

## **Agenda – SEAC Meeting**

**October 16, 2024 – 5:30 p.m.**

**Limestone Education Centre**

**220 Portsmouth Avenue, Kingston, Ontario**

**Virtual Link: <https://bit.ly/SEACMTGOct162024>**

### **Public Meeting – 5:30 p.m.**

**Acknowledgement of Territory:** “The Limestone District School Board is situated on the traditional territories of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee. We acknowledge their enduring presence on this land, as well as the presence of Métis, Inuit, and other First Nations from across Turtle Island. We honour their cultures and celebrate their commitment to this land.”

#### **1. WELCOME**

#### **2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

#### **3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

#### **4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

4.1 SEAC Meeting – September 11, 2024 (Pages 3-6)

#### **5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

5.1 Motion from Trustee Lloyd

5.2 New membership – Epilepsy Southeastern Ontario

#### **6. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES UPDATE**

6.1 Special Education Operational Plan – Monitoring Document – Vice Principal Nicola Dillard

6.2 Summer Special Education Supports and Mental Health Funding Report – Mental Health Lead Laura Conboy, Educational Services & Safe Schools Lead Wendy Fisher, and Vice Principal Nicola Dillard

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**7. PRESENTATION**

7.1 Mike Smit from Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario (LDAO)

**8. CORRESPONDENCE**

8.1 Epilepsy South Eastern Ontario - Letter from Sadie Augustyn, Chairperson of Epilepsy South Eastern Ontario, nominating Christina Lord, the Executive Director, to represent the organization as a member of the LDSB Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC). (Page 7)

**9. ASSOCIATION UPDATES**

9.1 Autism Ontario Updates - October 2024 – Report from Haley Clark. (Pages 8-10)

**10. OTHER BUSINESS**

10.1 Administrative Report: Superintendent's Report – Superintendent Scot Gillam (Pages 11-13)

**11. NEXT MEETING DATE**

November 6, 2024

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

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## SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

**September 11, 2024**

### Public Meeting

#### Roll Call:

|                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Trustees:</b>                  | <b>Members:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| T. Lloyd (Regrets)<br>K. McGregor | <b>Present:</b><br>H. Clark, Autism Ontario<br>E. Clow, Member-at-Large<br>K. Hill, Member-at-Large<br>H. Simson, Learning Disabilities Association of Kingston<br>Z. Rogers, Community Living Kingston<br>Jennifer Barker, Lennox & Addington Resources for Children<br>L. Clouthier, Easter Seals Ontario<br><br><b>Regrets:</b><br>A. Martin, Member-at-Large (Queen's University)                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Invitees:</b>                  | <b>Staff:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|                                   | <b>Present:</b><br>M. Blackburn, Principal of Educational Services<br>S. Gillam, Superintendent, Learning for All<br>C. Snider, Special Education Program Coordinator<br>M. Aylsworth, Special Education Program Coordinator<br>M. West, Special Education Program Coordinator<br>L. Conboy, Mental Health Lead<br>W. Fisher, Educational Services and Safe Schools Coordinator<br>J. Lalonde, Special Education Program Coordinator<br>N. Dillard, Vice-Principal of Educational Services<br>T. Bonham-Carter, Special Education Program Coordinator |
| <b>Guests:</b>                    | <b>Recorder:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| None at this time.                | J. Senior, Administrative Assistant                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

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## 1. WELCOME

Chair McGregor called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Chair McGregor read the Acknowledgement of Territory:

“The Limestone District School Board is situated on the traditional territories of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee. We acknowledge their enduring presence on this land, as well as the presence of Métis, Inuit, and other First Nations from across Turtle Island. We honour their cultures and celebrate their commitment to this land.”

Superintendent Scot Gillam welcomed new and returning SEAC Members.

## 2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

*MOVED BY: Erin Clow that the agenda be approved. Carried.*

## 3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None at this time.

## 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

*MOVED BY: Erin Clow that the June 12, 2024, IEC Minutes be approved. Carried.*

## 5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Superintendent Scot Gillam shared that LDSB is currently flying the Survivors Flag to honour Truth and Reconciliation in preparation for September 30, 2024, the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. We have also sent out a number of resources and support documents to the district so that teachers can spend some thoughtful time teaching students about the impact of residential schools and the trauma and ensuring that those that need support are receiving this message.

## 6. EDUCATION SERVICES UPDATE

**6.1 Potential SEAC Presentation Topics** – Superintendent Scot Gillam invited SEAC Members to suggest ideas for presentation topics for the 2024-2025 SEAC Meetings. SEAC Members are requested to either email their ideas to Jill Senior before the October 16, 2024, meeting or bring their suggestions to the meeting to compile a list. Helen Simson, Learning Disabilities Association of Kingston, did give the following suggestion:

- Artificial Intelligence (AI) and how quickly this will be in our children’s classrooms

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**6.2 Special Education Plan** – Superintendent Scot Gillam explained that the Special Education Plan is a mandatory annual submission to the Ministry. This plan updates our service delivery, staffing, and the number of self-contained programs at the elementary level. SEAC Members are encouraged to review the plan on our website. Additionally, it will be presented for review at the October 16, 2024, SEAC Meeting.

**6.3 Special Education Summer Learning and Summer Mental Health Supports** – Principal Michael Blackburn and Mental Health Lead Laura Conboy highlighted the Summer Learning and Mental Health Support programs conducted over the summer. A comprehensive report on the Ministry funding for these programs will be presented at the October 16, 2024, SEAC Meeting.

## **7. CORRESPONDENCE**

**7.1 Conseil Scolaire Catholique Nouvelon** - Letter to Minister of Education regarding Transportation Support for Students with Special Education Needs. Provided for information.

**7.2 Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education (MACSE)** - February 27, 2024, Meeting Highlights. Provided for information.

## **8. ASSOCIATION UPDATES**

**8.1 Autism Ontario Updates-September 2024** – Report from Haley Clark. Provided for information.

**8.2 Easter Seals Ontario** – Linda Clouthier provided details about the 4th Annual Grayson Cup Golf Outing, scheduled for Monday, October 7, 2024. This event supports children and youth with physical disabilities.

## **9. OTHER BUSINESS**

**9.1 Administrative Report: Superintendent's Report** – Superintendent Scot Gillam reviewed the Superintendent's Report that was included in the Agenda Package.

**9.2 Attendance Matters Presentation** – Superintendent Scot Gillam delivered a comprehensive presentation on the Attendance Improvement Campaign. The key points of the presentation are summarized as follows:

- **Ministry Expectations:** The plan includes measuring student attendance rates and ensuring support for students absent due to mental health concerns.
- **Importance of Attendance:** Regular attendance is crucial for academic success, social and emotional development, and future preparation.
- **Data Utilization:** Using data to monitor and understand attendance patterns and trends.
- **Engagement Strategies:** Emphasizing the role of teachers, caregivers, and the community in promoting daily attendance through clear communication, shared goals, and collaborative problem-solving.
- **Interventions and Support:** Implementing school-level supports and stress management programs to help students manage challenges and build resilience.

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## 10. NEXT MEETING DATE

October 16, 2024

## 11. ADJOURNMENT

*MOVED BY: Member-at-Large Erin Clow, that the meeting adjourn. Carried.*

*The meeting was adjourned at 6:42 pm.*

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To Whom It may Concern,

My name is Sadie Augustyn, I am the Chairperson of the Board of Directors for Epilepsy Southeastern Ontario (ESEO).

On behalf of the Board of Directors I fully support our Executive Director, Christina Lord, to represent our organization on the Social Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) for the Limestone District School Board (LDSB).

Thank you,  
Sadie Augustyn  
Chairperson



# Autism Ontario Updates

## October 2024

*Please Provide to your SEAC*



**Autism**ONTARIO

### New Resources:

- [The Individual Education Plan \(IEP\): A Plan for Student Success](#)
- [The Identification, Placement and Review Committee \(IPRC\): 5 Steps to the IPRC Meeting](#)
- [The Identification, Placement and Review Committee \(IPRC\): What it is and Why it Matters](#)
- [Tips for Better School Communication and Collaboration](#)
- [Steps to Navigating School Communication: Who to Talk and When](#)
- Transform Your Classroom: Tips for Creating a Neuro-Affirming Learning Environment (*coming soon!*)

<https://www.autismontario.com/programs-services/children-youth/family-supports/school-supports>

### 2023-2024 Annual Report:

<https://www.autismontario.com/about-us/annual-and-financial-reports>

### Webinar: Aligning Communication IEP Goals for Academic Success

Do you have questions about setting meaningful goals to increase your non-speaking child's participation in school? If your child is non-speaking, this webinar will talk about how to use the IEP (Individual Education Plan) to increase your child's participation at school. Available On-Demand: <https://bit.ly/3M6LxQh>

### Autism Ontario Newsletters

Sign up to stay updated: <https://www.autismontario.com/newsletter>

# Autisme Ontario

## Octobre 2024



### Nouvelle :

- [Le plan d'enseignement individualisé : un plan de réussite scolaire](#)
- [Comité d'identification, de placement et de révision \(CIPR\) : les cinq étapes menant à la réunion du CIPR](#)
- [Le comité d'identification, de placement et de révision \(CIPR\) : Ce qu'il est et pourquoi il est important](#)
- [Des conseils pour mieux communiquer et collaborer avec l'école](#)
- Transformez votre classe : Quelques conseils pour créer un environnement d'apprentissage neuro-affirmatif (*À venir:*)
- Les étapes de la communication à l'école : À qui parler et quand (*À venir:*)

<https://www.autismontario.com/fr/nouvelles/le-retour-lecole-aidez-votre-enfant-se-preparer-pour-la-rentree-scolaire>

### 2023-2024 Annual Report (*en anglais seulement*)

<https://www.autismontario.com/fr/notre-sujet/rapports-annuels-en-anglais-seulement>

### Ateliers/Workshops

- Faire face à un nouveau diagnostic - Atelier pour les parents d'enfants autistes de moins de 5 ans - le 7 octobre de midi-13h00.  
<https://www.autismontario.com/fr/civicrm/event/info?id=10082>
- Séance de paperasserie » - Aider les aidant.e.s à remplir une demande liée au Programme d'aide à l'égard d'enfants qui ont un handicap grave (AEHG) – le 15 octobre de 19h00-20h00. <https://www.autismontario.com/fr/civicrm/event/info?id=10067>
- Comment soumettre vos dépenses POSA – le 15 octobre de 19h00-20h00.  
<https://www.autismontario.com/fr/civicrm/event/info?id=10071>

## Webinaires/Webinars

- Webinaire - en direct - Autisme Ontario présente : Exploration de l'autisme – le 22 octobre de midi -13h00. <https://www.autismontario.com/fr/civicrm/event/info?id=10039>

## Groupes de soutiens animés/ Support groups facilitated

- Parents spectr-aculaires – le 3 octobre de 19h00-21h00.  
<https://www.autismontario.com/fr/civicrm/event/info?id=10065>
- Cheminement vers l'âge adulte – le 28 octobre de 18h30-20h30.  
<https://www.autismontario.com/fr/civicrm/event/info?id=10072>

## Autisme Ontario - Inscription au bulletin

Inscrivez-vous et tenez-vous au courant. <https://www.autismontario.com/fr/bulletin-dinformation>

## Administrative Report: Superintendent's Report

### Special Education Advisory Committee

10/16/2024

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#### A. Ministry Updates:

None at this time.

#### B. Educational Services Updates:

##### Learning Disabilities and Dyslexia Awareness Month

Learning Disabilities and Dyslexia Awareness Month are recognized in October every year. Learning Disabilities include reading difficulties like dyslexia affect one or more of the ways a person takes in, stores, or uses information. As with most disorders their effect are different from person to person so its important to take the time to get to know a person's learning profile in order to match effective strategies to their areas of need. Educational Services Coordinators and Leadership staff are supporting educators and support staff by providing resources and strategies to support students with learning disabilities and dyslexia.

##### Professional Learning

##### PD for Mental Health Support Staff

On October 1, 2024, 50 mental health support staff (including ACs, ACWs, BAs, SWs, SSCs, and Clinical Consultants) gathered for a day of collaboration led by Laura Conboy and Wendy Fisher. The morning session focused on reviewing significant and impactful work such as the Community Violence Threat Risk Assessment Protocol, the Suicide Response Protocol, and highlights from our collective efforts as part of the 3-year Mental Health & Substance Use Strategy. Community partners from Maltby Centre, Youthab, the Transgender Health Clinic, and Mental Health and Addictions Nurses also joined to share information about their supports and services available to students and families.

##### Student Support Teacher (SST) and Intensive Support Teacher (IST) PD

IST and SST teachers were brought together for a day of learning in September. IST teachers met on September 17, 2024, covering topics such as Assistive Technology (AT), Executive Functioning (EF),

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Collaborative Learning, and more. They also participated in a carousel of topics focused on supporting their students, including classroom visuals, emerging speakers, visual schedules, and social narratives.

SST teachers met on September 18, 2024, discussing AT, EF, Universal Screening, IEPs, and the Urgent Response Service (URS). Both days were highly productive, providing teachers with the opportunity to share their successes and challenges from the month of September.

SST and IST teachers will meet monthly, with the next SST meeting on October 8, 2024, and the next IST meeting on October 16, 2024. We will provide another update in November. A huge thank you to the coordinators and the team for offering such responsive and timely professional development to our special education teachers.

#### **Learning Program Support (LPS) Teacher PD**

LPS teachers meet on Tuesday, October 8, 2024. Agenda topics included Educational Services updates, EF, AT, Barriers/Protocols, and a session dealing with the URS.

#### **Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST)**

ASIST Training will take place on October 30 and 31, 2024, at the LDSB Education Centre. ASIST is a 2-day in-person workshop where participants learn to recognize when someone may be thinking about suicide, provide a skilled intervention, and develop a safety plan to connect them to further support. Offering ASIST training regularly is part of our Mental Health and Substance Use three-year plan.

#### **Grade 10 MH Modules**

The Career Studies curriculum was recently enhanced with an additional mental health expectation and revisions to an existing expectation. To support these changes, the Ministry of Education has created two new mental health modules. These modules are available in both in-person and online formats in your board's Virtual Learning Environment and will begin being taught in fall 2024.

- Module 10.1 Strategies for Managing Stress and Navigating Balance
- Module 10.2 Knowing When, Where, and How to Seek Support

The modules enhance mental health literacy and equip students with culturally responsive, evidence-informed knowledge, skills, and strategies to support their mental health and well-being, both in school and their future work lives. They were created by educators and mental health professionals, with extensive consultation from grade 10 students, parents/caregivers, and community and cultural partners.

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The modules feature flexible, user-friendly tools such as videos, slide decks, discussion guides, and teacher scripts to support delivery. A variety of supportive resources, including an Educator Guide, are also provided to enhance the delivery of these modules. The online learning version includes specific content tailored to support that learning environment.

As always, educators are not expected to be mental health experts. They already play an important role in promoting positive mental health and building the mental health literacy of students through the curriculum. The modules have been thoughtfully designed to assist them in maintaining this role. Students are reminded that the focus of the learning is on understanding stress, stress management, and recognizing when supports may be needed and how to access them. If a student has a personal situation they would like to discuss, they are encouraged to see the teacher after class.

The curriculum was shared with ACWs and SWs in September. Special Education Coordinator Melissa West will be holding drop-in “office hours” for educators in early fall and winter to support educator mental health literacy and teacher preparedness. Mental Health Lead Laura Conboy is also available to support staff.

As part of PPM 169, we are required to report back to the Ministry regarding the implementation status of these modules. We may be contacting secondary administrators, as we did last year with elementary administrators, to support the monitoring of implementation. We also ask that you encourage educators to use the exit cards provided at the end of each module to help students reflect on and self-assess their stage of learning.

### **Leading Mentally Health Schools**

Leading Mentally Healthy Schools is a resource and guide designed to help school administrators support mental health and well-being in their schools. All Principals and Vice Principals will be exploring this resource at five different operational meetings this year. Our first session will cover Background and Context, as well as Caring for Yourself and Other Adults. Mental Health Lead Laura Conboy will be facilitating this learning.

**Prepared by:** Scot Gillam, Superintendent of Curriculum & Program Services: Student Support Services & Indigenous Education

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