SEAC meeting

Wednesday, October 28, 2026
Meeting ID: 258 917 419 592 946
Passcode: mw3Sh6ji
Teams Meeting Link
Tel: (844) 883-2385,,

Present
Kim Paui, Superintendent of Education
Alison Clarke, Principal of Special Education
Ashley Gasson, Executive Assistant
Candy St. Onge, Almaguin Highlands Community Living
Chris Guillemette, Community Living North Bay
Leigh Armstrong, Community Living Parry Sound
Jay MacJanet, CEO/CEDO
Carine Corbeil, Special Education Coordinator (North Region)
Tammy Adjouj, Nipissing Down Syndrome Society.

Regrets
Laura Hansman, OPVIC
Caroline Labrecque, Nipissing First Nation

Land Acknowledgement presented by Alison Clarke

Call to Order 1:02pm

Attendance
Members and staff introduced themselves. Attendance was confirmed for those participating in the North Bay Board Room and online.

Agenda Approval
Motioned by Chris Guilemette. Seconded by Candy St. Onge. *Carried*

Approval of the Minutes of the September 23, 2026 meeting.
Motioned by Chris Guillemette Seconded by Candy St Onge. *Carried*

Business Arising from the Minutes
EQAO Provincial Assessments by Director Jay MacJanet

- Director Jay MacJanet presented Near North District School Board EQAO results showing improvement across elementary reading, writing, and mathematics, while identifying persistent achievement and confidence gaps—particularly in

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mathematics and among students with special education needs—and outlined a multi-year, evidence-based instructional response.

Chris Guillemette asked how families and community organizations can reinforce school learning at home, and Jay described planned parent webinars and literacy and mathematics nights while agreeing to explore a coordinated role for Community Living and other partners in early-years support. Director Jay also said they could present related information at the Parent Involvement Committee.

Chris Guillemette offered Community Living's EarlyON program as a partner for programming aimed at families of children ages zero to six. Director Jay agreed that there would be benefits to the board identifying kindergarten readiness gaps and communicating them to community partners. This would help to address specific needs before and during the transition into school.

A parent inquired about how this year would be different from previous years. Director Jay responded by encouraging families to continue to observe how the plan and goals are being implemented and raise concerns first with their principal, then with the superintendent or Family Office. Director Jay emphasized that the NNDSB commits to improve communication and transparency with families and community partners and to assess its work through actions and results.

Director Jay offered to present follow-up achievement data comparing students with IEPs and students without IEPs, including relevant EQAO and Acadience data. Director Jay is willing to share this information at the November SEAC meeting. The committee was in favour of this offer.

Standing Items
Community Partner updates

- Chris Guillemette reported that Community Living is partnering with the North Bay Fire Department at a Halloween event at the fire station and is seeking candy and costume donations. The EarlyON program is also coordinating car-seat safety checks from November 5 to 7, and Community Living is concluding its National Disability Employment Awareness Month activities with participation from 44 businesses and organizations.

- Candy St. Onge reported that Almaguin Highlands Community Living hired a new transition-age-youth worker and plans to introduce them to the special education team the following month.

- Tammy Adjouj had no updates at this time.

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Correspondence received

- None received to date.

Reports

Board Report – Jay MacJanet, deferred to next meeting

Special Education Report – Alison Clark

- Principal Clarke reported that, by the 30th day of the school year, which this year landed on October 20, 2026, school teams were required to send home IEPs to parents/guardians.

  On October 27, 2026, a System Special Education Meeting for Differentiated Learning Resource Teachers (DLRTs) and Special Education Teachers (SECTs), meeting was held wherein the central special education team and central curriculum team offered learning and training on the following topics: Tiered Support Models in Literacy and Mathematics for Kindergarten to Grade 12, IPRC Process, Timelines and Best Practices, Alternative Programs and Demystifying Oppositional Behaviour.

  As well, the central Special Education Behaviour Support Team was able to facilitate Behaviour Management Systems Training (BMS) for newly onboarded Educational Assistants and some Care and Treatment Education Program (CTEP) Teachers. The training session occurred at Sundridge Strong Joly Arena-Hall on October 26. Approximately 30 employees participated.

  For the 2627 school year, the Ministry has notified boards that an additional qualification subsidy for special education courses can be offered to teachers. Approximately 12 subsidies will be provided to applicants. Courses include special education specialist courses, equitable and inclusive schools specialist courses, teaching students with behavioral and communication needs courses, etc. This is a wonderful opportunity to provide incentives that will build increased capacity in our system and increase teacher qualifications to directly benefit students with special education needs.

  Special Education Staffing Updates:

  The Special Education team currently has a .5 FTE vacancy for the position of Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing role (east/west regions), a 1.0 FTE

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temporary Speech Language Pathologist vacancy, a 1.0 Psychologist position vacancy and a 1.0 FTE temp Special Education Coordinator (east/west) position vacancy. The Special Education Coordinator (north) role has been filled by Carine Corbeil.

SEAC Chair Report

- Leigh Armstrong reported that Community Living used grant funding to organize trauma-informed-care workshops through Safeguards Trauma-Informed Training. Sessions involved Community Living staff and members of the West Parry Sound Health Centre, OPP, and the school board. Leigh said the agency's next major project is helping families reapply for respite funding for the next fiscal year over the following six weeks.

New Business

- Next meeting: November 25, 2026.

Adjournment 1:55pm. Motioned by Chris Guillemette. Seconded by Tammy Adjouj. *Carried.*

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