



Special Education Advisory Committee

Thursday February 2, 2023

6:00 p.m.

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

AGENDA

Land Acknowledgement

The Grand Erie District School Board recognizes Six Nations of the Grand River and Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, as the longstanding peoples of this territory. We honour, recognize, and respect these communities as well as all First Nations, Metis and Inuit Peoples who reside within the Grand Erie District School Board. We are all stewards of these lands and waters where we now gather, learn, and play, and commit to working together in the spirit of Reconciliation.

AGENDA

Item	Info.	Dia.	Res.	Responsibility
LEAD				
A-1 Opening 6:00-6:05				
(a) Welcome/ Land Acknowledgement Statement			√	L. DeJong
(b) Roll Call/Reminder of Livestream on YouTube			√	L. DeJong
(c) Agenda Additions/ Deletions/ Approvals		√	√	L. DeJong
LEARN				
B-1 Timed Items 6:05 – 6:40				
(a) Welcome - Principal Leader of Specialized Services	√			L. Thompson
(b) Welcome - New SEAC member	√			L. Thompson
(c) Financial Update - 2022-23 - A review of special education funding, grants, expenditures and reserves 2022-23	√	√		R. Wyszynski

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(d) 2023-24 Budget Process*	√	√		R. Wyszynski
Item	Info.	Dia.	Res.	Responsibility
LEAD				
C-1 Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Meetings				
(a) Approval of Minutes from January 12, 2023*			√	L. DeJong
(b) Supporting Students with Special Education Needs from a Safe and Inclusive Schools Lens*	√	√		W. Baker / P. Ashe
(c) Equity Work - Gathering the Voices of Students with Special Education Needs and their Families*	√	√		W. Baker / P. Ashe
(d)				
LEARN				
D-1 New Business				
(a) Regional Special Education Council (RSEC) - Updates			√	J. Senior, J. Hooper, P. Bagchee
(b)				
Item	Info.	Dia.	Res.	
LEAD				
E-1 Other Business				
(a)				

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INSPIRE				
F-1 Standing Items				
<p>Policies Out for Comment</p> <p>The following policies are open for public comment:</p> <p>Exclusion of Students Policy SO-32 Copyright - Fair Dealings Guideline Policy SO-24 Voluntary Aboriginal Self-Identification Policy SO-16 School Food and Beverage Policy SO-21 Fees for Learning Materials and Activities Policy SO-22 Management of Potentially Life-Threatening Health Conditions, Including Administration of Medication in Schools Policy SO-30 Accessibility Policy SO-31 Animals in Schools, Including Student Use of Guide Dogs and Service Animals Policy SO-33</p> <p>Input will be received from Tuesday, January 17, 2023 until Wednesday, February 15, 2023 at policies@granderie.ca</p>	√			L. DeJong
(a) Trustee Updates	√			T. Waldschmidt / L. Whiton
(b) Chair/Vice-Chair Updates	√			L. DeJong / K. Jones

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LEARN LEAD INSPIRE				
G-1 Information Items				
(a)				
LEARN LEAD INSPIRE				
H-1 Community Updates				
(a)				
LEARN LEAD INSPIRE				
I-1 Correspondence – 7:30-7:35				
(a)				
Item	Info.	Dia.	Res.	Responsibility
INSPIRE				
J-1 Future Agenda Items and SEAC Committee Planning				
(a) Communication practices between home and school (March 2023)				L. Thompson
(b) A Day in the Life of a Learning Resource Teacher (March 2023)				
(c) OnSIS Data for Student with Special Education needs 2021-22				L. Thompson

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(d) OSSTF Inclusion Symposium - Summary Report (present when it arrives)				
(e) Street Data - Summer Programs (May 2023)				
(f) SEAC Orientation Session				
(g) Report on the Right to Read - Update				
K-1 Next Meeting				
Thursday March 2, 2023 6:00 p.m. MS Teams	√	√	√	L. DeJong
L-1 Adjournment				
Meeting adjourned at p.m.			√	L. DeJong

Note: Column Abbreviations

* Attachments to the agenda

Info. Item for information only

Dia. Item for dialogue

Res. Item for resolution or recommendation

SEMT Special Education Management Team

AGENDA ITEM(S)

Standing:

- LDAO SEAC Circular September, November, February, April and June (as available).



Special Education Advisory Committee

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6:00 p.m.

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MINUTES

Chair:	L. DeJong, Social Worker, Lansdowne Children's Centre
Community Reps:	K. Kelly K. Jones W. Rose M. Gatopoulos L. Nydam
Trustees:	S. Gibson T. Waldschmidt
Grand Erie Staff:	A. Haidar, IT P. Bagchee, Manager Mental Health and Well-Being J. Hooper, Principal Leader Mental Health Education and Student Support Services F. Lainson, Program Co-ordinator Specialized Services L. Sheppard, Applied Behaviour Analysis Coordinator L. Thompson, Superintendent of Education L. Boswell, Community Navigator, Contact Brant C. Gilman, Easter Seals Ontario C. Stefanelli, Program Manager, Woodview Mental Health & Autism Services
Organizations/ Agencies:	T. Aubin, Lansdowne Children's Centre T. Buchanan, Community Living Brant
Guests:	B. Bruce, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation
Absent:	Trustee Whiton
Absent with regrets:	
Recording Secretary:	J. Valstar, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent of Education

A - 1 **Opening**

(a) **Welcome / Land Acknowledgment Statement**

Chair Rose called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. and read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

(b) **Roll Call/Reminder of Livestream on YouTube**

(c) **Agenda Additions/Deletions/Approval**

D-1(d): Partnership between 211 and the Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW) and the Union of Postal Communication Employee - Public Service Alliance Canada (UPCE-PSAC)

F-1 (b): Jessie Hooper

F-1 (c): Trustee Updates

G-1 (e): Secondary School Open House

Moved by: K. Jones

Seconded by: L. Boswell

THAT the January 12, 2023 Agenda be approved, as amended.

Carried

B - 1 **Timed Items**

(a) **Thank you – Principal Leader of Special Education**

Superintendent Thompson thanked W. Rose for her time as Chair of SEAC and thanked Superintendent White for her time on SEAC as Principal Leader, Specialized Services.



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- (b) **Election – Chair and Vice-Chair of SEAC January 2023**
Superintendent Thompson explained the election process for the new Chair and Vice-Chair of SEAC. Social Worker, L. DeJong was elected as Chair. K. Jones was elected as Vice-Chair.
- C - 1 **Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Meetings**
- (a) **Approval of Minutes December 8, 2022**
Presented as printed.
- Moved by: W. Rose
Seconded by: M. Gatopoulos
THAT the Minutes dated December 8, 2022 be approved, as presented.
Carried
- (b) **SEAC Final Terms of Reference**
Presented as printed.
- D - 1 **New Business**
- (a) **Research Project – Lansdowne Pilot Project**
T. Aubin, Occupational Therapy Manager, Lansdowne Children's Centre presented Lansdowne's pilot project called Partnering for Change (P4C). The results will be shared with SEAC.
- (b) **AAC Devices and the SEA Process (April 2023)**
Program Coordinator F. Lainson provided an overview of Augmentative Alternative Communication (AAC) and Special Equipment Amount (SEA) use in schools and at home, and addressed questions from members.
- (c) **2023-24 School Year Calendar**
Proposed Elementary and Secondary School Year calendars presented as printed. Feedback was collected from members.
- (d) **Partnership between 211 and the Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW) and the Union of Postal Communication Employee - Public Service Alliance Canada (UPCE-PSAC)**
Community Navigator L. Boswell shared the website information for the newly formed partnership between 211, CUPW and UPCE-PSAC.
- E - 1 **Other Business**
- (a) **Grand Erie's Special Education Plan – Standard 5 – Identification, Placement and Review Committee**
Applied Behaviour Analysis Coordinator L. Sheppard and Program Coordinator F. Lainson presented the goals and possible updates for Standard 5 and collected feedback from committee members.



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- (b) **Grand Erie's Special Education Plan – Standard 10 – Individual Education Plan**
Applied Behaviour Analysis Coordinator L. Sheppard and Program Coordinator F. Lainson presented the goals and possible updates for Standard 10 and collected feedback from committee members.
- (c) **Kick Start**
Principal Leader J. Hooper presented the Kick Start Transition to Kindergarten program taking place at twelve schools within Grand Erie.
- (d) **Anti-Sex Trafficking**
Principal Leader J. Hooper presented the flyer for the Parent Event on Anti-Sex Trafficking.
- F - 1 **Standing Items**
- (a) **Policy/Procedures Out for Comment – Nil**
- (b) **Reminder Policy Feedback available January 17, 2023**
Principal Leader J. Hooper shared the list of policies that will be coming out for comment on January 17, 2023.
- (c) **Trustee Updates**
Trustee Waldschmidt shared the trustee update.
- G - 1 **Information Items**
- (a) **Reminder of Kindergarten Registration**
Principal Leader J. Hooper shared that Kindergarten registration is open now and asked members to share this information in their communities.
- (b) **Reminder of French Immersion Registration**
Principal Leader J. Hooper shared that Junior Kindergarten French Immersion registration is open now and closes February 3, 2023. Members were asked to share this information in their communities.
- (c) **Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee (GEPIC) Speaker Line-up**
The line-up of GEPIC speakers will be forthcoming.
- (d) **Indigenous Education Advisory Committee (IEAC) Speaker Line-up**
Principal Leader J. Hooper shared the speaker for IEAC on January 24, 2023.
- (e) **Secondary School Open House**
Principal Leader J. Hooper shared the dates for the Grade 8 open house nights and that the grade 9 registration is in progress. The new campaign to reengage secondary students was discussed.
- H - 1 **Community Updates – Nil**



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I - 1 Correspondence

Presented as Printed

- (a) **Letter to Minister Lecce from Dufferin-Peel DSB re. Ontario's Plan to Catch Up**
- (b) **Letter to Minister Lecce from Durham DSB re. SIP Funding**
- (c) **Ministry Memo to School Boards re. EQAO results & Plan to Catch Up**
- (d) **LDAO Circular – November 2022**

J - 1 Future Agenda Items and SEAC Committee Planning

- (a) **Suspension, Expulsion and Exclusion Data 2021-22 for Students with Special Education Needs**
- (b) **Equity Work – Gathering the Voices of Students with Special Education Needs and their families**
- (c) **Communication Practices Between Home and School**
- (d) **A Day in the Life of a Learning Resource Teacher**
- (e) **OSSTF Inclusion Symposium – Summary Report**
- (f) **Street Data – Summer Programs**
- (g) **ONSIS Data for Students with Special Education Needs**
- (h) **Orientation Meeting for New Members**

K - 1 Next Meeting

Thursday February 2, 2023 at 6:00 p.m., MS Teams Virtual Meeting.

L - 1 Adjournment

Moved by: L. Boswell

Seconded by: W. Rose

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Carried

Supporting Students with Special Education Needs from a Safe and Inclusive Schools Lens

While the Safe and Inclusive Schools Department (SIS) supports school safety, it does so by supporting students directly. By design, SIS is purpose-built to support students while on long term suspensions, expulsions or exclusions. Most supports are given individually, with interventions that are tailored to meet the social, emotional and academic needs of each student supported.

Consideration of individual student and family needs is intrinsic to everything that we do. While supporting the student and family, we may also support other students, teachers, system support staff (e.g., system Social Workers or Child and Youth Workers), and even administrators. Students who are formally, and informally, identified, and their families and schools are directly supported in SIS interventions.

Behaviour is communication. Often behaviour which may result in struggles at school is symptomatic of the impacts of trauma, undiagnosed conditions, or the presence of other stressors. The depth and breadth of SIS assessments and support can actually provide clues that lead to greater insights, understanding, and support.

<u>Social-Emotional Supports</u> - individual, family supports, community services, lagging skill development	<u>Academic Supports</u>	<u>Behavioural Supports</u>	<u>School/System Supports</u>
<p><u>SIS Lead (SW)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of VTRA's • co-ordination of supports for schools and families • clarification of available supports for families • confirmation of consent for interventions (SIS intervention requires consent) • expert guidance to families and SIS staff • co-chair SIS Team co-ordination meetings <p><u>SIS Social worker</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • individual student counselling (supports decision-making and access to services) • family supports/counselling (supports access to supports for families) • service co-ordination (supports access to services) • risk assessment (supports program and administrator decision-making process) • support Student Action Plans (SAP's), expulsion hearings <p><u>SIS CYW</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • individual student counselling (supports both parties in incidents) • individual student skill-building (supports lagging skills; decision-making) • peer/classroom support programs (e.g., Taylor the Turtle; supports a safe learning environment) 	<p><u>SIS Teachers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • academic programming • academic assessments • credit recovery • academic supports <p>* in some specific instances, students with special educational needs have been supported while in high school right up until graduating</p>	<p><u>SIS Trauma-informed BC (Behaviour Consultant)</u></p> <p>Through a trauma-informed lens:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BeSafe planning support • Student behaviour plan support • Trauma-informed classroom support, incl support for teacher and administrator 	<p><u>SIS Principal Leader</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • support for administrators re policies, processes • support for administrators re. potential strategies • support for administrators re decision-making (e.g., mitigating factors, incident-specific detail consideration; consistency) • support for administrators seeking SIS staff supports • co-chair SIS Team co-ordination meetings <p><u>Superintendent of Safe and Inclusive Schools</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supports administrators and SIS team re interpretation of policy • supports administrators team in decision-making for long-term suspensions • chairs expulsion hearings

Equity Work - Gathering the Voices of Students with Special Education Needs and their Families

Equity work is a key component of our ability to support our students effectively through Safe and Inclusive Schools. In fact, rather than viewing these two aspects of our work separately, a more accurate analogy might be that of microscope in which we focus the SIS lens THROUGH the lens of equity work.

With respect to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion for all students, we have been working through a 4-part cyclic process...

1. collect and analyze data (including the gathering and synthesizing voices)
2. plan,
3. execute,
4. review, then repeat...

Collecting and Analyzing Data

To be as inclusive as possible, we wanted our data to represent as many of our students and their families, and as many identities as possible.

- student suspension data, by type, length, IPRC status
- Safe Schools Incident Reporting Forms
- **Count Us In student census** (2019, 2022; offered to all Gr 4-12, also k-3 by parents in 2022)
- **Staff survey** (2019,2021) which included parents who are staff and special education staff)
- **Student Voice Project focus group** (diverse identities; as inclusive as possible) for Student Voice Project
- **Equity Action Plan focus groups**, including the following focus groups:
 - parents (**Equity Advisory Group**) representing diverse student populations,
 - **staff** (incl parents of students with special education needs; and staff focussed on special education)
 - **Administrators**
 - **Safe and Inclusive Schools Committee members**
 - **Students (gr 7 and 11)**

Every interaction between SIS team and families/students/schools provides data

Examples

- Violent Threat Risk Assessments (VTRA's) – highly detailed and multi-dimensional
- Exclusion support meetings with families and schools
- Expulsion Hearings
- SAP (Student Action Plan) meetings
- SIS staff consultations with parents
- SIS staff meetings with families/students
- SIS support for Exclusion review meetings
- SIS Team co-ordination meetings (SIS staff information exchange and planning)

Planning

(intersectionality crucial)

- Equity Action Plan
- Bullying prevention planning
- Anti-Racism planning
- Anti-Human Trafficking planning
- Supporting Gender Diverse Students
- Alternative to Suspension Committee
- Safe and Inclusive Schools Committee

Execution

- Alternatives to Suspension pilot
- Student Voice Project infographic
- Bullying Prevention and Awareness resources
- Anti-Racism videos and training
- Social Justice Series
- Inclusive Language Guide
- Restorative Practices Training
- Website resources
- Anti-Human Trafficking resources and training
- Supporting Gender Diverse Students resources

Review

- Annual review of Equity Action Plan
- Annual review of Safe And Inclusive Schools component of the Annual Learning and Operating Plan
- SIS Committee review of board policies and procedures (timed review cycles)
- Resource/Presentation Vetting Tool
- Exclusion Review meetings
- Expulsion Hearings
- SAP's
- Administrator consultations