

# **Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting (SEAC)**

**February 10, 2025**

## **Leadership Report**

Louise Sirisko, Associate Director, Learning Innovation and Equitable Outcomes

Nandy Palmer, Executive Superintendent, Special Education Programs and Equitable Outcomes



# Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge we reside on the lands of the Mississaugas of the Anishinaabe, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy and the Wendat. We also recognise the enduring presence of all First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples, as well as the importance of establishing and maintaining Cultural Safety through learning from Indigenous Peoples and Perspectives.



# Agenda

	Item	Facilitator/ Presenter	Time/Notes
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Call to Order</li> <li>• Land Acknowledgement</li> <li>• Review/Approval of Agenda</li> <li>• Declarations of Possible Conflicts of Interest</li> <li>• Approval of minutes (January)</li> <li>• Chair Report</li> </ul>	<p>Chair</p> <p>Vice Chair</p> <p>Meeting will be livestreamed at <a href="https://www.tdsb.on.ca/stream/LiveWebcast-SEAC.html">https://www.tdsb.on.ca/stream/LiveWebcast-SEAC.html</a></p>	7:00 – 7:15
2	<p>Dealing with Abuse and Neglect of Students (PR560)</p> <p>Learning Opportunities Index Policy (P067)</p>	SEAC Members/Staff	7:15- 7:40
3	SEAC Action Plan	SEAC Members	7:40 – 8:15

4	SEAC representation on Special Education Review Advisory Committee	Chair	8:15 – 8:30
5	Support Staff Allocation	Executive Superintendent Nandy Palmer	8:30 – 8:40
6	Leadership Report	Executive Superintendent Nandy Palmer	8:40- 8:50
7	Association/Member /Trustee Updates Correspondence Adjournment  Next Meeting – March 17, 2025	Correspondence – Durham DSB SEAC Letter to Ontario College of Teachers (distributed)	8:50 – 9:00

# Learning Opportunities

Learning and engagement sessions continue to be made available for both staff and families, providing valuable opportunities to explore inclusive and anti-ableist practices and implement concrete strategies in the classroom and at home.

These sessions are designed to support student achievement and well-being. Please click the link to access the [February Learning Sessions](#) being offered.

# Special Education and Inclusion Parent/Guardian/Caregiver Sessions

Special Education and Inclusion is offering a range of drop-in and topic-specific sessions for parents, guardians, and caregivers during the 2024-2025 school year. These sessions provide valuable information and support to help families navigate special education services. Principals were encouraged to share these sessions with families via school communications, and the details were also shared through various platforms like TDSB Connects and trustees' newsletters.

[Drop-In Sessions-Families](#)

[Parent Engagement Sessions-Families](#)

On January 22, 2025, a drop-in session was held to assist families with navigating the new Transitions website and to answer questions about available supports. The session was attended by 17 parents/guardians, and a follow-up survey showed that 100% of respondents found it helpful. Participants especially appreciated the Q&A portion, which allowed them to ask questions and learn from others. Future session topics suggested by families included Autism Services support, the IPRC review process, and guidance on TDSB resources and tools.

# This is How I Roll Pilot Project

In the 2023-24 school year, TDSB received Ministry funding for innovative projects to support students with disabilities. This funding allowed the launch of the “This is How I Roll Pilot Project”.

Students with physical disabilities were invited to join Occupational Therapy/Physiotherapy (OT/PT) Services staff members to participate in collaborative engagement sessions that focused on topics about disability pride, strengths discovery, and empowerment.

With additional funding, TDSB’s OT/PT Services intends to expand this project to build knowledge and awareness amongst educators to benefit more TDSB students with disabilities.

Click [this link](#) to see a video of our fabulous student participants sharing more about their experiences with this project.

# Assistive Technology & SEA Team School-based support (TISS) and District wide Professional Learning Communities

The Assistive Technology (AT) and Special Equipment Amount(SEA) Team is facilitating three Professional Learning Communities (PLCs), with the primary objective of enhancing the capacity of educators in relation to assistive technology, Universal Design for Learning (UDL), and promoting positive outcomes for students.

The PLCs aim to foster student engagement, cultivate joy, and empower students to actively participate in educational activities.

*PLC 1: Supporting Student Learning and Communication in Developmental Disability (DD) and Diagnostic Kindergarten (DK) Classrooms using SEA iPad Bundles & 1:1 SEA iPads*

*PLC 2: Using 1:1 Devices and Assistive Technology to Design Your Classroom Around UDL: Supporting classrooms with accessing 1:1 student devices.*

*PLC 3: Effective use of AT in the ISP LD, GIF, ASD, MID or DHH) classroom.*

Schools are able to nominate themselves for in-school support from an AT/SEA Teacher. The AT/SEA teacher spends 3 weeks at one school as a home base to build relationships with the staff and students at the school.



# Projected Enrolment

Enrolment projections are updated annually to support budget planning, staff allocation, and reporting to the Ministry of Education. The table below outlines the actual Average Daily Enrolment (ADE) of Pupils of the Board for 2023-24 and the projected ADE for 2024-2025 and 2025-2026.

*Projected Average Daily Enrolment (Expressed as Pupils of the Board)*

	<i>Actual 2023-2024</i>	<i>Projected 2024-2025</i>	<i>Projected 2025-2026</i>
<i>JK/SK</i>	<i>31,454</i>	<i>30,470</i>	<i>30,107</i>
<i>Grades 1 to 3</i>	<i>49,753</i>	<i>50,108</i>	<i>49,441</i>
<i>Grades 4 to 8</i>	<i>82,993</i>	<i>83,498</i>	<i>83,614</i>
<i>Total Elementary</i>	<i>164,199</i>	<i>164,076</i>	<i>163,163</i>

# White Cane Week

White Cane Week runs February 2 - 8 in Canada and serves as a platform for fostering awareness and understanding of the lived experiences of those living with vision loss. The white cane is not only a navigation and identification tool, but also represents independence.

Within the TDSB, a small yet significant group of students rely on white canes for navigation. Through meticulous instruction from Orientation & Mobility Specialists, these students become more confident and independent every day.

For more information on celebrating White Cane Week, please reach out to the TDSB [Blind and Low Vision Team](#).

# Inclusive Education Month



February is National Inclusive Education Month, which promotes and raises awareness about inclusive education. Please access the following links for more information, learning, and resources.

[Community Living Ontario Resources](#)

[Closing special schools: lessons from Canada](#)

[\[Webinar\] School Principals: Leading the Way to Inclusive Schools](#)

[New Resources available!](#)

# IPRC Data - January 2025

January IPRCs	
Learning Centre 1	198
Learning Centre 2	137
Central	12
IPRCs Completed	347
IPRC Cumulative since August 2023	
IPRC Cumulative since August 2023	737

# Psychological Services

## Assessment Statistics - January 2025



### Psychological Services Assessment Statistics January 2025

Month-By-Month	Total
Completed	515
Referrals	1796

Cumulative (since September 2024)	
Completed	1184
In Progress	1105
Removed	242
Waiting*	1711
Total Referrals**	4242

*\*68% of total waitlist are comprehensive/DK assessments, and 31% are gifted assessments*

*\*\* 72.5% of total referrals are for comprehensive/DK assessments, and 27.5% are gifted assessments*

