

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
September 23, 2022**

MEETING DATE:	September 23, 2022
LOCATION OF MEETING:	Microsoft Teams Meeting
SUBJECT OF MEETING:	Special Education Advisory Committee
TIME OF MEETING:	1:30 PM –2:25 PM
NEXT MEETING:	Friday, October 21, 2022

	ATTENDANCE	PERSON	TITLE
1.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Norine Schram	Voting Member - Member at Large, Chair
2.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Diane VanderZande	Voting Member - Member at Large, Vice Chair
3.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dianne Griffiths	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Anne Sweeney	Voting Member- Trustee Representative
7.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nicole Kurtz	Director of Education
8.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Andrea Batters	Special Education Coordinator
9.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Teresa Gallik	Chair, Board of Trustees
10.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cathy McQuillan	Recording Secretary

1. **Opening Prayer:** Nicole Kurtz
2. **Roll Call** – Cathy McQuillan
Regrets: Teresa Gallik
3. **Welcome to Erica Murray as our new KACL representative:** Nicole Kurtz
4. **Approval of June 17, 2022, Meeting Minutes**

Approved: Diane VanderZande
Seconded: Anne Sweeney
5. **Correspondence:** Nil
6. **New Business: Approve SEAC recruitment advertisement to be placed in the Kenora Miner and News, October 6th edition and on the KCDSB website, and a letter home to parents.** - N Kurtz

The SEAC committee approved the advertisement to be placed in the Kenora Miner and News to recruit new members to the SEAC committee.

Anne Sweeney reminded the committee to send a copy to Harmony House in Red Lake and WNHAC.

Nicole Kurtz will also share with the FNMI Advisory Committee at their meeting on October 5, 2022.
Norine Schram asked that it be shared on the local Métis Nation Ontario Facebook page.

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Nicole Kurtz: KCDSB would like to hold a lunch in honour of Norine Schram's last meeting before our October 21st meeting.

Norine will not be available on that day. We will try to arrange it for another day.

Cathy McQuillan: Orange Shirts are available at the board office for our SEAC members.

Nicole Kurtz: Michael Jacque Visit to Kenora

KCDSB will be partnering with KPDSB and KACL to bring Michael to Kenora November 22-24

Tuesday	November 22	KACL
Wednesday	November 23	KPDSB
Thursday	November 24	KCDSB Student Presentation
Thursday Night KCDSB, KPDSB, KACL	November 24	Community Parent Night hosted at SJPII School.
Friday	November 25	KCDSB PD Day Staff Presentation

7. Professional Development: Discuss thoughts and ideas for PD for the upcoming year: N Kurtz

We will wait until the new committee is in place to begin our professional development.

8. Business arising from the last meeting:

- **SEAC Letter in Support of Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board – Cathy McQuillan**

Per the ministry instructions, we held this letter until the Minister of Education was appointed. We were to discuss at the first SEAC meeting in September.

The SEAC approved sending the letters to Minister Lecce.

9. Agency Reports

- **FIREFLY – Joel Willett**

Covid 19 Protocols: Clinicians will still be wearing masks when they are with clients and when they are in schools.

The agency made good headway on the Occupational Therapy waiting list over the summer. Our OTs were able to offer services over the summer.

Urgent Response service is up and running and we are taking referrals for children with ASD diagnosis who are having behaviors that are of urgent need. We need to respond with service within a week for those families in a crisis situation.

Children's Mental Health is fully staffed. We still have a number of vacancies in Speech Pathology. They will be looking at priority needs when working with the schools. We do have Communication Disorder Assistants and we are trying to get a program to have support staff provide service.

Occupational Therapy is recruiting for one therapist in Sioux Lookout.

We are always recruiting Physio Therapists, but we are managing.

FIREFLY is preparing for an accreditation process next week in our Kenora and Sioux Lookout offices.

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- **KACL – Erica Murray: Attached**

Anne Sweeney commented on a *Circle of Security*, presentation she had attended and what a benefit it would be to parents.

Andrea Batters asked for more clarification regarding the youth transitioning into high school and is looking forward to making connections in this area.

- **Other Reports from Members-at-Large**
 - **Dianne Griffiths:** Nothing to report
 - **Diane VanderZande:** Nothing to report
 - **Norine Schram:** This will be her last meeting. It has been an honour to be a SEAC member and Chair all these years. She has enjoyed working with the members and with the Catholic District School Board.

10. **Trustee Report – Anne Sweeney reported on the Board Meeting held on June 21, 2022**

- Student Trustee Report – [Student Trustees](#)
- Special Presentation and Thank you to Student Trustees – [Chair Gallik](#)
- 2022 – 2023 Budget – [Alison Smith](#)
- Borrowing Resolution – [Alison Smith](#)
- 2022 Municipal and School Board Elections – [Paul White](#)

**During this agenda item, Catholic School Trustees indicate which Trustees are seeking re- election for another term of office*

[From the Boardroom for June 21, 2022](#)

11. **Coordinator Report – Andrea Batters - Attached**

12. **Next Meeting: Friday, October 21, 2022 at 1:30PM**



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Dedicated to Excellence in Catholic Education



September 23, 2022

Via email: minister.edu@ontario.ca

The Honorable Stephen Lecce
Minister of Education
Mowat Block, 22nd Floor
900 Bay Street
Toronto, ON
M7A 1L2

Dear Minister Lecce:

On behalf of the Kenora Catholic District School Board, the KCDSB Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) stands in support of the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board's *Special Education Advisory Committee's* letter concerning:

Policy/Program Memorandum No. 81, Provision of Health Support Services in School Settings in 2021-2022.

Thank you for acknowledging our letter of our shared concerns as outlined by their letter.

Yours in Catholic Education,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Teresa Gallik".

Teresa Gallik
Chair of the Board of Trustees

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Norine Schram".
Norine Schram
Chair of SEAC

Cc: Ontario Catholic School Trustees Association (OCSTA)
Ontario Catholic School Boards
Education Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education (MASCE)
KCDSB SEAC

Special Education Advisory Committee: September 23rd, 2022

KACL Children's Services: Erica Murray

- One staff is currently training in Youth Employment with a special focus on High School Co-Op opportunities. We recognize the importance of lifelong skill building opportunities, employment opportunities, and community connections that occur during Co-Op placements for youth.
- One staff is in discussion with FIREFLY to work towards an adapted Entry to School Program for youth transitioning into high school. The Entry to School Program is funded by OAP, targeted towards children aged 3-6 diagnosed with ASD. Staff hope to discuss the model with FIREFLY to discover what key factors may be implemented with youth transitioning into high school, not specific to youth diagnoses with ASD.
- Staff are participating in training opportunities to develop a more diverse understanding of ASD and FASD.



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SEAC Report
By Special Education Coordinator

SUBJECT:	Special Education Coordinator's Report – September 2021
DATE:	Friday, September 23, 2022
PREPARED FOR:	Special Education Advisory Committee
AGENDA AREA:	Public Session
PREPARED BY:	Andrea Batters, Special Education Coordinator

The **KCDSB In-School Team (IST) school administrator and learning resource teacher assignments** this year are as follows:

- **Ecole Ste. Marguerite Bourgeoys** – Principal: Hilary Aitkin, Vice-Principal: Andrea Sachowski, Learning Resource Teacher: Kristy Smith
- **Pope John Paul II School** – Principal: Tammy Bush, Vice-Principal: Travis Batters, Learning Resource Teachers: Anissa Fraser and Stacey Goodridge
- **St. Louis Living Arts School** – Principal: Maureen Frankcom, Learning Resource Teacher: Jordelle Collum
- **St. John School** -- Principal: Corinna Glazier, Learning Resource Teacher: Shawna Lamme
- **St. Thomas Aquinas High School** – Principal: Kylie Hughes, Vice-Principal: Mark Richards, Vice-Principal: Erin Hercun, Learning Resource Teachers: Danielle Grosset (Special Education Area Chair), Kirsten Fair, Chrissy Biehn, and Ashley Shouldice.

The **Ministry's Transition to School** funding was once again available to school teams. The purpose of the Transition to School initiative is to support students with special education needs by providing additional staffing and program support to be delivered in-person during the two-weeks preceding the return to school for the 2022-2023 school year. *Examples* of some individualized student assistance measures for KCDSB students included:

- Educator(s) contacting families of students with special education needs to query what supports may be needed and to answer any questions that may arise;
- Providing students and families with an opportunity to become reacquainted with the school environment (tours, practicing routines, etc.);
- Creating or purchasing transition materials to support quiet/transition spaces in the learning environment, and



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SEAC Report
By Special Education Coordinator

- Supporting the inclusion of recommendations made by other professionals to aid meeting a learner's return to school goals.

The **2022-2023 Opening PD Day** took place on September 1. The focus of the PD day was staff Health & Safety Training, as well as reconnecting with colleagues to prepare for the new school year. Activities included:

- An Opening Mass at Notre Dame du Portage and St. John the Apostle Churches
- School-based staff meetings
- Health & Safety - Safe-School Training

The next KCDSB PD day is set for Monday, September 26 with an instructional and student mental health-wellbeing focus.