

Kenora Catholic District School Board

We are a Roman Catholic school system dedicated to excellence in education, the Christian formation of youth, and meaningful partnerships with family, community and Church.

**SPECIAL EDUCATION
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
March 24, 2023**

MEETING DATE:	March 24, 2023
LOCATION OF MEETING:	Microsoft Teams Meeting
SUBJECT OF MEETING:	Special Education Advisory Committee
TIME OF MEETING:	1:30 PM – 2:21 PM
NEXT MEETING:	Friday, April 14, 2023 – CEC Board Room – Microsoft Teams

	ATTENDANCE	PERSON	TITLE
1.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Diane VanderZande	Voting Member - Member at Large, Vice Chair
2.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dianne Griffiths	Voting Member - Member at Large
3.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Anne Sweeney	Voting Member - Member at Large
4.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Erica Murray	Voting Member - KACL Representative
5.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Joel Willett	Voting Member - FIREFLY Representative
6.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shirley Jette	Voting Member - Harmony Centre for Community Living Red Lake
7.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Marie Lundin	Voting Member – Trustee Representative
8.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nicole Kurtz	Director of Education
9.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Andrea Batters	Special Education Coordinator
10.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Teresa Gallik	Chair, Board of Trustees
11.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cathy McQuillan	Recording Secretary

1. **Opening Prayer: Nicole Kurtz**

2. **Roll Call – Regrets: Shirley Jette, Teresa Gallik**

3. **Approval of February 17, 2023, Meeting Minutes**

Approved: Anne Sweeney

Seconded: Erica Murray

4. **School Update – St. John Paul II School – Tammy Bush, Anissa Fraser, Stacey Goodridge, & Tracy Knopf - Attached 3**

5. **Correspondence: Nil**

6. **New Business: Nil**

7. **Ministry & Board Update – Nicole Kurtz - Attached 31**

8. **Professional Development: Ministry’s Advisory Council on Special Education (MACSE) – Nicole Kurtz – Attached 38**

9. **Business arising from the last meeting:**

- Superintendent Alison Smith, was going to do a finance update in April but has asked if she could do it at the June meeting.
- Early Literacy presentation will also be held at the June meeting.
- Norine Schram lunch before SEAC meeting on June 16th: Cathy will follow up with Norine.

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10. Reports:

Agency Reports

- **FIREFLY – Joel Willett:**
 - FIREFLY will be training on a new appointment booking system they will be implementing called Coconut. Families will be able to book their own appointments for services.
 - The General Referral Form for School Support Programs is being updated.
- **KACL – Erica Murray: Nothing to report.**
- **Harmony Center for Community Living – Shirley Jette - Regrets**

Other Reports from Members-at-Large

- **Dianne Griffiths: Nothing to report**
- **Anne Sweeney: Anne asked Erica Murray about KACL Summer Programming.**
- **Diane VanderZande:**
 - Diane joined the meeting virtually and commented the audio in the meeting was not good.

11. Trustee Report – Marie Lundin

- Marie reported on the Board Meeting held at St. Thomas Aquinas High School on February 21, 2023
[Click here](#) to access the meeting minutes.

12. Coordinator Report – Andrea Batters: Attached **40**

13. Next Meetings:

Time	Day	Date	Location
1:30 PM	Tuesday	May 16, 2023	St. John School Red Lake / Microsoft Teams
1:30 PM	Friday	June 16, 2023	CEC Board Room / Microsoft Teams

St. John Paul II School

SEAC Presentation
March 24, 2023



5 Categories of Exceptionalities

As determined by a Doctor and an IPRC

Behavioural

Communication

Intellectual

Physical

Multiple

4 Areas of Need for Special Education Students

+

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○

Communication
and Interaction
needs

Cognition and
Learning
Difficulties

Social, Emotional,
and Mental
Health Challenges

Sensory and
Physical Needs

5 Placement Options

Regular Class with Indirect Support

Regular Class with Resource
Assistance

Regular Class with Withdrawal
Assistance

Special Education Class with Partial
Integration (50% of the day or more)

Full-time Special Education Class

REGULATION

before

EXPECTATION



INTENSIVE SUPPORT TRANSITION CLASS

Here is what we are learning:

- to regulate our emotions
- to follow the structure of the school day
- to work alone and with others







Cognition and Learning Difficulties



Quiet, less stimulating environment with opportunities for co-regulation and self-regulation



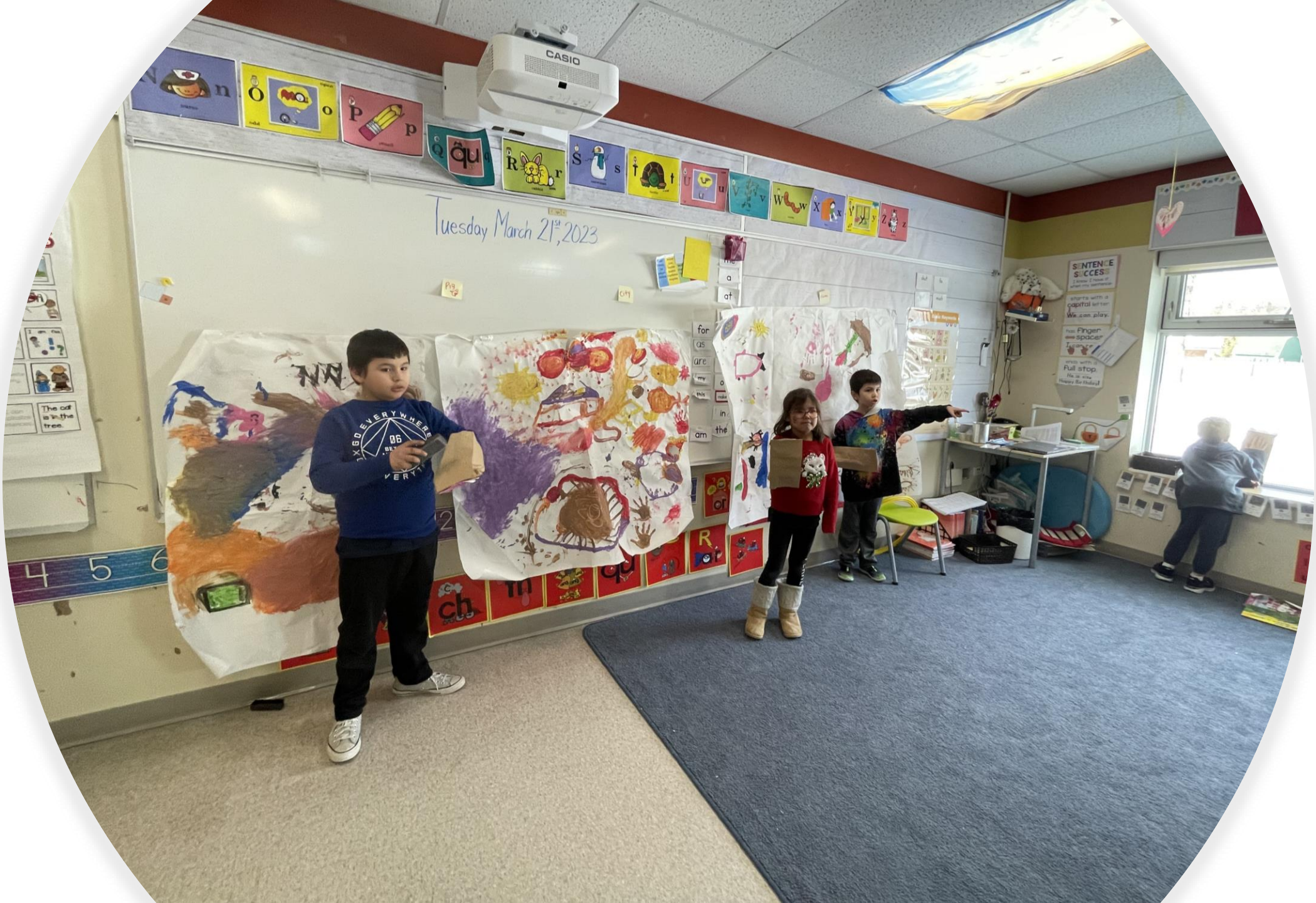
Modified curriculum with 1:1 assistance



Model skills, such as executive function, organization, use of visual schedules (first/then) for success



Directed focus on Numeracy and Literacy

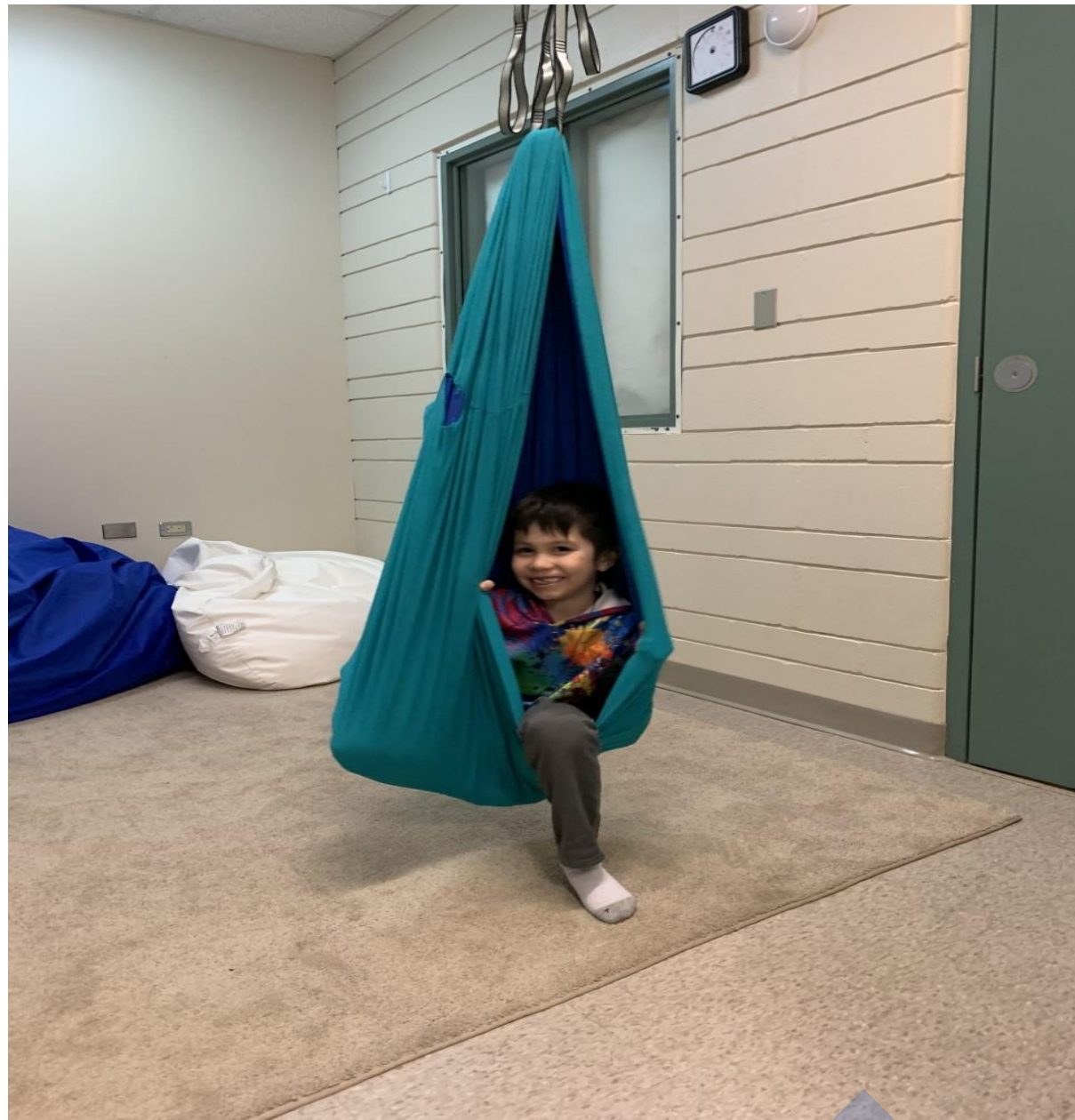






COMFORT INN





Social, Emotional & Mental Health Challenges

Opportunities for breaks







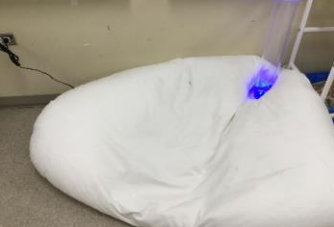








Mental Health Support

Opportunities for 1:1 and small group interactions to practice social skills
















Play Therapy



Sensory Break Choices

<p>CoCoon Swing</p> 	<p>Crash Mat</p> 	<p>Steamroller</p> 
<p>Trampoline</p> 	<p>Stationary Bike</p> 	<p>Puzzles</p> 
<p>Bubble Tower</p> 	<p>Sand Table</p> 	<p>Water Table</p> 
<p>Plasticene</p> 	<p>Colouring</p> 	<p>Swing</p> 
<p>Therapy Ball</p> 	<p>Heavy Work</p> 	<p>Tunnel</p> 











Sensory Break Choices

<p>Yoga</p> 	<p>Read in Bean Bag Chair</p> 	<p> Scooter Board</p> 
<p>Medicine Ball</p> 	<p>Weighted Lap Pad</p> 	<p>Seated Bicycle</p> 
<p>Plasma Bike</p> 	<p>Snap Cubes</p> 	<p>Sensory Path</p> 
<p>Wall Pushes</p> 	<p>Lava Timer</p> 	<p>Rocking Chair</p> 
<p>Peapod Chair</p> 	<p>Vibrating Seat</p>  <p>Red Octagon</p>	<p>Projector</p> 

Sensory and Physical Needs

- Community resources
 - Firefly – OT: Sensory, Fine & Gross Motor Skill development, wheelchair support
 - PT: Lift training, mobility and stretching exercises
 - SLP: Speech-language development, Augmentative and Alternative Communication
 - HCCSS (Home & Community Care Support Service – Northwest): Nursing Staff for tube feeding
- OT collaborates with staff to complete a sensory profile and develops a sensory diet which include activities and a deliberate schedule to stabilize sensory needs
- KCDSB SLP and Communication Assistant
- Personal Care – toileting, washing, feeding, laundry

Kingsley's Schedule

8:50 Announcements 	9:05 Sensory Break 
9:15 Literacy 	9:45 Sensory Break 
10:00 Literacy 	10:30 Snack 
10:50 Recess 	11:15 Sensory Break 
11:30 Math 	12:00 Sensory Break 

Kingsley's Schedule
March 1st, 2023

12:15 Religion 	12:55 Lunch 
1:20 Recess 	1:40 Sensory Break 
2:00 Ojibwa 	2:25 Kitchen 
2:40 Gym 	3:10 Get Ready 
3:20 Dismissal 	

Kingsley's Schedule
March 1st, 2023

















BUT WHAT WE CAN DO, AND WHAT WE ARE ETHICALLY CALLED TO DO AS TEACHERS, IS CREATE A SPACE IN OUR SCHOOLS AND CLASSROOMS WHERE ALL STUDENTS CAN WALK IN AND, FOR THAT DAY OR HOUR, TAKE OFF THE CRUSHING WEIGHT OF THEIR ARMOR, HANG IT ON A RACK, AND OPEN THEIR HEART TO TRULY BEING SEEN.

-BRENÉ BROWN

**WE ARE
TEACHERS**

SEAC Meeting

March 24th, 2023

Ministry & Board Updates

Elementary Language, Grades 1-8, and Grade 9 English

On February 28, 2022, the Minister announced the revision of the elementary Language curriculum and a new de-streamed Grade 9 English course to align with scientific, evidence-based approaches that emphasize direct, explicit and systematic instruction.

The new de-streamed English, Grade 9 course (ENL1W) replaces English, Grade 9, Academic (ENG1D). As of September 2023, English, Grade 9, Academic (ENG1D) should not be offered, and the associated course code will expire at the end of the 2022-23 school year. Please note, English, Grade 9, Applied (ENG1P) expired September 1, 2022.

English, Grade 9 (ENL1W)

Course description: This course enables students to continue to develop and consolidate the foundational knowledge and skills that they need for reading, writing, and oral and visual communication. Throughout the course, students will continue to enhance their media literacy and critical literacy skills, and to develop and apply transferable skills, including digital literacy. Students will also make connections to their lived experiences and to society and increase their understanding of the importance of language and literacy across the curriculum.

Ministry & Board Updates

The government is committed to further enhancing supports for students under the Plan to Catch Up:

- **Early Reading Enhancements:** will invest \$25 million over two years to provide support for students in senior kindergarten to Grade 2. Students will be assessed twice a year for their reading skills using evidence-based screening tools. The government plans to work with school boards to establish a consistent set of recommended screening tools;
- **Targeted Math Supports:** include an additional \$12.6 million investment over two years, to double the number of school math coaches who will be responsible for implementing early intervention strategies and providing other math-related supports for students at targeted schools across the province;
- **Preparing More Students for the Jobs of the Future:** will involve creating stronger links between classroom learning and good-paying careers. Over three years, the government is investing \$6.2 million in targeted supports for students with disabilities to pursue cooperative education opportunities;
- **Continued Curriculum Updates:** will focus on life and job skills by revising curriculum in language; science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM); and skilled trades. This includes a new Computer Studies and revised Technological Education curriculum, beginning with the implementation of a new Grade 10 course in September 2023 and revised Grade 9 and 10 courses to be offered in September 2024;
- Funding for financial literacy learning and growth;
- Providing direct financial relief for families through a 50 percent reduction to child care fees for children aged 0 to 5 through the landmark agreement and investment with the Government of Canada;
- Helping close to 27,000 students earn credits towards both their Ontario Secondary School Diploma and a postsecondary degree, diploma, certificate or Certificate of Apprenticeship at the same time through dual credit opportunities;
- Providing an additional \$425 million over three years to support mental health and addictions services, including a five per cent increase in the base funding of community-based mental health and addictions services providers funded by the Ministry of Health;

FESTIVAL

 **SATURDAY
March 25**

 **10:00 AM –
12:00 PM**

 **St. John Paul
II School**

THE ACTIVITIES

- Spray Bottle Painting
- Cardboard Fort Building
- Roller Coaster Creations
- Dunford & Harty Rocks
- Calming Corner
- Marshmallow Towers
- Loose Parts Tinkertown
- Music and Movement
- Whatever Floats Your Tinfoil Boats
- and so much more!




KINDERGARTEN WELCOME EVENTS

			
			
St. Louis Living Arts School	St. John Paul II School	École Ste-Marguerite Bourgeoys	St. John School
Sunday, March 26 1:00 - 3:00 PM	Wednesday, March 29 4:30 - 6:30 PM	Thursday, March 30 4:30 - 6:30 PM	Thursday, March 30 5:00 - 6:30 PM

Our Kindergarten open houses are a wonderful opportunity for families to visit schools, meet the educators, learn about our programming and register for school in any grade.

SEE YOU SOON!



All are Welcome!

Kenora Catholic Mini-Retreat
Thursday, April 20, 4:30 to 6:30
 Notre Dame Parish

An Evening
 With
 Musician
 and Speaker
 Chris Bray



Register by April 11th

No Charge!

Register using the QR Code
 above or email
 mmartineau@kcdsb.on.ca or
 call the Catholic Education
 Center: 468-9851



Chris Bray...

- Gospel Music Association Covenant Award Winner
- Songwriter of Canadian Christian radio #1 hit songs, "Called" and "Finally Let Go"
- Appearances on EWTN, 100 Huntley St., Shalom World TV and Salt & Light TV

Children's Programming!
Snacks at "halftime"!

Upcoming Events

- April 7th – Good Friday
- April 9th – Easter Monday
- April 14th – SEAC Meeting
 - Nicole – Joining by Teams
- April 21st – PD Day

Ministry's Advisory Council on Special Education – Annual Report

Mandate and Structure of the Council

- The Council advises the Minister of Education on any matter related to the establishment and provision of special education programs and services for exceptional students, including the identification and provision of early intervention programs for students with special education needs.
- The Advisory Committee on Special Education was established in 1974 and has been renewed continually from that date. Its name was later changed to the Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education (MACSE).
- The Council:
 - responds to proposals or positions of the Ministry of Education or other ministries, as submitted to the council, from time to time;
 - identifies concerns in the delivery of special education programs and services for exceptional pupils and provides information, advice and recommendations for ministry consideration; and
 - meets up to three times a year for a maximum of 4½ days per year.

Ministry's Advisory Council on Special Education – Annual Report

MACSE's membership includes the following representation:

- one seat for each of nine exceptionalities;
- one seat for each of nine educator and professional categories;
- one seat for students/youth;
- one seat for Indigenous communities;
- one non-voting seat for the Ministry of Colleges and Universities;
- one non-voting seat for the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services;
- one non-voting seat for the Ministry of Health; and
- two representatives each for the Francophone and Roman Catholic communities,

Ministry's Advisory Council on Special Education – Annual Report

Activities in 2021-2022

- MACSE's mandate is to advise the Minister of Education on matters related to the establishment and provision of special education programs and services for students with special education needs. In 2021-2022, the Council participated in discussions and offered advice related to several areas that affect students with special education needs:
- Assessment Schedule, Reporting Plan, and Student Perceptions in Education
- Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) Assessments
- Review of *Caring and Safe Schools* (2010)
- De-streaming
- Equity and Human Rights in Special Education: Reflective Practice Guide for Educators
- K-12 Education Standards Development Committee
- Learning Modules for Educators: Students with Disabilities
- Learning Recovery and Renewal

Ministry's Advisory Council on Special Education – Annual Report

Activities in 2021-2022 (Continued)

- Modernizing Education Curriculum – Graduation Requirements, Modernized
- Learning Opportunities, Course Types and Pathways, and the Curriculum Review Cycle
- Role of the Ontario College of Teachers and Special Education-focused Additional Qualification Courses
- Review of *Policy/Program Memorandum (PPM) 81 – Provision of health support services in school settings*
- Protocols to Combat Sex Trafficking
- Provincial and Demonstration Schools
- Rise to Resilience: School Mental Health-Ontario's Action Plan for 2021-22
- School-based Rehabilitation Services
- Sonderly™ – Geneva Centre for Autism's online educational and training platform for Autism and Mental Health resources
- Special Education in Ontario – A Guide for Students and Caregivers
- Supporting Students with Learning Disabilities with Reading

Ministry's Advisory Council on Special Education – Annual Report

Activities in 2021-2022 (Continued)

- Members of the Council also engage their constituencies and bring information forward about successes, challenges, effective practices, and suggestions to the Council through the standing agenda item on Community Collaboration. The information brought forward by MACSE members informs the work of the ministry.
- MACSE's advice also informed ministry policy and operational work, including supporting students with special education needs during the pandemic. The result of this work included documents such as the *Guide for Remote Learning – a resource designed for educators, students and parents*.
- MACSE also provided comments that informed ministry consideration of curriculum reform, review of graduation requirements, support for early intervention to support math learning for students in Grades 4-6, enhanced data collection to provide clearer understanding of who Ontario's students are, and student and school mental health.

Ministry's Advisory Council on Special Education – Annual Report

- **Priorities for 2022-2023**
- In 2022-2023, the Council will continue to advise the Minister on priorities.
- MACSE will also respond to ad-hoc requests for comments and advice from the Ministry of Education, as well as other ministries and agencies of the government. We will continue to work with ministry staff to ensure that advice is provided in a timely fashion to support the ongoing policy and operational work of the government.
- Council members will also continue to undertake outreach to their constituencies to gather information about effective practices, challenges, opportunities, and suggestions in advance of each Council meeting.



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SEAC Report
By Special Education Coordinator

SUBJECT:	Special Education Coordinator's Report – March 2023
DATE:	Friday, March 24, 2023
PREPARED FOR:	Special Education Advisory Committee
AGENDA AREA:	Public Session
PREPARED BY:	Andrea Batters, Special Education Coordinator

Term/Semester 2 IEPs

With input from parents and students, the Term/Semester 2 Individual Education Plans (IEPs) have been updated by educator teams. IEPs are fully developed and updated (Amended/Annually-Reviewed) in the Aspen Student Information System (SIS) Special Education Module. The software designers meet regularly with Ontario school board data analysts and special education system leaders to gather feedback towards working out bugs and developing efficiencies within the programs. Aspen-Follett (SIS) has also introduced a new IT support portal for Aspen System Administrators to log issues and service requests which has been helpful in addressing special education documentation concerns that come up at our school and system levels.

Evidence-Based Literacy Intervention Program Updates

The Literacy Lead teachers and the Learning Resource Teachers (LRTs) are continuing to roster, monitor, and distribute personalized, evidence-based literacy program instructional materials to educator teams, supporting students with identified literacy needs (students who are supported in Language with an IEP and students who are flagged to be at risk based on Acadience data).

Standardized In-School Assessment Training

Leanne Chisholm (Early Literacy and Numeracy Intervention Lead) and I have been assisting new Learning Resource Teachers (LRTs) in learning how to administer norm-referenced educational assessments. This testing provides detailed information about student academic functioning levels and best modes of learning. The data collected in these assessments is shared with the In-School Team, the student's parent(s), and the student (as appropriate) to inform program development and individualized instructional approaches.