

Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting (SEAC)

Hybrid Model – Thursday, June 11, 2026

ATTENDANCE

Chairperson:	Donna Nielsen, CDSBEO Trustee
Trustee(s):	Karen McAllister, Trustee Representative Sue Wilson, Trustee, Alternate
Members Present:	Tracy Mertz (Vice-Chair), Rural FASD Tom Jordan, Family and Children's Services of LLG Carrie Onstein, Career Services of Brockville Susie Trotter, Child & Youth Mental Health Services, Cornwall Community Hospital
Members Absent:	Kaitlyn Bissonnette, CAS SD&G Amy Malyon, Beyond 21 Angela Carson, Beyond 21, Alternate Ryan Billing, Career Services of Brockville, Alternate Jayne Stoddart, Rural FASD, Alternate Cathie Knapp-Fisher, Family and Children's Services of LLG, Alternate
Board Administration:	Brent Bovaird, Superintendent of School Effectiveness Angela McNamee, Principal of Special Education Sarah Price, Administrative Assistant to Superintendent Bovaird

1. Welcome, Introductions and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 4:30pm.

2. Land Acknowledgement, Opening Prayer & MYSP Connection

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion

To approve the agenda for our June 11th meeting as presented

Moved by: Tracy Mertz

Carried

4. Receiving of approved minutes from Wednesday, May 27th, 2026.

The minutes were electronically approved on June 1st and have been sent to Principals to distribute to their Catholic School Council's SEAC representative. SEAC minutes are available for the public to view on the CDSBEO website.

5. 2025-2026 CDSBEO Special Education Funding Expenditures – Ashley Hutchinson,
Superintendent of Business & Treasurer

The presentation outlined the breakdown of Special Education funding and expenditures through Ministry funding, grants, staffing, professional development and support services.

6. Association Updates

a. Career Services, Brockville

Career Services provided an update on the successful completion of the 8-week Ready2Learn program delivered in partnership with St. Luke. The program focused on building foundational employability skills, increasing awareness of workplace expectations, and supporting students in exploring pathways to employment through structured, hands-on learning experiences.

Highlights included job shadowing opportunities and the use of virtual reality simulations, which helped bridge classroom learning with real-world application, contributing to increased confidence, independence, and the development of practical workplace skills.

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

The Special Education Department provided an update confirming that planning is underway for the Summer Transition Program following the release of the Ministry of Education budget. The program will support students, particularly those with special education needs, in preparing for the upcoming school year through structured activities focused on building confidence, routines, social connections, and independence.

Program logistics, including site selection and staffing, are currently being finalized, with the program scheduled to run from August 24–28, 2026.

8. New Business

a. Special Education Annual Report – Recommendation to the Board of Trustees
Motion

To approve the following recommendation:

To submit the 2025–2026 Annual Report on the Provision of Special Education Programs and Services to the CDSBEO Board of Trustees, for their approval and submission to the Ministry of Education, as presented on June 16th, 2026.

Moved by: Tom Jordan

Carried

9. Correspondence Received

No correspondence were received.

10. Motion to Excuse Regrets Received

Absent with notification

- Kaitlyn Bissonnette, CAS SD&G representative

Partial absence with notification

- Karen McAllister, Trustee Representative was in attendance for the first half of the meeting and absent for the second where Sue Wilson, Alternate Trustee Representative voted in her place.

Absent without notification

- Amy Malyon, Beyond 21 representative

Motion

To approve the absence(s) as notified.

Moved by: Sue Wilson

Carried

11. Next SEAC Meeting – Wednesday, September 23, 2026 at 4:30pm

12. Closing Prayer

13. Motion to Adjourn the Meeting

That the meeting be adjourned at 5:14pm.

Moved by: Sue Wilson

Carried

Topics for Presentations 2025-2026

- Wednesday, September 24th, 2025: Best Buddies in CDSBEO Schools
- Wednesday, October 29th, 2025: Mental Health – Parent Information
- Wednesday, November 26th, 2025: 2025-2030 Multi-Year Strategic Plan
- Wednesday, November 26th, 2025: Calm, Connected & Compassionate: The Impact of Board Wide BMS Training
- Wednesday, January 28th, 2026: Epilepsy South Eastern Ontario
- Wednesday, February 25th, 2026: CDSBEO EQAO Results through a Special Education Lens
- Wednesday, March 25th, 2026: Beyond 21
- Wednesday, April 22nd, 2026: Supporting Students who are Blind/Low Vision
- Wednesday, May 27th, 2026: Early Literacy Intervention
- Thursday, June 11th, 2026: CDSBEO Special Education Funding Expenditures 2025-26