



## Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes

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Date: March 4, 2025  
Location: Lindsay Education Centre | Muskoka Education Centre  
Time: 5:00 p.m.

### 1. Call to order

Chair J. Balfour called the meeting to order and confirmed that a quorum was present.

### 2. Student voice video

A video highlighting students from the Practical Academics & Life Skills Class was presented.

### 3. Approval of agenda

Moved by D. McInerney, seconded by B. Reain, that the agenda be approved.  
Carried.

### 4. Committee action items

#### 4.1 Approval of the minutes of the February 4, 2025, meeting

Moved by D. McInerney, seconded by B. Reain that the minutes dated February 4, 2025 be approved.  
Carried.

### 5. Administrative updates

#### 5.1 System updates – Director W. Hahn

W. Hahn provided updates on student attendance, the focus on early reading screeners for K-3, student mental health webinars for parents, reducing screen time in elementary grades, and participation in a Ministry pilot project for Artificial Intelligence (AI) usage in schools.

- Committee members requested a data breakdown of student attendance, specifically showing the percentage of students with low attendance who utilize special education resources.
- It was agreed that this data would be provided at a future meeting.

## 5.2 System updates – Superintendent N. Train

N. Train shared updates on support for reading, Individual Education Plan (IEP) reviews, and the collaboration between Special Education, the Mental Health and Curriculum departments participating in workshops related to autism and inclusion.

## 5.3 Department updates – District Principal M. Lefler

M. Lefler shared updates on system class professional development focused on literacy and math, de-escalation strategies, reinforcements, and sensory tool training for Educational Assistants, Universal Design for Learning (UDL) book study for staff, and transition meetings for students moving from grade 8 to 9.

## 5.4 Presentation – Autism Ontario

T. Jewell from Autism Ontario provided an overview of their programs and services, including information about the Ontario Autism Program (OAP), access to resources, and support for families and individuals with autism.

# 6. SEAC projects

## 6.1 Project priorities and work plan

M. Lefler shared the IEP draft video scripts and requested feedback from members.

# 7. Other business

## 7.3 Association and community news

S. Bullock of Community Living Huntsville shared updates on Inclusive Education Month and preparation for the summer job peer coach program.

R. McHugh of Community Living Trent Highlands shared that there will be upcoming community engagement events in May for Community Living Month.

# 8. Correspondance

## 8.1 Response letter to Limestone DSB SEAC from Linda Lacroix, Registrar and CEO, Ontario College of Teachers

The committee discussed the Ontario College of Teachers' response and agreed to draft a response letter on behalf of TLDSB which will be reviewed by the committee at the April meeting.

The committee also discussed the draft Additional Qualification (AQ) Course Guidelines and decided to provide feedback to the Ontario College of Teachers website on behalf of TLDSB.

# 9. Next meeting

Date: April 1, 2025  
Location: Lindsay Education Centre | Muskoka Education Centre  
Time: 5:00 p.m.

## **10. Adjournment**

Moved by D. McNerny, the meeting was adjourned.