

Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting (SEAC)

Hybrid Model – Wednesday, September 23, 2026

ATTENDANCE

Chairperson:	Donna Nielsen, CDSBEO Trustee
Trustee(s):	Karen McAllister, Trustee Representative Sue Wilson, Trustee, Alternate
Members Present:	Jayne Stoddart, Rural FASD, Alternate Tom Jordan, Family and Children's Services of LLG Carrie Onstein, Career Services of Brockville Ryan Billing, Career Services of Brockville, Alternate Susie Trotter, Child & Youth Mental Health Services, Cornwall Community Hospital
Members Absent:	Amy Malyon, Beyond 21 Angela Carson, Beyond 21, Alternate Tracy Mertz (Vice-Chair), Rural FASD Kaitlyn Bissonnette, CAS SD&G 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 4:33pm

2. Land Acknowledgement & Opening Prayer

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion

To approve the agenda as presented

Moved by: Tom Jordan

Carried

4. Receiving of approved minutes from Thursday, June 11th, 2026

The minutes from our June 11th meeting were electronically approved by committee members on June 16th. These minutes are available to the public on the CDSBEO Board website.

5. Transition Planning – *Leah Taylor, CDSBEO Special Education Consultant*

The presentation provided SEAC with an overview of transition planning for students with special education needs, highlighting the Ministry's requirements for transition planning

within the IEP and the importance of supporting students through both major educational transitions and day-to-day transitions. Members were introduced to a variety of transition strategies, the transition-planning features within the new Clevr IEP platform, and professional learning opportunities provided to staff. The presentation also reviewed the CDSBEO/UCDSB Transition Fairs held in spring 2026, which connected students, families, school staff, and community agencies to resources and services that support successful transitions to adulthood. Future plans include continued support for school teams and the pursuit of additional Ministry funding to expand transition-related initiatives.

6. Association Updates

a. Career Services

An update was provided on the *Building Futures* initiative, a transition-to-adulthood program that supports students with disabilities through career exploration, transition planning, workplace experiences, and employment opportunities. The initiative aims to strengthen independence, community connections, and successful adult outcomes through partnerships between schools, families, employers, and community agencies.

b. Rural FASD Support Network

The association report provided an overview of a new two-year project focused on improving employment readiness and workplace inclusion for neurodivergent individuals, including those with FASD. The report highlighted planned workshops for employers and job seekers, the importance of supporting successful transitions to employment, and opportunities for collaboration with school boards, educators, and community partners. Updates on the project and future pilot opportunities will be shared as the initiative progresses.

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

An update was provided on key Special Education initiatives, including the successful Summer Transition Program, which supported students with diverse learning needs as they prepared for the start of the school year. School teams continue to focus on student transitions and the implementation of the new CLEVR platform for IEP development. Members were also informed of newly developed Speech, Mental Health, and ABA frameworks designed to support inclusive, evidence-based practices across schools. In addition, an overview of the 2026-2027 Special Education Annual Action Plan was provided, highlighting priorities related to high-quality student plans, transition planning, referrals and interventions, behaviour management and safety, attendance, professional learning, and ongoing review of programs, services, and resources.

8. New Business

- a.** Special Education Annual Report 2025-26: Resubmission to the Ministry and Recommendation to the Board of Trustees

Motion

To approve the following recommendation:

To re-submit the 2025–2026 Annual Report on the Provision of Special Education Programs and Services to the CDSBEO Board of Trustees for approval and subsequent re-submission to the Ministry of Education, incorporating the additional information requested by the Ministry in June 2026, as presented on October 20, 2026.

Moved by: Susie Trotter

Carried

9. Correspondence Received

No correspondence were received.

10. Motion to Excuse Regrets Received

Absent with notification

- Tracy Mertz, representative for Rural FASD Support Network

Motion

To approve the absence(s) as notified.

Moved by: Susie Trotter

Carried

11. Next SEAC Meeting – Wednesday, October 28th, 2026, at 4:30pm

12. Closing Prayer

13. Motion to Adjourn the Meeting

That the meeting be adjourned at 5:50pm

Moved by: Susie Trotter

Carried

Topics for Presentations 2026-2027

- Wednesday, September 23, 2026: ***Transition Planning***
- Wednesday, October 28, 2026: ***New Special Education Digital Platform***
- Wednesday, November 25, 2026: ***Elementary School Special Olympics ; Celebrating Neurodiversity***
- Wednesday, January 27, 2027: ***School Climate Survey***
- Wednesday, February 24, 2027: ***Technology in the Classroom***
- Wednesday, March 31, 2027: ***Speech Language Service Delivery Model***
- Wednesday, April 21, 2027: ***Multiple Exceptionality Program Overview***
- Wednesday, May 19, 2027: ***Mini Course Program Experience***
- Wednesday, June 9, 2027 (date subject to change): ***Mental Health and Wellness ; 2026-2027 CDSBEO Special Education Funding Expenditures***