="list-style-type: none">The committee noted that the current website information is outdated.Updates will be reviewed and completed once the new Chair, and committee members have been elected.	Shoemaker
8. Policy Advice to the Board N/A	
9. Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none">WRFN Updates:<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Preparing for IEP Success Event: A joint event hosted by WRFN, WRDSB, and WCDSB took place on October 6. The event was well attended, with 67 participants from both school boards, and was reported as a successful learning opportunity for families and educators.Autism Updates: Waterloo - Tech Creators for Youth<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ November 4, 11, 18, 25, 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm➤ Join us for four weeks of hands-on technology fun! Using a variety of digital tools and technologies such as Micro: bits and Lego Spike Prime, participants will design interactive projects, build problem-solving skills, and discover new ways to create with technology.➤ Participants will also receive their own Micro:bit to keep and continue exploring at home.➤ Cost: \$20 per person➤ https://www.autismontario.com/civicrm/event/info?id=13146&reset=1WWDSS Updates:<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ On Oct 4, 2026, the WWDSS celebrated their annual fundraiser, Any Which Way You Can-A-Thon. To Date the organization has raised \$78 000.00 of its \$120 000.00 goal. and is still accepting donations on the website. Waterloo Wellington Down Syndrome Society: Support Us➤ For the launch of Down Syndrome Awareness month, the WWDSS alongside Tina Weltz began debuting the Beyond Expectations series. This series challenges the misconceptions and limitations often placed on individuals with down syndrome. Through portraits and personal stories, this series and calendar highlight how WWDSS members thrive.Trustee updates:<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Trustees Stanley shared Trustee updates for the month of September	



10. Pending Items N/A	
11. Adjournment Motion by: Conrad Stanley Seconded: Karen Applebee	
12. Action Items Place Holder	