



# MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

**WEDNESDAY, FEBERUARY 7, 2024  
6:30 PM**

Virtual Meeting in Compliance with Education Act Section 207 and  
Ontario Regulation 463/97 Section 5.1 (2)

***PUBLIC ACCESS LIVE STREAM LINK***  
<https://niagaracatholic.ca/meetings-livestream/>

**APPROVED**

## ROUTINE MATTERS

**1. Land Acknowledgement – Susy Walsh**

*Introduction:*

*The Niagara Catholic District School Board wishes to honour the Indigenous people who have been the protectors of this land, known as Turtle Island, for more than ten thousand years.*

*We begin this meeting by acknowledging the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples, many of whom continue to live and work here today. This territory is covered by the Upper Canada Treaties and is within the land protected by the Dish With One Spoon Wampum agreement. Today this gathering place is home to many First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples and acknowledging reminds us that our great standard of living is directly related to the resources and friendship of Indigenous people.*

**2. Opening Prayer – Chair Somma**

**3. Roll Call**

<b>Roll Call Members</b>	<b>Affiliations</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Excused</b>
Somma, Monique	Community Living (Welland/Pelham) - CHAIR	X	
Cipriano, Madeline	Learning Disabilities Association of Niagara Region		X
Maxwell, Michelle	Niagara Children’s Centre	X	
T.B.D.	Pathstone Mental Health		X
Andrea Pede	Down Syndrome Niagara	X	
Attree, Alexandria	Autism Ontario Niagara Region		X
T.B.D.	Indigenous Representative		X

T.B.D.	Mainstream		X
Smith, Rita	Community Living (Port Colborne/Wainfleet)		X
Wilson, Alyson	Bethesda Services		X
Donato, Krystine	Community Representative	X	
Joyner, Doug	Trustee of the Board		X
Marino, Jim	Trustee of the Board	X	
Cipriano, Camillo	Director of Education		X
Filice, Adele	Principal, Secondary	X	
Walsh, Susy	Principal, Elementary	X	
Pizzoferrato, Gino	Superintendent of Education	X	
Alli, Babra	Student Senate Representative	X	
Di Gioia, Jim	Coordinator of Student Support		X
Giancola, Danny	Coordinator of Student Support		X
Criddle, Ann Marie	Coordinator of Student Support	X	

Observers	Affiliations	Yes	Excused
Keigan, Kelly	Speech-Language Pathologist		X
Brochu, Grace	Student Support Facilitator		X
Nemcko, Julia	Behaviour Analyst		X
Mancuso, Vince	Behaviour Resource Teacher		X
Bailey, Babette	Teacher of the Deaf/Hard of Hearing	X	
Hornick, Tina	Special Initiative Teacher		X
Loughhead, Brooke	ABA Lead		X
Ciarlo, Melissa	Administrative Assistant/Recording Secretary		X
Taylor, Paige	Administrative Assistant/Recording Secretary	X	

**4. Approval of the Agenda**

**Moved by:** Madeline Cipriano

**Seconded by:** Alyson Wilson

**5. Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

No disclosure of interest was declared with any items on the agenda.

**6. Approval of Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of January 10th, 2024.**

**Moved by:** Madeline Cipriano

**Seconded by:** Alyson Wilson

**B. PRESENTATIONS**

**1. Julia Nemcko – ABASE**

### **C. AGENDA ITEMS**

1. **Chair's Report** – Chair Somma
  
2. **Accessibility Committee Update** – Chair Somma
  
3. **Goals Update**
  
4. **MACSE** – Superintendent Pizzoferrato

### **D. AGENCY REPORTS**

**Learning Disabilities Association of Niagara Region** – Madeline Cipriano

**Niagara Children's Centre** – Michelle Maxwell

**Pathstone Mental Health** – Vacant  
N/A

**Down Syndrome Niagara** –Andrea Pede

**Autism Ontario Niagara Region** - Alexandria Attree

**Mainstream** – Vacant  
N/A

**Bethesda Services** – Alyson Wilson

**Extensive Needs Service – Niagara Collaborative**

**Community Living (Port Colborne/Wainfleet)** – Rita Smith

**Community Living (Welland/Pelham)** – Monique Somma

**E. STUDENT REPORT**

**Student Senate Representative - Babra**

**F. STAFF REPORTS**

**Secondary Principal – A. Felice**

**Elementary Principal – S. Walsh**

**Student Support Department - Superintendent Pizzoferrato/Danny/Jim/Ann Marie**

**G. TRUSTEE REPORTS –Trustee Marino**

**H. NCPIC REPORT**

**I. NOTICES OF MOTION**

N/A

**J. INFORMATION ITEMS**

**K. MOMENT OF SILENCE / REFLECTION OF LIFE**

**L. NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday, March 6, 2024 at 6:30 pm

**M. ADJOURNMENT:**