



AGENDA – SEAC MEETING

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 22, 2023 – 5:30 PM

Limestone Education Centre

220 Portsmouth Avenue, Kingston, ON

Virtual Meeting Link: bit.ly/MAR22SEACMTG

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 AGENDA**
- 3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - 4.1 SEAC Minutes – January 25, 2023 (Pages 3-6)
 - 4.2 SEAC Minutes – February 15, 2023 (Pages 7-11)
- 5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

Limestone District School Board

Limestone District School Board is situated on traditional territories of the Anishinaabe & Haudenosaunee.

SEE YOURSELF IN LIMESTONE

6. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES UPDATE

6.1 Presentation: Building Our Vision for the Future, Enhancing Special Education Services in Our District, 2022/23 Monitoring Document – Principal Michael Blackburn and Vice Principal Nicola Dillard (Pages 12-14)

7. CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 Near North District School Board - Letter to Minister of Education regarding the Special Incidence Portion Claim Funding, dated February 14, 2023. (Pages 15-16)

8. ASSOCIATION UPDATES

Zoe Rogers, Community Living Kingston and District

Community Living Kingston will be hosting some virtual presentations this year as follows:

- March 28, 2023 – Review summer camp opportunities
- May 16, 2023 – Transitions for students ages 12-16
- June 13, 2023 – Transitions for students ages 16-12
- October 17, 2023 – Review estate planning and the Disability Tax Credit

Flyer with more information attached. (Page 17)

9. OTHER BUSINESS

9.1 Administrative Report: Superintendent's Report – Superintendent Scot Gillam (Page 18)

10. NEXT MEETING DATE

April 19, 2023

11. ADJOURNMENT



SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

January 25, 2023, Meeting – Rescheduled to February 15, 2023

PUBLIC MEETING

Roll Call:

Trustees:	Members:
T. Lloyd K. McGregor	Present: S. Henderson-Todd, Lennox and Addington Resources for Children H. Simson, Learning Disabilities Association of Kingston A. Martin, Member-at-Large (Queen's University) Z. Rogers, Community Living Kingston L. Clouthier, Easter Seals Ontario Regrets: C. Carriere-Prill, Member-at-Large C. Norwich-Stevenson, Member-at-Large
	Staff:
	M. Blackburn, Principal of Educational Services J. Lalonde, Special Education Program Coordinator L. Conboy, Mental Health Lead W. Fisher, Educational Services and Safe Schools Coordinator S. Gillam, Superintendent, Learning for All N. Dillard, Vice-Principal of Educational Services C. Snider, Special Education Program Coordinator T. Vail, Special Education Program Coordinator A. Ward, Special Education Program Coordinator L. Rose-Hartwick, Special Education Support Teacher
Recorder:	Guests:
J. Senior, Administrative Assistant	M. Michaud, Learning Disabilities Support Program (LD) C. Laird, District Autism Program (DAC) M. Potter, District Learning Centre (DLC) A. Dale, Education and Community Partner Program (ECCP) M. Aylesworth, Elementary School to Community (SCS) A. Lamont, Secondary School to Community (SCS) S. Stinson, Secondary School to Community (SCS)

Limestone District School Board

Limestone District School Board is situated on traditional territories of the Anishinaabe & Haudenosaunee.

SEE YOURSELF IN LIMESTONE

1. WELCOME

Chair McGregor called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Principal Michael Blackburn introduced the Educational Services SEAC Team for the 2022-2023 School Year.

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.”

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOVED BY: Trustee Lloyd that the agenda be approved. Carried.

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None at this time.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1 SEAC Minutes – December 14, 2022

MOVED BY: Trustee Lloyd that the December 14, 2022, SEAC Minutes be approved. Carried.

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

None at this time.

6. EDUCATION SERVICES UPDATE

6.1 Presentation: Educational Services Programs – Principal Michael Blackburn introduced the speakers:

- Learning Disabilities Support Program (LD) - Melissa Michaud
- District Autism Program (DAC) - Cynthia Laird
- District Learning Centre (DLC) - Marnie Potter
- Education and Community Partner Program (ECCP) - Andrew Dale
- Elementary School to Community (SCS) - Matt Aylesworth
- Secondary School to Community (SCS) - Ashley Lamont and Scott Stinson

Each speaker presented detailed information regarding their specific program. Chair McGregor called upon SEAC Members for questions.

7. ASSOCIATION UPDATES

Helen Simson, Learning Disabilities Association of Kingston (LDAK)

Free Webinar - Neurodiversity: Disability or Difference (Page 10)

Join LDAK for an introduction to neurodiversity! Learn about the strengths, challenges and supports available to neurodiverse thinkers and the importance of understanding this social movement. Featured Speaker: Sumita Mendiratta is a psychologist, Health Researcher and ReadON programmer specializing in learning difficulties and developmental issues. Sumita has a deep understanding of neurodiversity and extensive experience helping students create connections and stability in their lives.

- Date: January 26, 2023
- Time: 7:00 pm
- Registration: Eventbrite

8. OTHER BUSINESS – Administrative Report: Superintendent's Report

A. Ministry Updates:

None currently.

B. Educational Services Update:

February 3, 2023, PA Day Professional Development Sessions

On February 3rd, Educational Services staff, Program Team staff, and Community partners will offer a wide variety of professional development sessions aimed to support Educational Assistants. Topics include Emotion Coaching, Indigenous Education, Oral Language, ABA Classroom Strategies, and Student-Centred Personal Care to name a few. Sessions are being offered in person and virtually to meet the needs of as many EAs as possible. Please see the flyer which is included in the meeting package. A huge thanks to the Educational Services leadership team for organizing this amazing opportunity and to all the presenters and support staff. It is sure to be a great day of learning together.

Triboard SEAC Meeting

The date for the Triboard SEAC Meeting has been set for Wednesday, May 31, 2023. Our LDSB SEAC will begin at 5 pm and we will join Hastings/Prince Edward and Algonquin at 6 pm for our joint meeting. This year, Limestone will be hosting the 6-7 pm portion of the meeting. Plans for this hour will be brought forward to a future SEAC.

Multi-Year Accessibility Plan Update 2023-2026

The LDSB multi-Year Accessibility Plan is developed in accordance with the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA). It incorporates the intentions of the Board to meet its obligations under the Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005. The Accessibility Plan describes the measure that the Board will take over the 3-year period from January 1, 2023, to December 31, 2026, to identify, remove, and prevent barriers to people with disabilities who work, learn, and participate in the School Board community and environment including students, staff, parents and caregivers, volunteers, and visitors to the Board and its schools.

The Limestone District School Board is committed to the continual improvement of access to school board facilities, policies, programs, practices, and services for people with disabilities. The plan is guided by the Board's Accessibility Standards-Policy Statement Board's Accessibility Standards-Policy Statement as well as the Board's Mission, Vision and Values.

The LDSB Accessibility Planning Committee has been busy adjusting the multi-Year plan during the 2022-23 school year. The draft Multi-Year Accessibility Plan 2023-2026 will be brought to February's SEAC meeting for feedback and discussion. There are also plans to consult with staff, students and the community agencies through social media and the website. Finally, any details related to the plan that are referenced in the Special Education Review will be brought to the Committee's attention as well.

Clinical Community Collaboration Sessions

Clinical staff have organized three recent community collaboration sessions to share information about services/supports for students within our Board and the broader community. Previous sessions were held with the Autism Resource Hub and DDCP. The next session will include KidsInclusive as well as the Behaviour Action Team, School to Community team, and other Educational Services leadership personnel.

9. NEXT MEETING DATE

Wednesday, February 15, 2023

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY: Trustee Lloyd that the meeting adjourn. Carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:56 p.m.



SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

February 15, 2023

PUBLIC MEETING

Roll Call:

Trustees:	Members:
T. Lloyd K. McGregor	Present: S. Henderson-Todd, Lennox and Addington Resources for Children H. Simson, Learning Disabilities Association of Kingston A. Martin, Member-at-Large (Queen's University) Z. Rogers, Community Living Kingston L. Clouthier, Easter Seals Ontario Regrets: C. Carriere-Prill, Member-at-Large C. Norwich-Stevenson, Member-at-Large
	Staff:
	M. Blackburn, Principal of Educational Services J. Lalonde, Special Education Program Coordinator L. Conboy, Mental Health Lead W. Fisher, Educational Services and Safe Schools Coordinator S. Gillam, Superintendent, Learning for All N. Dillard, Vice-Principal of Educational Services C. Snider, Special Education Program Coordinator T. Vail, Special Education Program Coordinator A. Ward, Special Education Program Coordinator L. Rose-Hartwick, Special Education Support Teacher
Guests:	Recorder:
None	J. Senior, Administrative Assistant

1. WELCOME

The postponed January 25, 2023, SEAC Meeting was completed before the beginning of the February 15, 2023, SEAC Meeting.

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.”

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOVED BY: Trustee Lloyd that the agenda be approved. Carried.

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None at this time.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1 Not applicable due to cancellation of January 25, 2023, SEAC Meeting.

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

None at this time.

6. EDUCATION SERVICES UPDATE

6.1 Presentation: Universal Design for Learning (UDL): Creating Supportive and Inclusive Classrooms – Jessi Lalonde and Cheryl Snider, Special Education Program Coordinators and Lisa Rose-Hartwick, Special Education Support Teacher.

An in-depth presentation was given highlighting the Universal Design for Learning (UDL) Program. Chair McGregor called upon SEAC Members for questions.

7. ASSOCIATION UPDATES

Linda Clouthier, Easter Seals Ontario (ESO)

March Is Easter Seals Month! This campaign is our biggest initiative to raise the very much needed funds for children and youth living with physical disabilities to obtain the services, mobility, and communication devices needed for them to thrive. I am so pleased to share with SEAC all the fun and amazing ways we can get out and help us reach our goal this year.

Smitty's Family Restaurant is hosting their 25th Annual Pancake Days in support of Easter Seals Ontario, February 21-22, 2023. When you order their endless stacks of buttermilk pancakes for \$10.99 all proceeds will go to ESO, as well as all tips the staff earn will generously be donated. (Press release attached).

Throughout the month of March, we are asking our friends, families and corporate sponsors to support our month-long invites to raise funds and awareness by either registering an online team and asking for pledges or donating to an existing on-line team in our region.

Our sponsorship package offers exceptional promotions of your support for Easter Seals Ontario through the purchase of ad spots that will showcase your support on Global News Kingston all throughout the month of March with the lowest costs that will ever be offered!

I am very excited to announce The First Annual *Curl For Kids* event that will take place on Friday, March 24, 2023, hosted at Cataraqui Golf and Country Club. This is one more great way to come out and support Easter Seals Ontario. You can register a team with some friends and come have a great day raising funds all while having fun! You can sponsor the event or even donate an item for our auction!

Superintendent Scot Gillam shared with SEAC Members that Constance Carrierre-Prill, Member-at-Large, and Chantele Tooley, Down Syndrome Association Kingston SEAC Member have both resigned from SEAC. A posting for a new Member-at-Large SEAC Member will be initiated in March. We are also reaching out to the Down Syndrome Association Kingston to find a replacement.

8. OTHER BUSINESS – Administrative Report: Superintendent's Report

A. Ministry Updates:

Children and Youth In Care (CYIC) Transportation and Stability Reports

Interim reports for the Transportation and Stability Supports for Children and Youth in Care are due March 1, 2023. As a reminder, the goals of the CYIC funding are as follows:

- Improve the educational experience and outcomes of children and youth in care by ensuring positive and stable connections to school, school supports, and learning opportunities during times of instability and transition;
- Promote mental health, well-being, and positive educational experiences by providing transportation to support a stable school and learning experience as well as educational supports; and
- Ensure that the unique identities of children and youth in care are supported by community and cultural connections, trauma-informed approaches, positive relationships with peers, and caring adults at their school.

B. Educational Services Update:

Educational Services Leadership Team Update

It is with mixed emotions that we announce that Vice Principal Grasse has been transferred to LaSalle Intermediate and Secondary School effective February 3, 2023. Jen has been an integral part of the Educational Leadership Team for the past few years, and her work with the Autism Team, Speech-Language Pathologists, Tri-board, Special Incident Portion (SIP), and countless other initiatives has been greatly appreciated. Educational Services is pleased to welcome Nicola Dillard to the team as the new Vice Principal. Nicola comes to Educational Services with a wealth of experience, most recently as the Vice Principal of Molly Brant. Please join me in welcoming Nicola to the team.

Professional Learning PA Day

As reported in last month's Superintendent Report, Educational Services and Program staff, along with community partners, provided professional learning for Educational Assistants during the February 3, 2023, PA Day. Attendance was very healthy and feedback from staff was overwhelmingly positive.

Special Education Review

As previously reported, Educational Services leadership is supporting the system in conducting a Special Education Review beginning February 27, 2023. Information was shared with Principals on February 1 and Trustees on February 8, 2023.

The purpose of the Special Education Review is to examine our current special education supports and services and identify areas for refinement and enhancement to meet the needs of all learners within an inclusive learning environment. We will complete this goal by gathering student, family, staff, and community partner voices to assist in identifying priorities and key areas which may impact the success of students with special education needs.

We will be using Thought Exchange to gather feedback. Thought Exchange allows individuals to respond to a question, then interact with other responses, in an attempt to organize the most prevalent thoughts together. The question we will be asking is as follows:

What key supports and services are important for students with special education needs to experience success at school and reach their full potential?

The Review will begin the week of February 27, 2023, for students with special education needs and their families. Later, in April, we will ask the same question of Limestone staff and Community Members/Partners. Students will respond to the questions within the school setting and will be supported by staff when necessary. We envision this being accomplished in classrooms, small groups, or individually as required. Families will also be asked to complete the question during this week. An exchange link with QR code will be sent out to families. Schools have been directed to work with families on ensuring they can access the Thought Exchange, and examples have been provided to school staff in order to support the completion of this work. Finally, all staff and community partners will be provided with the link/QR code via the LDSB website and social media. Information will be analyzed during the Spring of 2023 and a report provided to the Board and public in the fall of 2023.

9. NEXT MEETING DATE

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY: Trustee Lloyd that the meeting adjourn. Carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:31 pm.

Enhancing Special Education Services in our District

Monitoring Document 2022-23



Reallocation of Resources: Restructuring supports, services, teams, and programs to meet the changing needs of students and schools and to equitably distribute resources.

Professional Learning: Provide ongoing and relevant professional learning to a variety of staff in order to build capacity to meet the needs of diverse learners in an inclusive learning environment.

Strengthening Partnerships and Leveraging Supports: Strengthen and enhance partnerships with families and community partners to leverage supports and maximize student learning and well-being.

Learning for All: Support the implementation of differentiated, precise and research-based instructional strategies to support the learning and well-being of all students.

Reallocation of Resources	Beginning	Continuing	Enhancing
Refine and implement referral processes for District Teams and support multi-disciplinary team collaboration			✓
Critically examine application processes for District programs and explore the alignment with goals/purpose of specialized programs		✓ →	

Expand the collection of role-specific data to inform the allocation of resources, supports and services. Foster a data culture of inquiry and reflection.		✓ →	✓
Provide timely, responsive, and ongoing support to school teams in alignment with tiers of support			✓
Professional Learning	Beginning	Continuing	Enhancing
Embed Universal Design for Learning principles in professional learning opportunities		✓ →	✓
Provide professional learning opportunities focused on a relationship-based approach to supporting student learning and well-being		✓	
Enhance online resources and professional learning via Minds Online		✓	
Strengthening Partnerships and Leveraging Supports	Beginning	Continuing	Enhancing
Develop supportive resources for students and parents (IEP and IPRC)		✓ →	

Communicate and collaborate with students, families, staff, and community partners to gather voice and lived experiences		✓ →	
Enhance collaboration with community partners to support strengths based transition planning for students to/from school			✓
Learning For All	Beginning	Continuing	Enhancing
Support the development and implementation of precise and personalized plans for students (IEP, SSP, Medical)		✓	
Collaborate with Program Team/Curriculum Department to implement literacy and numeracy supports and interventions		✓ →	✓
Support system-wide learning and implementation of effective accommodations and the process for modification decision making		✓	

February 14, 2023

Hon. Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education
Ministry of Education
15th Floor, 438 University Ave.
Toronto, Ontario M5G 2K8

Dear Minister Lecce:

Re: Special Incidence Portion Claim Funding

The Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) of the Near North District School Board would like to send this letter of support for the concerns expressed by the Durham District School Board regarding funding of the Special Incidence Portion (SIP)

Like other school boards in Ontario would like to remind you that in the spring of 2018 the previous government announced an increase to the SIP claim funding of \$11,016.00, bringing that funding amount up to \$38,016.00 per student from the previous funding amount of \$27,000.00. On August 24, 2018, after school board budgets were prepared and approved, the Ministry announced that the previously-announced increase would be clawed back. Currently the funding received from the Ministry is \$28,803.00, bringing the net increase to \$1,803.00 per student.

SEACs across the province were dismayed by the Ministry of Education decision to claw back that increase, given that the true costs of supporting a student with a SIP claim are significantly higher than the allocated amount. For example, the average cost, including salary and benefits, for an Educational Assistant at the Near North District School Board is \$52,397. A student who requires 2 plus Educational Assistants to support their learning needs would be at a cost of \$104,794 plus.

In the 2021-2022 school year alone, the NNDSB allocated \$707,634 more than was given in Special Education Grants to Special Education services. Some of the revenue the NNDSB has used to fund this gap is the Local Priorities Funding, which, as you are aware, is not guaranteed annual funding from the Province.

Furthermore, when you take into account the claw-back of the SIP funding increase in 2018, combined with the reallocation of the Special Education Per Pupil Amount, this resulted in a net **decrease** in funding and a further increase in the NNDSB's Special Education deficit. In 2017, the Auditor General highlighted that the Ministry of Education's "[f]unding formula uses out-of-date benchmarks and is due for a comprehensive external review."

RECEIVED
Limestone District School Board

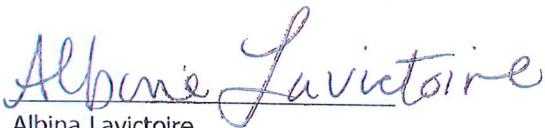
MAR 03 2023

Scot Gillam

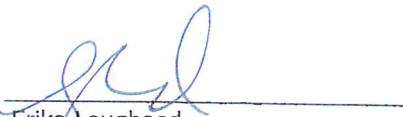
Specifically, we urge the Minister to consider:

- A minimum 5% increase in the Special Education funding that will better align with the true costs associated with SIP claims to support our students and increase funding accordingly.
- That the Special Education funding model be reviewed annually and changed to accurately reflect the increasing and more complex needs of students with special needs.
- An improved process that will eliminate the need for such intensive applications or provide support for Boards to complete the SIP applications. It takes countless staff hours per SIP application, which impacts the time our trained Special Education teachers and leads are away from their other important work supporting high-needs students.

Sincerely,



Albina Lavictoire,
Chair, Special Education Advisory Committee,
Near North District School Board



Erika Loughheed,
Chair, Board of Trustees,
Near North District School Board

cc: Chairs of all Ontario Special Education Advisory Committees

2023 Information Session Opportunities



CLKD Presents Summer Camp Information Sesssion

Date - March 28th 2023 - 6:30pm - 7:30pm

Location : Virtual - via Bluejeans

Join us for a virtual information session which will share summer camp opportunities for children and adults across the community.

CLKD Presents Preparing for Transitions - Ages 12-16

Date - May 16th 2023 - 6:30pm - 7:30pm

Location : Virtual - via Bluejeans

Information will be shared that will help families plan for and navigate the transition from elementary school through the early years of highschool

CLKD Presents Preparing for Transitions - Ages 16-21

Date - June 13th 2023 - 6:30pm - 7:30pm

Location : Virtual - via Bluejeans

Information will be shared that will help families plan for the later years of highschool and the transition to life beyond school

CLKD Presents Wills, Estate Planning & Disability Tax Credit

Date - October 17th 2023 - 6:30pm - 7:30pm

Location: Virtual - via Bluejeans

Information will be shared that will help families to better understand the Disability Tax Credit and the estate planning process



ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT: SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

03/22/2023

A. Ministry Updates:

Interim Reports

Interim Reports have been submitted for the following Transfer Payment Agreement projects:

- Children and Youth In Care Transportation and Stability Reports
- Supporting Students with Disabilities
- Early Intervention Math Supports for Students with Special Education Needs (K-8)
- Special Education Additional Qualifications (AQ) Subsidy for Educators – 2022-2025

B. Educational Services Update:

Transition to Kindergarten (T2K)

The Transition to Kindergarten (T2K) Protocol, a joint document with other school boards and community agencies that support young children, was recently updated in February 2023. This process highlights timelines and supports that are available through the school board and community agencies as families begin to plan for entry into Kindergarten. Highlighting the process and community collaboration is the T2K Parent and Family Workshop that took place virtually on Wednesday, March 1, 2023. This workshop was attended by parents and caregivers across the district and was supported by Educational Services staff as well as community partners including KidsInclusive, KFL& A Public Health (Early Expressions), Maltby, Community Living, and our partners from the Algonquin Lakeshore Catholic District School Board. Attending this meeting were also representatives from neighbouring boards (Hastings/Prince Edward, Upper Canada and CDSBEO) who are working to replicate this event in their areas.

Multi-Year Accessibility Plan – January 2023 – December 2026

A draft version of the 2023-2026 plan will be shared with SEAC members, highlighting changes from the last version.

Prepared by: Scot Gillam, Superintendent of Education, Learning for All