



## Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes

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**Date:** Tuesday, April 7, 2026

**Location:** Lindsay Education Centre | Muskoka Education Centre

**Time:** 5:00 p.m.

### 1. Call to Order

### 2. Student Voice Video

### 3. Approval of Agenda

Moved by D. McInerney, seconded by R. McHugh that the agenda be approved.  
Carried.

### 4. Committee Action Items

#### 4.1. Approval of the minutes of the March 2 meeting

Moved by B. Reain, seconded by D. McInerney that the minutes dated March 2, 2026, be approved.  
Carried.

### 5. Administrative Updates

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

- The board remains dedicated to professional development for staff, notably through the 7, 8, 9 instructional series.
- TLDSB is transitioning from a 1:1 technology model in Grades 7, 8, and 9 to a ratio-based Chromebook system. This shift emphasizes traditional skills such as printing, handwriting, and the use of physical math textbooks for students from grades 7 to 10. Full access to technology remains guaranteed for students who require it for specific accommodations.
- To better understand local requirements, the Director is proactively seeking input through discussions with school council chairs and principals at approximately 20 different schools, addressing topics such as student attendance and homework. Additionally, the Director's Student Forum has returned this spring, engaging students from grades 7 through 10. The next session will prioritize equity, inclusion, and belonging, with a specific emphasis on representing marginalized and racialized student voices

#### 5.2. Budget Presentation – Superintendent N. Britton

Superintendent N. Britton presented the 2026-2027 budget framework for the Special Education Services Department.

### 5.3. System Updates - Superintendent N. Train

N. Train shared the following updates:

- In partnership with the Curriculum Department, a workshop series focused on supporting struggling readers has been established for educators and administrators.
- Additional funding allocated to support online courses through the Geneva Centre and CanFASD training for teaching staff.
- Funding has been allocated for sign language courses to enhance capacity in staff working with students requiring communication support, as well as for educators and administrators to complete Special Education Additional Qualification courses.

### 5.4. Department Updates – Superintendent N. Train

N. Train shared the following updates:

- Secondary leadership teams, including Guidance, Student Success, and Special Education Leads, are meeting in person this month to review and refine their roles in promoting student achievement for secondary students with special education needs.
- The department is providing schools with new resources for literacy, writing, and math, including a program for literacy in system classes and supporting secondary foundations processes.
- Continuing to monitor and promote regular attendance for students with special education needs and increasing opportunities for integration and inclusion for students in system classes.

## 6. SEAC Projects

### 6.1. Special Education Plan Review – Sections 6-9

The committee reviewed the next four sections of the Special Education Plan, proposing additions and clarifications for future updates.

## 7. Other Business

### 7.1. Toronto District School Board Letter

The committee discussed a letter from the Toronto District School Board regarding the provincial government's actions toward elected trustees. The committee accepted the letter for information only.

### 7.2. Waterloo Region District School Board

The committee discussed a letter from the Waterloo Region District School Board regarding the provincial government's actions toward elected trustees. The committee accepted the letter for information only.

### 7.3. Association and community news

FASD ONE shared that the federal framework for Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) is gaining momentum via CanFASD, despite the specific FASD funding envelope no longer existing as a standalone portfolio within Public Health Canada. Locally, the Vital Signs report has identified girls' mental health as a priority pillar for the region.

Community Living Trent Highlands shared an update regarding potential labour disruptions, noting that parties are scheduled to return to the negotiating table.

Community Living Huntsville was successful in securing a Trillium Fund grant to support a three-year youth employment program for individuals aged 16 to 24. Community-based sessions are being conducted with families and youth to identify the supports required for the transition to adulthood and independence, beginning as early as Grade 9. This includes direct consultation with students in the Foundations to Independence classes.

## **8. Next Meeting**

Date: Tuesday, May 5, 2026

Location: Lindsay Education Centre | Muskoka Education Centre

## **9. Adjournment**