

## Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025 - 5:02 – 5:39pm

### SEAC Members & Quorum Tracking

SEAC Members	March 26 <sup>th</sup> , 2025
<b>Donna Nielsen (Chair)</b> <i>CDSBEO Trustee</i>	Present
<b>Tracy Mertz (Vice-Chair)</b> <i>Rural FASD Support Network</i>	Present
<b>Karen McAllister</b> <i>CDSBEO Trustee</i>	Present
<b>Tom Jordan</b> <i>Family and Children's Services of Lanark, Leeds and Grenville</i>	Present
<b>Susie Trotter</b> <i>Child and Youth Mental Health Services, Cornwall Community Hospital</i>	Present
<b>Anna Lafrance</b> <i>Easter Seals</i>	Present
<b>Christina Lord</b> <i>Epilepsy South Eastern Ontario</i>	x
<b>Amy Malyon</b> <i>Beyond 21 Foundation</i>	Present
<b>Kaitlyn Bissonnette</b> <i>CAS SD&amp;G</i>	x
SEAC Member Alternates	
<b>Cathie Knapp-Fisher</b> <i>Family and Children's Services of Lanark, Leeds and Grenville</i>	x
<b>Sue Wilson</b> <i>CDSBEO Trustee, Alternate</i>	x
<b>Judith Peak</b> <i>Rural FASD Support Network, Alternate</i>	x
<b>Nicki Hughes</b> <i>Epilepsy South Eastern Ontario, Alternate</i>	x
<b>Angela Carson</b> <i>Beyond 21 Foundation</i>	x
Board Resource Staff	
<b>Brent Bovaird</b> <i>Superintendent of School Effectiveness</i>	Present
<b>Angela McNamee</b> <i>Principal of Special Education</i>	Present
<b>Sarah Price</b> <i>Administrative Assistant to Superintendent Bovaird</i>	Present
<b>SEAC Quorum</b>	<b>7/9 – Quorum Achieved</b>

**1. Welcome, Introductions and Roll Call**

**2. Land Acknowledgement & Opening Prayer**

**3. Approval of Agenda**

Chair Donna Nielsen added a walk-on item to the agenda regarding the change of date for our June 2025 meeting.

**Moved by: Karen McAllister** *Carried*

**4. Receiving of approved minutes from Wednesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025, SEAC Meeting.**

The minutes from our February meeting were approved electronically by committee members on March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

**5. Making Math Count – Anne Leach, Principal of Mathematics**

Anne Leach, Principal of Mathematics for the CDSBEO, delivered an insightful presentation to SEAC members on the Board's Math Achievement Action Plan and the implementation and interventions the Math team has put in place to support CDSBEO students.

**6. Association Updates**

**a. Rural FASD**

Rural FASD continues to work with those in the community and as of recently presented to Mississippi Mills Town Council around accessibility for those living with invisible disabilities, including people living with FASD and the struggles they face.

Rob More, Chair of Rural FASD was honoured to receive the King Charles III Coronation Medal for his community work and work with Rural FASD.

Upcoming Events hosted by Rural FASD, all are welcome:

- Mental Health First Aid Training (Virtual): May 22, 2025
- Red Shoes Run Family Fun Day at Lower Reach Park in Smiths Falls on June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025.
- 5km Red Shoes Run in Johnstown on July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025.
- Red Shoes Run Triathlon on August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025, information about times to come.
- Care-giver Meetings on the third Saturday of each month at 15 Beech Street in Smiths Falls.

If you or someone in your community suspects a youth could have this diagnosis of FASD please reach out to [pc@ruralfasd.ca](mailto:pc@ruralfasd.ca) and they can assist in supporting this individual and their caregivers.

**b. Family and Children's Services of Lanark, Leeds and Grenville**

We have updated the JPSA Protocol which has been a collaboration between FCSSLG, Local School Boards and other agencies. Each agency and school board are planning their own individualized roll-out of the Protocol.

#### Upcoming Events

- The Annual Prom Shoppe (Free dresses, suits, accessories, etc.). Taking place at 18 Mill Street in Carleton Place on Saturday, March 29<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am – 7:00pm and Sunday, March 30<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am – 2:00pm
- Makatew Workshops (An Indigenous teaching conversation). Taking place at 385 County Rd 29 in Smiths Falls (FCSLLG Smiths Falls Office) on April 5<sup>th</sup> at noon. Email [andrea.halliday@fcsllg.ca](mailto:andrea.halliday@fcsllg.ca) to sign up.
- Youth Resilience Community Workshop (Explore how we can build resilience in youth). Taking place at 37 Franklin Street in Smiths Falls (Zion Memorial United Church) on Monday, March 31<sup>st</sup> at 7:00pm. Additional information available at [www.planetyouthlanark.ca](http://www.planetyouthlanark.ca)

#### 7. Special Education Department Update – *Angie McNamee, Principal of Special Education*

In March, SERTs and Special Education Consultants focused on reviewing student data in the Board's Student Information System to prepare for our March OnSIS submission. The consultants also conducted two training sessions for SERTs, emphasizing best practices in transition planning for students with special education needs.

School teams are actively working with feeder schools and students' families to review and carry out transition plans for students with special education needs. Special education staff are also collecting information from schools to ensure a smooth transition for new students and prepare for the start of the 2025-26 school year.

The Department continues to review the Special Education Annual report in which sections will be presented at our remaining SEAC meetings for members reference and review.

#### 8. New Business

##### a. CDSBEO Special Education Annual Report – Sections 4 & 6

Review of changes and updates made to sections 4 & 6 of the 2024-2025 Special Education Annual Report.

##### b. June Date Change & Presentation

The June SEAC meeting will take place on Wednesday, June 18<sup>th</sup> with a presentation on Best Buddies in CDSBEO schools.

#### Motion

To approve the new June SEAC meeting date of Wednesday, June 18<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm.

**Moved by: Tom Jordan**                      *Carried*

#### 9. Motion to Excuse Regrets Received

Christina Lord, representative and Nicki Hughes, alternative representative for Epilepsy South Eastern Ontario notified of their absence via email.

Motion

To approve these absences as notified.

**Moved by: Tom Jordan** *Carried*

Kaitlyn Bissonnette, representative for CAS SD&G was absent without notification.

Motion

To approve this absence as presented.

**Moved by: Karen McAllister** *Carried*

**10. Next SEAC Meeting – Tuesday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 5:00pm**

The presentation for this meeting will be “LD at School with Martin Smit” and the Special Education Annual Report Sections for review are 9, 11 & 12.

**11. Closing Prayer**

**12. Motion to Adjourn the Meeting**

**Moved by: Tracy Mertz** *Carried*

**Topics for Presentations for 2024-2025 school year:**

TOPIC	DATE
Reading Intervention & Supporting Student Gains	Wednesday, August 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2024
2025-2030 Multi-Year Strategic Plan Timeline	Wednesday, September 25 <sup>th</sup> , 2024
Empower Reading	Wednesday, October 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2024
Inspiring Behaviour Change: Making a Difference Each Day	Wednesday, November 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2024
Supporting Students who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing	Wednesday, January 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2025
Mental Health and Supports	Wednesday, February 26 <sup>th</sup> , 2025
Making Math Count	Wednesday, March 26 <sup>th</sup> , 2025
LD at School with Martin Smit	Tuesday, April 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2025
2024-2025 CDSBEO Special Education Funding Expenditures & Final Annual Report Review	Wednesday, May 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2025
Best Buddies in CDSBEO Schools	Wednesday, June 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2025