Special Education Advisory Committee
Minutes

Date: Tuesday, October 13, 2026
Location: Haliburton Education Centre
Time: 5:00 p.m.

1. **Call to Order**

2. **Student Voice Video**

3. **Approval of Agenda**
   Due to a lack of a quorum, no formal motions could be made to adopt the agenda, but at the direction of the Chair, the committee proceeded through the agenda items for discussion.

4. **Committee Action Items**
   4.1. Approval of the minutes of the September 8 meeting

   Due to the lack of a quorum, the minutes of the September 8, 2026 meeting could not be approved and were deferred to the next scheduled meeting.

5. **Administrative Updates**
   5.1. System Updates - Chief Executive Officer (CEO)/Chief Education Officer (CEdO) W. Hahn

   W. Hahn shared the following updates:
   - The start of the school year proceeded smoothly, supported by strong staff stability. Department members remaining in consistent roles has fostered a clear understanding of expectations and a sense of role security across the system.
   - A student census was recently conducted. Results will be presented to the Board on October 27, 2026, and subsequently shared with this committee to highlight demographic shifts and key insights learned from students.
   - As part of the annual fall update, the suspension and expulsion report will be presented to the Board on October 27, 2026.
   - In consultation with Watson & Associates, enrollment projections indicate a stabilization across the board, driven by declining birth rates and families moving to larger city centers. Elementary enrollment has seen a slight decline, while secondary enrollment has increased.
   - The board remains one of the fastest-growing in the province for student achievement. Increased EQAO momentum continues to positively impact both student and teacher morale and outcomes.

- The current Strategic Plan is in its fifth year. The redevelopment process will begin in Spring 2027, with the new plan scheduled for unveiling in January 2028. Future planning will maintain a strong emphasis on student achievement while further embedding equity into achievement goals.

5.2. System Updates - Superintendent N. Train

- Secondary school progress reports have already been sent home. Elementary progress reports are currently being prepared and will go home in mid-November.
- Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) are due for completion by October 20 and will be distributed.
- An internal audit of safety plans is currently underway. To support staff, a new Safety Plan Teacher's Guide has recently been implemented, and audit results will guide any necessary future enhancements.
- EQAO results for Grades 3, 6, 9, and 10 show student growth over a five-year period. Math supports include dedicated coaches in Grade 6 classrooms, ongoing teacher professional development, and system-wide implementation of My Math Path and SpringMath to build consistency.

5.3. Department Updates - District Principals A. O'Leary and D. Thompson

A. O'Leary shared the following updates:

- Recent professional development opportunities include the 7–9 Series (a collaboration between Specialized Services and Curriculum), Equitable Outcomes for the secondary panel, and ongoing work following Dr. Shelley Moore's presentation. This focus includes reviewing and strengthening Student Support Team meeting structures and processes, with a specific emphasis on Tier 1 intervention.

D. Thompson shared the following updates:

- Upcoming professional development opportunities include System Class professional development and Instructional Leadership Networks. Training focuses on grounding all classrooms in core math and literacy skills, while exploring accommodations to support students with special education needs.

6. SEAC Projects

6.1 2026-2027 Special Education Plan

Due to the lack of a quorum, the spring review of the Special Education Plan could not be approved and was deferred to a special meeting on Wednesday, October 21, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.

7. Other Business

7.1. Association and community news

- J. Belfour represented FASD ONE at the Infant Mental Health Congress to engage in learning around alcohol misuse and FASD, and plans to attend the Metropolitan University Youth and Technology event in November. Outreach is currently underway to Big Brothers Big Sisters to explore Co-Op mentoring in TLDSB high schools. Additionally, a Poverty Reduction Roundtable meeting will take place at the end of the month to address poverty issues with the goal to establish a twice-yearly collaborative forum for partner agencies to share findings.

- Rose highlighted a presentation by R. Lewis from the City of Kawartha Lakes, who demonstrated a story mapping tool developed from the 2023 EDI results. Also, focusing on training around the EI results, delivering physical literacy programming alongside educators.

8. Next Meeting

Date: Wednesday, October 21, 2026
Location: Virtual
Time: 5:00 p.m.

9. Adjournment