



The Niagara Catholic District School Board through the charisms of faith, social justice, support and leadership, nurtures an enriching Catholic learning community for all to reach their full potential and become living witnesses of Christ.



AGENDA AND MATERIAL

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 2020

6:30 P.M.

Electronic Meeting in Compliance with Education Act Section 207 and
Ontario Regulation 463/97 Section 5.1 (2)
Public Access 1 866-862-7608 Access Code 2139996#

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayers
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of the Agenda
4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest
5. Approval of Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of March 4, 2020.

B. PRESENTATIONS

C. AGENDA ITEMS

1. Parent Outreach
 - Dr. Sheila Bennett and Terri Pauco
Due to the COVID pandemic, this meeting will be re-scheduled during School Year 2020-2021.
2. Other Related Items
 - 2.1 Design of System Priorities 2020-20210 Deadline for feedback submission was April 24, 2020.
 - 2.2 Annual Review of the Special Education Plan
 - 2.3 Ministry Advisory Council on Special Education (MACSE) Community Collaboration Form
3. Policy Review
 - The following Policies and Administrative Guidelines are currently being reviewed as part of the cyclical Policy and Administrative Guidelines Review process.
 - To be considered, all submissions must identify the specific policy and include your name, phone number, address and affiliation with Niagara Catholic.

Anonymous or pseudonymous submissions will not be considered

- [Equity and Inclusive Education Policy \(100.10\)](#)
- [Retirement & Service Recognition Celebration Policy \(201.2\)302.67\)](#)
- [Leadership Pathways Policy \(203.4\)](#)
- [Volunteer Recognition Policy \(800.4\)](#)

- Please submit your feedback to jennifer.pellegrini@ncdsb.com by 4:00 pm **September 11, 2020**.

4. SEAC Sub Committees

- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the SEAC Sub Committees will not be conveying after this virtual meeting

D. AGENCY REPORTS

E. STAFF REPORTS

F. TRUSTEE REPORTS

G. STUDENT REPORT

H. NCPIC REPORT

I. FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS

J. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION FOR LIFE

K. NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, June 3, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. – format to be determined based on current COVID-19 restrictions.

L. ADJOURNMENT



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2020

Minutes of the Meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee, held on **Wednesday, March 4, 2020**, at 6:30 pm in the Father Kenneth Burns csc Boardroom at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

Chair, Racine called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. **Opening Prayer**

Opening prayers were led by Chair Racine.

2. **Roll Call**

Members	Affiliations	Yes	Excused
Dick Kelsey	Indigenous Community Member	✓	
Harvey, Dorothy	Niagara Children's Centre		✓
Helmeczi, Bill	Pathstone Mental Health		✓
Howcroft, Andrew	Community Living Welland Pelham	✓	
Murphy, Karen	Autism Ontario Niagara Region	✓	
Nangle, Ted	Learning Disabilities Association, Niagara	✓	
Palombo, Pina	Down Syndrome Caring Parents (Niagara)	✓	
Racine, Anna	Community Member	✓	
Smith, Lorraine	Mainstream	✓	
Smith, Rita	Community Living Port Colborne/Wainfleet		✓
Burtnik, Kathy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Board Trustee of St. Catharines</i> 	✓	
Fera, Frank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Chair of the Board</i> 		✓
Filice, Adele	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vice Principal, Secondary</i> 	✓	
Kerho, Chris	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Principal, Elementary</i> 	✓	
Willett, Adeline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Student Senate Representative</i> 	✓	

The following staff members were in attendance:

Pat Rocca, Superintendent of Education, **David O'Rourke**, Coordinator – Special Education, **Vincent Mancuso** – Behaviour Resource Teacher and **Jennifer Lanese**, Recording Secretary/Administrative Assistant to Pat Rocca.

3. **Approval of the Agenda – March 4, 2020**

- Moved by Karen Murphy
- Second by Lorraine Smith

THAT THE Special Education Advisory Committee approve the Agenda of the Education Advisory Committee Meeting of **March 4, 2020**.

CARRIED

4. **Disclosure of Interest**

- No Disclosures of Interest were declared with any items on the Agenda.

5. **Approval of Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee of February 5, 2020**

- Moved by Karen Murphy
- Second by Lorraine Smith

THAT THE Special Education Advisory Committee approve the Minutes of the Education Advisory Committee Meeting of **February 5, 2020** as presented.

CARRIED

B. PRESENTATIONS

1. **2020 -2021 System Priorities – Director Crocco**

- Director Crocco presented information pertaining to Niagara Catholic’s Design of System Priorities 2020-2021. Director Crocco provided a handout and reviewed the Vision 2020 Strategic Plan Enabling Strategies, inviting SEAC Committee Members to submit a measurable action verb and participate in the on-line Design of the System Priorities and Budget 2020-2021 consultative feedback by **Friday, April 24, 2020**.

2. **ASET 2020 Conference – Frank Napoli**

- ASET (Association for Special Education Technology) is a growing network of Adaptive and Assistive Technology consultants, teachers, technicians and support staff from educational institutions across Ontario who are dedicated to the support of students with special needs through the use of technology. Each year in the Spring ASET hosts a conference that is specifically targeted towards Assistive Technology, Universal Designs for Learning and 21st century instructional technologies to support diverse learners.
- This year’s Conference will once again take place from **Thursday evening April 30, 2020 to Friday, May 1, 2020** at the Niagara Fallsview Casino Conference Resort (6380 Fallsview Blvd., Niagara Falls).
- We welcome Temple Grandin, Ph.D., as the keynote speaker. Dr. Grandin is the most accomplished and well-known adult with autism in the world. Dr. Grandin is a speaker who inspires and motivates others through her story.
- For additional information, please contact Frank Napoli at frank.napoli@ncdsb.com.

3. **Boardmaker – Frank Napoli**

- Boardmaker is a complete special education platform that supports education, communication, access and social/emotional needs of more than six million students in 51 countries. At home, at school, or in a clinical practice, Boardmaker drives your student’s success. <https://boardmakeronline.com>.
- Frank has provided training for the Board’s Educational Resource Teachers and Educational Assistants.
- He has received positive feedback during the training sessions.
- Parents can also access this program. It is a great tool for non-verbal students. Frank demonstrated the program to the SEAC Committee Members. He outlined the many activities and functionality of Boardmaker.
- At the end of Frank’s presentation, he promised the group to return to a future meeting and he would bring Chrome Books in order to allow the Committee Members to try Boardmaker. We are all looking forward to it!

4. **PEERS – Vincent Mancuso**

- PEERS (Program for the Education and Enrichment of Relationship Skills)
The PEERS Program is a social skills group intervention for high-functioning adolescents with Autism spectrum disorder (ASD). Results indicate that teens receiving PEERS significantly improved their overall social skills. It includes 16 consecutive weeks of training. During each group session, teens are taught important social skills

and are given the opportunity to practice these skills in sessions through role-playing. Each week there is a "homework" component in which the teen is encouraged to practice their new skills.

C. AGENDA

1. Parent Outreach

Dr. Sheila Bennett and Terri Pauco

- We have received confirmation that Dr. Sheila Bennett and Terri Pauco will be providing a presentation on **Wednesday, May 6, 2020** at Denis Morris Catholic High School during Catholic Education Week. Danny DeLorenzo has graciously offered to host that meeting.
- This meeting will be open to the public and our Niagara Catholic families are encouraged to attend.
- Superintendent Rocca will have the Board's Communication Department create a poster for the schools to help promote this event.
- The schools will also broadcast an announcement through School Messenger in order to provide an open invitation for parents, families to attend this exciting event.

2. Kelsey Dick – New SEAC Committee Member

- She gave an introduction to the Committee Members:
 - o *Hello, my name is Kelsey Dick and I am an Indigenous educator within the Soaring Eagles Secondary Program at Niagara Catholic's St. Kateri site. I am a citizen of the Métis Nation of Ontario and an active member of the Niagara Region Métis council. I am looking forward to the opportunity to be a part of this committee, so that I can be a strong advocate for the Indigenous students in our system.*
 - o *Prior to my journey with the NCDSB, I worked for the Learning Disabilities Association of Niagara as a literacy and social skills program supervisor for several years. I have always had a passion for supporting students with special education needs, and I look forward to both personal and professional growth as part of my role on this committee. Thank you, Maarsii, Wela'lin, Miigwetch, Nia:wen*
- All Committee Members introduced themselves to Kelsey.

3. Policy Review

- The following Policies and Administrative Guidelines are currently being reviewed as part of the cyclical Policy and Administrative Guidelines Review process.
- To be considered, all submissions must identify the specific policy and include the individual's name, their phone number, their home address and affiliation with Niagara Catholic.
- *Anonymous or pseudonymous submissions will not be considered.*

- [Attendance Area Policy \(301.3\)](#)
- [Criminal Background Check Policy \(302.67\)](#)
- [Use of Corporate Logo Policy \(100.14\)](#)
- [Video Security Surveillance Policy \(701.3\)](#)

- *Please submit your feedback to jennifer.pellegrini@ncdsb.com by 4:00 pm **March 11, 2020**.*

D. AGENCY REPORTS

1. Learning Disabilities Association, Niagara – Ted Nangle

- On **Tuesday, April 7, 2020**, visit the Boston Pizza at the Pen Centre in St. Catharines anytime between 5:00 - 8:00 pm for dinner in support of the LDANR. Tickets are \$20 each, with \$10 of each ticket going back to the LDANR. Tickets include a starter salad, an individual pizza or pasta, and a non-alcoholic drink.
- Tickets can be purchased at the door. You can also reserve your tickets by calling 905 641 1021 or through

email, info@Ldaniagara.org.

- Mark your calendars for the upcoming golf tournament fundraiser at Cardinal Lakes Golf Club (105 S Pelham Road) in Welland on **Saturday, May 23, 2020** from 12:00 – 9:00 pm.
- LDA is inviting new and seasoned golfers to this fun, non-competitive golf tournament.
- LDAHH is hosting the Solutions for Learning Conference in Hamilton on **Wednesday, March 11, 2020**. Click on the link for additional information, <https://ldaniagara.org/event/ldahh-solutions-for-learning-conference/>.
- OHRC Right to Read Community Meeting – Right to Read will take place on **Tuesday, April 28, 2020**. More information can be found at <https://ldaniagara.org/event/ohrc-right-to-read-community-meeting/>.
- Spring registration opens for programs on **Monday, March 23, 2020**.
- Summer program planning is under way.

2. Niagara Children’s Centre – Dorothy Harvey

- Niagara Falls Comic Con is offering the opportunity to attend the area’s largest pop culture celebration at a discounted price, and at the same time raise funds for Niagara Children’s Centre.
- For every admission ticket sold, using the promo code, “niagaracc20” Niagara Falls Comic Con will donate \$5.00 back to Niagara Children’s Centre! Even better, ticket buyers will receive 20% off the original ticket price! The event runs from **June 5 – 7, 2020** at the Scotiabank Convention Centre. Tickets can be purchased at www.nfcomiccon.com.
- Registration is now open for the Plasma Car Race that is taking place on **Thursday, May 28, 2020** from 4:00 – 7:00 pm located at 16 Melbourne Avenue in St. Catharines. For more information, please visit, <https://www.facebook.com/BallhockeycomAthleticCentre/>.

3. Autism Ontario Niagara Region – Karen Murphy

- Just a reminder that **Thursday, April 2, 2020** is World Autism Awareness Day. Thanks to all the schools that have already registered. For the ones that have not yet registered, you still have time to email Annette your RSVP form to autismniagarafinance@gmail.com.

4. Down Syndrome Caring Parents (Niagara) – Pina Palombo

- **Saturday, March 21, 2020** is World Down Syndrome Day and the national logo for that day/event is *Rock Your Socks* and the DSN will be promoting this day at the Trivia Night and throughout the Niagara Region to promote awareness and inclusion for all individuals with Down Syndrome.
- G-MC Homies with Chromies Foundation CrossFit workouts have resumed for 2020 calendar year and our DSN homies were back on **Sunday, February 9, 2020**. The next workout will be on **Sunday, February 9, 2020** and workouts will be offered every two weeks at the CrossFit in St. Catharines on Niagara Street.
- DSN group will be registering a team again for Niagara Children Centre’s annual Plasma Car Race. This is the third year in a row that DSN has registered a team for this event. This year’s event is scheduled for **Thursday, May 28, 2020** at the Ball Hockey Athletic Centre located at 16 Melbourne Avenue in St. Catharines.

5. Community Living Welland Pelham – Andrew Howcroft

- The following dialogue was taken from a podcast that can be found at, <https://goodthingsinlife.org/055/>.
- Lisa Lightner, a special education advocate, and the mom behind the “Don’t IEP Alone” podcast is this week’s guest.

Genia: And so in your work as a special education advocate and the work that you do on your blog and the Don’t IEP Alone podcast what are you think right now? What do you think right now were some of the most important issues that parents of children with intellectual disabilities should be thinking about?

Lisa: One of the things that I really tried to communicate to parents is that only parents, you know, and if you’ve, if you have a direct advocate working with your family, only parents and advocates tend to look at the outcome and what’s going to happen at age 18 or 21 or 25. The way that our school systems are designed is just that everybody looks September to May or September to June, whatever that school calendar might be. And teachers, and I love teachers, they tend to just prepare you for next, you know, they’re preparing you for the next grade or the next year or the next school building. Nobody except for parents is really looking at that end goal of yeah, that next what, meaning adulthood. Yeah. Whole life and adulthood. What is that going to look like? And I

think that the education community as a whole, you know, we love to look at how many kids went on to college and how many kids did this. But you know, we still have, at least here in the USA, we have an 80% unemployment rate for people with intellectual disabilities. And to me that's not acceptable. So, so obviously we're not focusing on outcomes.

Genia: Right. Or we're not succeeding in what we're doing.

Lisa: Right. And that the main thing like, yes, your plan for the right here and now is very important, but you always have to be looking at the end goal and the end result and what that child is going to do or what their life is going to look like as an adult.

Genia: Yeah. And it's sort of one of those like don't lose sight of the forest for the trees. And you had a podcast episode, it's not, it's not one of your newer episodes now. Actually it's a while ago, but I can't even remember what you said, but it had something to do with an elephant. Can you talk about that a little bit?

Lisa: Right. I heard a quote one time. And it's about standing too close to the elephant. And if you just envision that as far as if you're standing too close to the elephant, I think a lot of parents do that and they get too, one of my other advocates who, advocate friends who helps me, she calls it that they just fell in the hole. And it's kind of like you're just standing too close. You are too close to the situation. You've just fell in the hole and you can't get out and see the big picture.

Genia: Right. So you're just seeing the wrinkle in the elephant skin as opposed to actually being able to see the whole elephant or the whole being in front of you.

Lisa: Right. Exactly.

Genia: Yeah. And I think it's really it's too, it's almost to be expected that parents would have that experience because, you know, we, in the preschool years, we're often connected with a medical community and perhaps early childhood development both of which have very immediate sort of focuses, right? Like their goal is not necessarily seeing the whole elephant but you know, making sure whatever the medical concern is it is addressed and early childhood development is very much about those, you know, developmental goals and next step, next step, next step building on it. And they would both the medical establishment to some degree at least some people and certainly early childhood development programs would all say, well, we're doing that because you work towards the next step so that you are working towards a whole life. But that's not necessarily; the next step is not necessarily the whole big picture either. And then we get into the school system and the school's IEPs are by definition, like by the way they're broken down, are very much like specific next step kinds of things and developmental goals with no real attention to the big picture of who this child is and how they might be accessing the good things in life and you know, reaching their full potential and becoming a contributing citizen and all of those kinds of things.

Lisa: Correct. And I think the actual full proverb or saying is if you stand too close to the elephant, you can't see the elephant or you don't see the elephant. So yeah, that's just about, that's it. It's about focusing on one small piece of it rather than the big picture.

Genia: Yeah. And supposedly, if you stand too close to the elephant, you might get stepped on.

Lisa: True.

6. Mainstream – Lorraine Smith

- Kristine Akilie Memorial Charity Golf Classic is this year's golf tournament fundraiser. Mark your calendars, as the golf tournament will take place on **Monday, June 1, 2020** at the St. Catharines Golf and Country Club (70 Westchester Avenue, St. Catharines). If you would like additional information about this exciting event, please contact Emily Mete at 905 934 3924, ext. 241 or emete@mainstreamservices.com.

7. Community Living Port Colborne / Wainfleet – Rita Smith

- NIL Report

8. Pathstone Mental Health – Bill Helmeczi

- NIL Report

9. Indigenous Community Member – Kelsey Dick

- The Indigenous community believes that our Indigenous (First Nations, Metis and Inuit) children and youth should have access to culturally relevant programs and supports in order to bridge gaps.

- Several Indigenous community service providers are mandated to work with Indigenous children and youth with special education needs in partnership with Niagara Catholic District School Board.
- Programs range from advocacy, circles of care, in-school school supports (tutoring), before and after school programs, educational assessments, mental health support, employment supports, post-secondary funding. Please see contact information below and share with families of self-identified Indigenous students. Programs run at no cost and often provide transportation to further remove barriers.
 - o Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre – 905 871 8931
 - o Niagara Regional Native Centre – 905 688 6484
 - o Metis Nation of Ontario (Thorold) – 905 682 6487
- Niagara Peninsula Aboriginal Area Management Board- Employment supports and post-secondary transition programs - 289 599 2400.
- Aboriginal Health Centre (De dwa da dehs nyes)- Mental Health Supports 905 358 4320.

E. STAFF REPORTS

1. Secondary Principals – Adele Filice

- We are so very proud of the many accomplishments that our Special Education students in our Niagara Catholic Secondary Schools have achieved. Here are a few highlights that our Secondary Schools have shared.

i) Blessed Trinity Catholic Secondary School

- The beginning of Semester 2 has seen our students off to a great start. Some seniors students have continued their placements at Sobeys in Grimsby and our own cafeteria gaining valuable work experience, while some of our Grade 9s are taking advantage of the co-curricular opportunities and getting involved with the Cheerleading program here at Blessed Trinity.
- Some new tech options for our kinesthetic and visual learners including a Leap Pad System and some generously donated Virtual Reality headsets by Chapters/Indigo. Our students will be commemorating Shrove Tuesday this week with a pancake breakfast and are very excited about our upcoming trips to Brock University for their SNAP program as well as Lakeshore Catholic's "Hurray for Hollywood" in March.

ii) Saint Francis Catholic Secondary School Experiential Learning Opportunities

- We are very proud to note that many of our students who are supported through Individual Education Plans are involved in experiential learning opportunities this semester. These include APC courses, Dual-Credit options through Niagara College and NCDSB, and Co-operative Education placements.
- We are especially proud of three of our students from the Special Education Classroom who are involved in unique and varied Co-op experiences this semester. One of our students works in our school cafeteria each morning, preparing wraps, sandwiches, baked goods and various other food items in preparation for our lunches. She is an asset to our cafeteria and our school. Another of our Special Education Classroom students participates in a Co-op placement at Petland, a pet store in St. Catharines, travelling to and from the placement by city bus each day.
- Finally, a third student from our Special Education Classroom is continuing her placement from Semester 1 at Heidehof, a Home for the Aged, located in close proximity to Saint Francis. This student is widely appreciated by the staff and residents of this retirement community. We are proud of all of these students!

Co-curricular Accomplishments – Past and Present

- Another of our Special Education Classroom students is participating in OFSAA Swimming this week in Toronto. She will be staying overnight with the rest of the qualifying Swim Team from Saint Francis, and will be participating in several events in her category on **Tuesday, March 3 - Wednesday, March 4, 2020**. In addition, one of our former Special Education Classroom students, who was an extraordinary swimmer in her own right, has taken on the role of "Assistant Coach" during the entire Swim season and at these OFSAA finals. We are so proud of both of these Phoenix students for their dedication to their sport and for the pride; they exhibit for their school community!

- It should also be noted that one of our Intermediate students at Saint Francis is an integral part of our Rowing program this year as she was last year. Just this past weekend, this student with Blind/Low Vision challenges, participated in the Ontario Ergometer Championships at Ridley College in St. Catharines. In addition, on **Wednesday, March 4, 2020** she will compete in the Tech Skills Competition organized by NCDSB. These accomplishments are in addition to her academic accomplishments as an Honour Roll student at Saint Francis. This student is a credit and an inspiration to all of us at Saint Francis!!

Nutrition Program at Saint Francis

- The students of our Special Education Classroom continue to serve the Saint Francis community each day through their assistance with our daily Breakfast Program and with the preparation of the nutrition break for our P3 Program, which runs from Monday through Thursday after-school each week at Saint Francis. With the help of our Educational Assistants, our students prepare items such as homemade muffins, breakfast sandwiches and smoothies, in order to provide all of our Phoenix students with the energy that they need to achieve their academic and athletic goals each day. We are very proud of our Special Education Classroom students, who are using their own talents to help our entire Phoenix students to demonstrate theirs!

iii) Denis Morris Catholic High School

- The Denis Morris Special Education Department continues to encourage student participation through a variety of activities and opportunities.
 - o Special Education Class continues to prepare for the Special Olympics Events planned throughout the spring. We have three teams entering the bocce tournament on **Friday, March 6, 2020**. Teams have been practicing during physical education classes.
 - o The Fab Foods program for ASD students ran for 8 weeks, once a week for two hours. Students gained knowledge of proper meal preparation, proper sanitation techniques and practiced communication skills. Families were invited to share in a meal that was prepared by the students on the last day of the program.
 - o Will Porter and Bella Taraba both participated in SOSSA swimming and are moving on to OFSAA swimming **Monday, March 2 – Wednesday March 3, 2020** at the Toronto Pan Am Aquatic Centre. Will placed third in both 50 Free and 50 back at SOSSA and Bella placed fifth in both 50 free and 50 back.
 - o Special Education Class will be attending the “Hooray for Hollywood” party on **Wednesday, March 11, 2020** at Lakeshore Catholic.
 - o Bella Taraba is participating in a co-op experience placement where she helps with the Church’s office duties two days per week.
 - o Denis Morris is participating in a pilot project designed to reinforce social and communication skills through ABA strategies. The project is set to start after March Break, working with a group of ten students each week during period two.
 - o A student from Niagara College’s ABS program is completing a seven-week placement in the Special Education Class, with a focus on developing and implementing a skill acquisition program for our students with autism.

iv) Saint Paul Catholic High School

- Things are active and busy in the Saint Paul Catholic High School Special Education class. Students successfully completed their first semester and are now fully engaged into second semester classes, including Music, Math, English, Art and Culinary Arts.
- Our Special Education class hosted a Zumba/Social Event on **Friday, November 29, 2019** for all our sister secondary school Special Education classes. It was well received and everyone had a great time. We received a lot of positive feedback from the other schools. Kudos to Mrs. Pacilli, the Special Education staff, custodians and peer helpers for the planning, setting up, and takedown of this event. On **Wednesday, March 11, 2020**, the Special Education class will be attending a similar event at Lakeshore Catholic High School; the theme is “*Movie Premiere*”.

- As well, the Special Education students will be attending the SNAP program on **Thursday, March 12, 2020**. This is a movement program for students with Special Needs planned by Brock University students.
- Lastly, Special Olympics Ontario is holding a bocce tournament on **Friday, March 6, 2020** at Sinnicks Dome; we are entering two teams (one in the Unified division and one in the regular division).

v) *Lakeshore Catholic High School*

- Cameron Henderson who has cerebral palsy and a wheelchair user received a potentially life-changing surgery in **December 2019** in order to straighten his legs. After 6 weeks of healing, he is now engaging in intensive physiotherapy. We wanted to share Cam Henderson's progress since his surgery. His incredible journey was recently featured in the Welland Tribune.
- Simply click on the link below for an update on Cam's progress.
<https://www.wellandtribune.ca/living-story/9875446-niagara-teen-who-underwent-surgery-in-december-determined-to-walk-at-high-school-graduation-in-june/>.

2. Elementary Principals – Chris Kerho

- NIL Report

3. Special Education – David O'Rourke

- David O' Rourke, Special Education Coordinator presented information about transitions for students with special education needs. Background information included the variety of transitions, including home, early years to school; one grade to another, one school to another, secondary to post-secondary and the strategies used to ensure success. David addressed questions during the presentation.

4. Pat Rocca, Superintendent of Education

- Superintendent Rocca encouraged all SEAC Committee Members to consider submitting feedback to the presented Design of System Priorities and Balanced Budget 2020-2021. Jennifer Lanese would accept all submissions via email. All submission are due by **Friday, April 24, 2020**.
- He also proposed setting time aside to discuss this further at our next SEAC meeting.
- Superintendent Rocca welcomed Kelsey Dick our newest SEAC Committee Members.
- SEAC Committee Members were also reminded that there would be a follow-up to the Boardmaker's presentation. He promised the group that everyone would be notified once a date was confirmed.
- He spoke briefly about the upcoming **Wednesday, May 6th** Parent Information night that is scheduled to take place at Denis Morris Catholic High School. Information promoting this event would be advertised on the Board's Website. We encourage everyone to attend.

F. TRUSTEE REPORT

- Trustee Burtnik echoed Director Crocco and Superintendent Rocca and encouraged the SEAC Committee Members to submit feedback on the presented Design of System Priorities and Balanced Budget 2020-2021.
- She also shared with the group that Daniel Moody and Rhiannon Burkholder have put their names forth to be alternate SEAC Committee Members in compliance with the Trustee membership requirement.
- During February 25 Board Meeting, Trustees approved five policies.
 - o Establishment and Cyclical Review of Policies (100.5)
 - o Trustee Electronic Meetings Policy (100.8)
 - o Code of Conduct Policy (302.6.2)
 - o Purchasing/Supply Chain Management Policy (600.1)
 - o Volunteering in Catholic Schools Policy (800.9)
- The above policies are now available on the Board's website for public viewing.

G. STUDENT REPORT

- Student Senate Representative, Adeline Willett asked the group what type of things that the Committee Members would like her to report about.
- The Committee Members gave Adeline some great suggestions.
- We are looking forward to hearing the updates from Adeline at the next SEAC's meetings.

H. NCPIC REPORT

- We will not have a SEAC representative at the next NCPIC meeting that takes place on **Thursday, March 5, 2020**, but we will have one for May's meeting.
- We extend our appreciation to Lorraine Smith for graciously offering to attend the May meeting.
- Thank you Lorraine for your time and commitment.

I. NEXT MEETING

- **Wednesday, April 1, 2020 at 6:30 pm at the Catholic Education Centre.**

J. ADJORNMENT

- Moved by Karen Murphy
- Second by Andrew Howcroft

THAT the March 4, 2020 meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committed be adjourned
CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

K. SEAC SUB-COMMITTEES

- The sub-committees meet with their respective groups.