



Special Education Advisory Committee

Thursday, February 5, 2026

Time 1:00 p.m.

Education Centre Board Room / MS Teams Virtual Meeting

AGENDA

- A - 1 **Opening** (L. DeJong)
 - (a) Welcome / Land Acknowledgement Statement
 - (b) Roll Call
 - (c) Agenda Additions/Deletions/Approval
- B - 1 **Timed Items**
 - (a) Early Literacy Supports for Students Update (L. Munro)
 - (b) Grand Erie's Multi-Year Strategic Plan (L. Thompson/K. Graham)
- C - 1 **Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Meetings**
 - (a) SEAC Speaker Event 2026-27 follow up (L. DeJong/K. Jones)
 - (b) [Specialized Services Publication](#) (L. Thompson)
 - (c) SEAC Membership Updates (L. DeJong)
- D - 1 **Consent Agenda** (L. DeJong)
"That SEAC accept the February 5, 2026 Consent Agenda and the recommendations contained therein."
 - (a) Approve the Minutes of:
 - (i) SEAC Meeting Minutes dated January 8, 2026*
- E - 1 **New Business**
 - (a) Grand Erie's Attendance Strategy (L. Thompson)
 - (b) Proposed SEAC Meeting Dates 2026-27* (L. DeJong)
- F - 1 **Information Items**
 - (a) Policies out for Comment (K. Jones)
 - (i) [Acceptable Use of Information Technology \(IT-01\)](#)
 - (ii) [Copyright – Fair Dealing Guidelines \(SO-24\)](#)
 - (iii) [Exclusion of Students \(SO-32\)](#)
 - (iv) [Hiring of Employees \(HR-03\)](#)
 - (v) [Privacy and Records Information Management \(IT-02\)](#)
 - (vi) [Reporting of Wrongdoing \(HR-23\)](#)
 - (vii) [School Food and Beverage \(SO-21\)](#)
 - (viii) [Voluntary Indigenous Self-Identification \(SO-16\)](#)
 - (b) [Family Math E-Newsletter](#) (L. DeJong)
 - (c) [Family Literacy E-Newsletter](#) (L. DeJong)
 - (d) Director's Update (L. Thompson/K. Graham)
 - (e) Chair/Vice-Chair Updates (L. DeJong/K. Jones)
- G - 1 **Community Updates**
 - (a) Decoding Aggression – Update on Presentation (L. Campell)
- H - 1 **Future Agenda Items and SEAC Planning Committee**
 - (a) Role of the System Staff
 - (b) Student and Family Support Offices
 - (c) ODEN presentation – Specialized Services Transitions Navigator
 - (d) Skill Building and Hub Programs
 - (e) Behaviour Support Plans and Safety Plans



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I - 1 **Adjournment** (L. DeJong)

J - 1 **Next Meeting**

Thursday, March 12, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at the Education Centre Board Room / MS Teams Virtual Meeting



Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)

Thursday January 8, 2026

6:00 p.m.

Education Centre Board Room / MS Teams

MINUTES

Present:

Chair: L. DeJong Vice Chair: K. Jones Trustees: E. Thomas, T. Sault Local Organizations: L. Campbell, P. Found, C. Gilman, N. Schween, T. West Community Representatives:

Administration:

Director J. Roberto, Superintendents: D. Atanas, K. Graham, System Leader Specialized Services: J. Senior, Specialized Services Supervisor H. Knill, Program Coordinators: L. Miedema, L. Sheppard, Recording Secretary: J. Valstar

Absent with regrets: Superintendent L. Thompson

Absent:

Community Representatives: G. Ianniruberto, L. Nydam Local Organizations: S. Jennions,

Visiting Trustees: Trustee C.A. Sloat

A - 1 **Opening**

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

Chair L. DeJong called the January 8, 2026 meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. and read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

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

Recording Secretary J. Valstar confirmed roll call.

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

Move: E-1 (a) to E-1 (b)

Add: E-1 (a): Departure of SEAC member

G-1 (b): Contact Brant: FASD Training – Decoding Aggression, Complex Behaviour and Brain-Based Disabilities

Moved by: T. Sault

Seconded by: E. Thomas

THAT the January 8, 2026 agenda be approved as amended

Carried

B - 1 **Timed Items**

(a) **Wellness Kits**

Superintendent Atanas presented Grand Erie's new Wellness Kits for schools.

C - 1 **Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Meetings**

(a) **SEAC Speaker Event 2025**

Chair DeJong gave an overview of the SEAC Speaker Event that took place December 4, 2025.



Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)

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(b) **SEAC Speaker Event 2026**

Chair DeJong asked SEAC members to start thinking about the 2026 Speaker Event, which will take place in December 2026. The topic and presenter must be finalized by March 2026. SEAC members are encouraged to send suggestions to J. Valstar.

Superintendent Graham advised members to think about the message in addition to the presenter and topic.

(c) **SEAC Orientation Handbook**

The SEAC Orientation Handbook was reviewed with members. Chair DeJong encouraged members to familiarize themselves with the Handbook. Any comments or suggestions can be sent to J. Valstar.

D - 1 **Consent Agenda**

"THAT SEAC accept the January 8, 2026 Consent Agenda and the recommendations contained therein."

Moved by: T. Sault

Seconded by: L. Campbell

(a) Approve the Minutes of:

- i. SEAC meeting Minutes dated November 6, 2025
- ii. SEAC meeting Minutes dated December 4 2025

(b) Receive the correspondence from:

- i. Durham District School Board dated October 29, 2025

E - 1 **New Business**

(a) **Departure of SEAC Members**

Chair DeJong announced the departure from SEAC of members Katie Kelly and Cathy Stefanelli.

(b) **Appointment to SEAC**

"That the appointment of Lorraine DeJong as a Community Representative on SEAC, the appointment of Tiffany Morgan as the representative for Lansdowne Children's Centre, and the appointment of Nicole Schween for Woodview Mental Health & Autism Services be forwarded to the January 26, 2026 Regular Board meeting for approval."

Moved by: K. Jones

Seconded by: C. Gilman

(c) **Special Education Plan – Standard 2 – The Board's General Model for Special Education**

System Leader J. Senior shared the updates to Standard 2 from the Special Education Plan. SEAC members were encouraged to send comments and suggestions to J. Valstar.



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F - 1 **Information Items**

- (a) **Policies out for comment** - Nil
- (b) **Family Math Newsletters**
- (c) **Family Literacy Newsletter**
- (d) **Director's Update**

Director Roberto presented the Director's Update to SEAC members.

- (e) **Chair / Vice-Chair Updates**

Chair DeJong and Vice-Chair Jones gave their respective updates.

G - 1 **Community Updates**

- (a) **Creative Workforce Symposium – Norfolk**

P. Found and System Leader J. Senior shared an update and a video on the Creative Work Symposium in Norfolk.

- (b) **Contact Brant: FASD Training – Decoding Aggression, Complex Behaviour and Brain-Based Disabilities**

L. Campbell shared information about a free virtual session being held on January 23, 2026 by Contact Brant.

H - 1 **Future Agenda Items and SEAC Committee Planning**

- (a) Role of the System Staff
- (b) Student and Family Support Offices
- (c) ODEN presentation – Specialized Services Transition Navigator
- (d) Skill Building and Hub Programs
- (e) Behaviour Support and Safety Plans
- (f) The Right to Read – Early Literacy Intervention

I - 1 **Next Meeting**

Thursday February 5, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. at the Education Centre in the Board Room with a virtual option.

J - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: E. Thomas

Seconded by: K. Jones

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

Carried



Grand Erie District School Board

Education Centre: 349 Erie Avenue, Brantford, Ontario N3T 5V3

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MEMO

To: Grand Erie Special Education Advisory Committee

From: Jennifer Valstar

Date: Thursday February 5, 2026

Re: Proposed SEAC meeting dates for the 2026-27 school year

SEAC meeting dates 2026-27

Date	Location	Time
Thursday September 10, 2026	Education Centre (virtual option available)	6:00 p.m.
Thursday October 8, 2026	Education Centre (virtual option available)	6:00 p.m.
Thursday November 5, 2026	Education Centre (virtual option available)	6:00 p.m.
Thursday December 3, 2026	Education Centre (virtual option available)	6:00 p.m.
Thursday January 7, 2027	Education Centre (virtual option available)	6:00 p.m.
Thursday February 4, 2027	Education Centre (virtual option available)	6:00 p.m.
Thursday March 4, 2027	Education Centre (virtual option available)	6:00 p.m.
Thursday April 8, 2027	Education Centre (virtual option available)	6:00 p.m.
Thursday May 6, 2027	Education Centre (virtual option available)	6:00 p.m.
Thursday June 3, 2027	Education Centre (virtual option available)	6:00 p.m.