

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
Meeting Minutes
March 8, 2024**

MEETING DATE:	March 8, 2024
LOCATION OF MEETING:	CEC Board Room & Microsoft Teams Meeting
SUBJECT OF MEETING:	Special Education Advisory Committee
TIME OF MEETING:	1:30 PM – 2:39 PM
NEXT MEETING:	1:30 PM Friday, April 12, 2024 - CEC Board Room & Microsoft Teams

	ATTENDANCE	PERSON	TITLE
1.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Joel Willett	Voting Member - FIREFLY Representative - 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 type="checkbox"/>	Anne Sweeney	Voting Member - Member at Large
5.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lina O'Connor	Voting Member - KACL Representative
6.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Leah Bailey	Alternate – Voting Member – KACL Representative
7.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Shirley Jette	Voting Member – Harmony Centre for Community Living Red Lake
8.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jennifer Parsons	Alternate - Voting Member – Harmony Centre for Community Living Red Lake
9.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Marie Lundin	Voting Member – Trustee Representative
10.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nicole Kurtz	Director of Education
11.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Maureen Frankcom	Assistant to the Director
12.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Andrea Batters	Special Education Coordinator
13.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Teresa Gallik	Chair, Board of Trustees
14.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cathy McQuillan	Recording Secretary

1. **Opening Prayer:** Nicole Kurtz

2. **Roll Call:** Cathy McQuillan **Regrets:** Anne Sweeney, Lina O'Connor, Marie Lundin

Guest Presenters: Travis Batters, Laurel Dufresne, Jon Walters

3. **St. John Paul II School Presentation:** Travis Batters, Jon Walters, Laurel Dufresne – **Attached 3**

4. **Approval of February 16, 2024, Meeting Minutes:** **Approved**, Diane VanderZande – **Seconded**, Joel Willett

5. **Board and Ministry Updates:** Nicole Kurtz – **Attached 23**

[Click Here](#) for information regarding the Ministry of Education site:

Your child's education: a parents guide to our school system

6. **Business arising from the last meeting:**

- Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic District School Board, (PVNC CDSB) letter to Minister Stephen Lecce regarding Supporting Students with Special Education:

Deferred to April 12, 2024, SEAC Meeting

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7. Professional Development: Andrea Batters

[Click Here](#) for information regarding the Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario

SEAC members were encouraged to suggest PD topics of interest during the meeting, or to email Andrea, Nicole and Maureen with ideas.

8. Correspondence: Nil**9. New Business:****Agency Reports**

- **FIREFLY:** Joel Willett – **Attached 28**
- **KACL: Regrets** - Lina O'Connor could not attend but she sent in a report to be shared at this meeting. - **Attached 29**
- **Harmony Center for Community Living:** Shirley Jette – **Nothing to report.**

Other Reports from Members-at-Large

- **Dianne Griffiths:** Nothing to report.
- **Anne Sweeney:** Regrets
- **Diane VanderZande:** Nothing to report.

11. Trustee Report: Marie Lundin: Regrets**12. Coordinator Report: Andrea Batters - Attached 30****13. Next Meetings: 1:30 PM, Friday, April 12, 2024: Catholic Education Center**



St. John Paul II
Levels of Instruction
Literacy

Tiered Approach to Instruction

Tier 1 (80% - 90%)

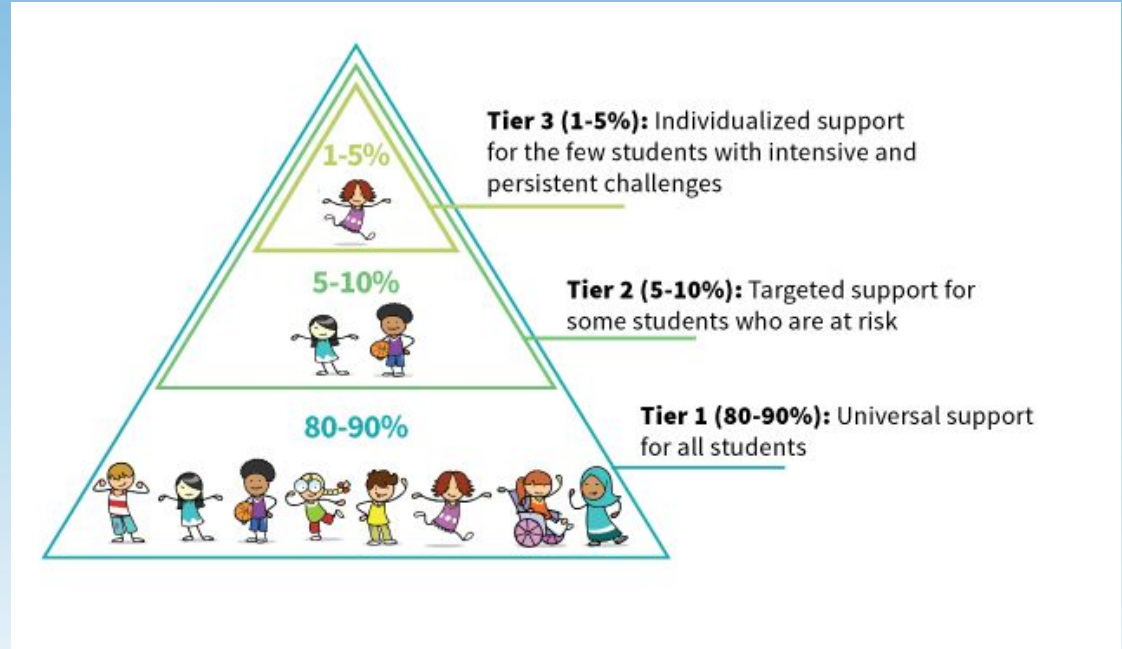
Whole Class Instruction

Tier 2 (5% - 10%)

Small Group Instruction

Tier 3 (1% - 5%)

Individualized Instruction



Tier 1 Literacy Programs

Lexia

Comprehension

- Examples of Skills learned in this category

Word Study

- Examples of Skills learned in this category























Grammar

- Examples of Skills learned in this category

*Lexia is used for all tiers





Grade Level of Material ?	Usage This Week ?			Progress This Week		Predictor ?
	Total Minutes	Target	Time Needed	Units Gained	Target	
 1st L9	1	20	+19 🕒	0	4	
 1st L6	50	60	+10 🕒	2	12	
 2nd L11	55	n/a	n/a	11	n/a	
 1st L8	32	60	+28 🕒	4	12	
 2nd L10	52	n/a	n/a	13	n/a	
 1st L7	24	60	+36 🕒	4	12	
 1st L6	45	60	+15 🕒	4	12	
 1st L7	55	60	+5 🕒	21	12	
 K L2	0	60	+60 🕒	0	12	
 1st L7	18	60	+42 🕒	3	12	
 2nd L11	0	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	

Fundations (K-2)

A structured literacy program designed to support early literacy development, particularly in the area of phonics and phonemic awareness.

- A structured literacy program emphasizing early phonics and phonemic awareness.
- A multisensory approach, engaging students visually, auditorily, and kinesthetically for effective learning.
- Foundations covers phonics, spelling, and handwriting, providing a holistic approach to literacy.
- Research-Based





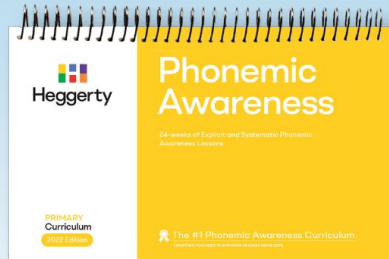
Heggerty

Whole class approach to phonemic awareness in primary and junior Classrooms.

- Heggerty enhances early literacy through focused activities on spoken language sounds.

8-12 minutes / day

24-35 weeks



When to Consider Tier 2 Interventions?

- When students exhibit difficulties with learning specific academic content, we provide a more focused, or “Tier 2” support, which are a more specialized targeted intervention program.
 - ◆ We identify this through specific assessments such as our universal screener called Acadience, Foundations unit tests, Lexia, and classroom observation and assessments.

Tier 2 Instruction

→ Distinguishing characteristics:

- ◆ It is evidence-based
- ◆ It relies entirely on adult-led small-group instruction rather than whole-class instruction.
- ◆ Implemented with fidelity (Implemented the same to everyone - Scripted)
 - The instructional programs are not different - They are aligned with the same Tier 1 instruction. It is important that students are experiencing the same instructional methods, they are working on the same skills, the same routines, the same vocabulary and the same scope and sequence.
 - Simply an extra dose (Additional learning opportunities)

Tier 2 Literacy Programs

Tier 2 Intervention

- Foundations intervention package
 - ◆ This is built into the Wilson Academy website for students that require additional support/intervention for specific skills. These can be printed off and delivered in small groups as needed.
- Heggerty Bridge the Gap
 - ◆ This is for grades 2-5. It is a more focused instruction in small groups for students who require additional support in phonemic awareness
- Lexia
 - ◆ Blended model of literacy instruction. Lexia can be used for all tiers.



Tier 3 Intervention

A more intensive version of the intervention program used in Tier 2 (e.g., longer sessions, smaller group size, more frequent sessions).

Support Transition Classroom (Alternate Working Space)

Provides an individualized, targeted, learning program where transition, communication, and learning supports are developed and tailored to support students.

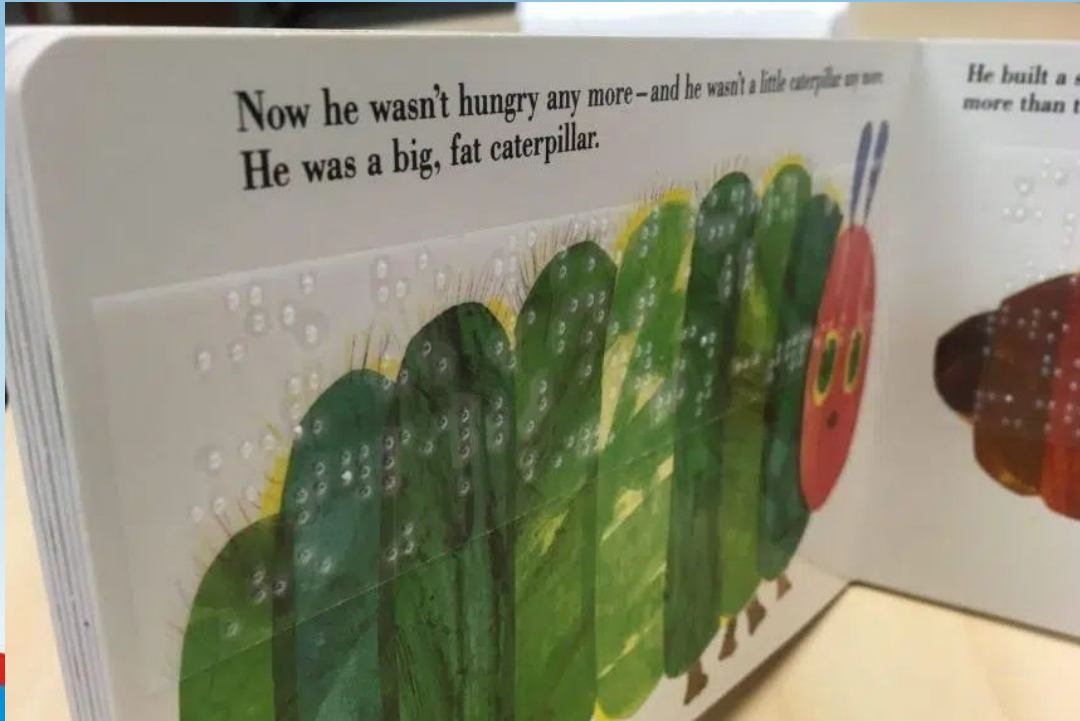
Goal:

To increase a learner's ability to participate in the regular classroom setting, as they gain the skills, strategies, and confidence to navigate their learning environments.

- Academic
- Sensory (OT, PT Goals)
- Behavioural (Zones)


Tier 3 Literacy Programs

Braille



A	B	C	D	E	F	G
●○ ○● ○○	●● ○● ○○	●● ●● ○○	●● ●● ○○	●○ ○● ○○	●● ●● ○○	●● ●● ○○
H	I	J	K	L	M	N
●○ ●● ○○	○● ●● ○○	○● ●● ○○	●○ ○● ○○	●○ ●○ ○○	●● ○● ○○	●● ●● ○○
O	P	Q	R	S	T	U
●○ ●● ○○	●● ○● ○○	●● ●● ○○	●○ ●● ○○	○● ●○ ○○	○● ●● ○○	●○ ○● ○○
V	W	X	Y	Z		
●○ ●● ○○	○● ●● ○○	○● ●● ○○	○● ●● ○○	○● ●● ○○		

Empower™ Reading Grades 2-5, Decoding & Spelling Program

- Intended for students who are in grades 2 to 5 and struggling with acquiring age-appropriate word identification, decoding and spelling skills.
 - Empower teaches five metacognitive decoding and spelling strategies and how to apply them to words they cannot read or spell.
 - There are 110 lessons.
 - The strategies are taught in sequence and are practiced on words presented individually and in connected text to ensure mastery.
- 

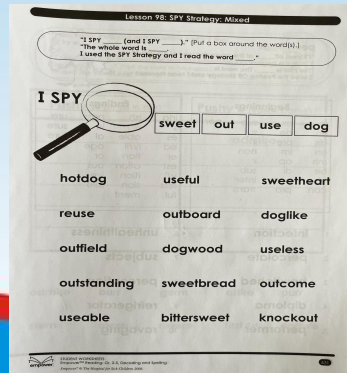
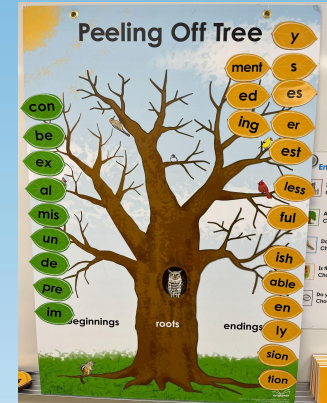
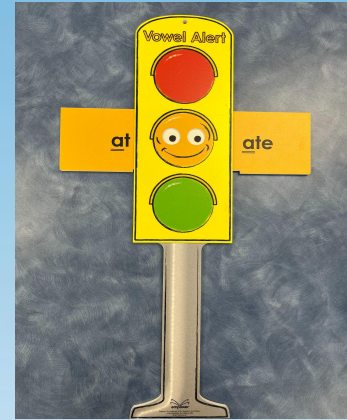
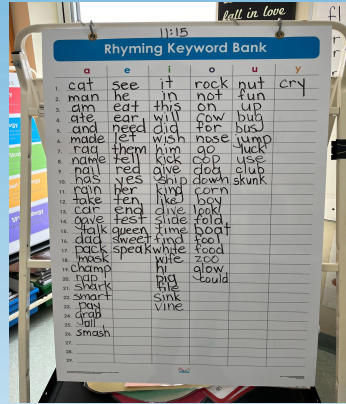
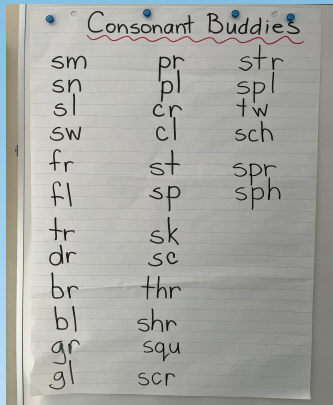
Empower²⁰™ Reading Strategies

Sounding Out Strategy

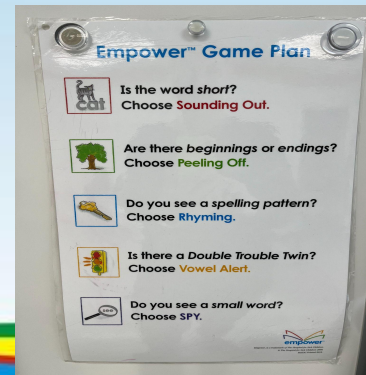
Rhyming Strategy

Vowel Alert Strategy

Peeling Off Strategy



SPY Strategy



Game Plan
Metacognitive Strategy

Zones of Regulation

What are the Zones?

- Zones of regulation is a systematic, cognitive behaviour approach used to teach self-regulation by categorizing all the different ways we feel and states of alertness we experience in 4 concrete zones.
- Zones are used to teach students to become more aware of controlling their emotions and impulses independently. In each zone, students are taught specific tools to use so they can improve their ability to problem solve, self-regulate and return to the green zone.

Some students have treasure boxes with happy thoughts, or tools to get their bodies ready to focus to get back to learning.

Blue: Sad (Talk to someone)

Red: Angry (Bubbles or Pinwheel Fans to help take deep breaths)

The ZONES of Regulation™ Reproducible E The Zones of Regulation Visual

The ZONES of Regulation™

			
			
BLUE ZONE	GREEN ZONE	YELLOW ZONE	RED ZONE
Sad Sick Tired Bored Moving Slowly	Happy Calm Feeling Okay Focused Relaxed	Frustrated Worried Silly/Wiggly Excited Loss of Some Control	Mad/Angry Terrified Elated/Ecstatic Devastated Out of Control

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From The Zones of Regulation™ by Leah M. Kuypers • Available at www.socialthinking.com

Intensive Support Transition Classroom (ISTC)

Provides an individualized, targeted, learning program where transition, communication, and learning supports are developed and tailored to support students.

Goal:

To increase a learner's ability to participate in the regular classroom setting, as they gain the skills, strategies, and confidence to navigate their learning environments.

Universal Protocol - (PBIS Lead)

1. Show continuous positive regard and empathy.
2. Enrich the environment.
3. Follow the client's lead to the extent possible.
4. Invite the student to participate in scheduled activities.
5. Limit non-essential demands.
6. When presenting essential demands, make them less aversive.
7. Upon the first instance of problem behavior or an indication problem behavior is likely, immediately provide access to all reinforcers.

SEAC Meeting

March 8th, 2024

Ministry of Education – Parent Resource



Your Child's Education

A parent guide to Ontario's school system

Your voice is important in your child's learning, and can make all the difference in their academic and personal success. When parents play an active role in their child's education, students are inspired to achieve their full potential.

Ontario is committed to increasing accountability and transparency for parents and families. **Here are ways you can actively participate in your child's education journey:**

- Decide which type of publicly funded school they attend
- Choose learning options, for example, secondary school programs e.g. Specialist High Skills Majors
- Follow what your child is learning in school
- Learn about key dates in the school year
- Opt out of certain learning
- Know how your child is doing in school
- Learn about suspension and expulsion processes
- Attend a school council meeting or parent involvement committee meeting
- Know about specialized supports to help all children succeed

Visit ontario.ca/EducationGuide for more information so you can make informed decisions about your child's education.



ontario.ca/EducationGuide 

[Link to Website](https://ontario.ca/EducationGuide)

Summer Learning Program

- Planned dates are July 2nd - 19th
- An administrator has been hired
- Will proceed pending staffing

Curriculum Revisions for the 2024-2025 School Year

As communicated on December 5, 2023, the ministry is preparing the following curriculum revisions for implementation in the 2024-2025 school year:

1. A new de-streamed Grade 9 Geography course;
2. New Grades 9 and 10 Business Studies courses;
3. New Grades 9 and 10 Technological Education courses;
4. A new Grade 9 English course for French-language schools; and
5. New mandatory learning on mental health literacy in the Grade 10 Career Studies course.

Draft: February 28, 2024

2024 - 2025 School Year Calendar

SCHOOL HOLIDAY
 PD DAY
 EXAMS

August 2024						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

20 Instructional Days

September 2024						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

22 Instructional Days

October 2024						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

21 Instructional Days

November 2024						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

15 Instructional Days

December 2024						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

20 Instructional Days

January 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

19 Instructional Days

February 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

16 Instructional Days

March 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

20 Instructional Days

April 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

21 Instructional Days

May 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

18 Instructional Days

June 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

All students begin school on September 3, 2024 and end on June 25, 2025

School Holidays	
September 2, 2024	Labour Day
October 14, 2024	Thanksgiving
Dec. 23, 2024 - Jan. 3, 2025	Christmas Break
February 17, 2025	Family Day
March 10-14, 2025	March Break
April 18, 2025	Good Friday
April 21, 2025	Easter Monday
May 19, 2025	Victoria Day
First Day of School for Students	
September 3, 2024	
Last Day of School for Students	
June 25, 2025	
187 Instructional Days + 7 PD Days = 194	

Professional Activity Days	
August 29, 2024	Professional Development
August 30, 2024	Professional Development
September 27, 2024	Professional Development
November 1, 2024	Professional Development
January 29, 2025	Professional Development
April 7, 2025	Professional Development
June 9, 2025	Professional Development

Elementary	
Progress Report	November 14, 2024
Report Card	February 13, 2025
Report Card	June 25, 2025
Secondary	
<i>Semester 1</i> - Aug. 29, 2024 - Jan. 28, 2025	
Semester 1 Term 1 - Aug. 29, 2024 - Nov. 7, 2024	
Semester 1 Term 2 - Nov 8, 2024 - Jan 28, 2025	
Mid Term Report - November 20, 2025	
Exams January 23, 2025 - January 28, 2025	
Final Report - February 19, 2025	
<i>Semester 2</i> - Jan. 29, 2025 - June 25, 2025	
Semester 2 Term 1 - Jan 29, 2025 - April 9, 2025	
Semester 2 Term 2 - April 10, 2025 - June 25, 2025	
Mid Term Report - April 23, 2025	
Exams June 14, 2025 - June 21, 2025	
Final Report July 2025	

FIREFLY report

KCDSB SEAC mtg

March 8, 2024

- Right time, right care planning started with five school boards and KRR- CFS
- A new partnership initiative with KRR-CFS Valley Drive group home has been formed in order to provide enhanced mental health services and to support their team of caregivers
- FIREFLY attended the STAHS job fair
- Registration was open for the regional virtual triple P and group teen triple P parenting sessions.



**KACL (Kenora Association for Community Living)
Children's Services Update Report- SEAC**

March 8th meeting

We are currently offering a COSP program to community and had 17 people register. We hosted our second session last night and will be resuming after March break for 2 more evening sessions.

We are excited to announce a future partnership with Firefly and offer an 8 week in person COSP program. Stay tuned for more details (how to register).

We followed up on Andrea Batters suggestion from the last SEAC meeting regarding the Ontario's Human Development and Sexual Health curriculum and have Mariette M coming to speak with us. Thank you, Andrea, for the connection.

Presented by Lina O'Connor
Member of the Catholic SEAC Committee

Central Office • Children's Services • Options for Adults • Community Mental Health Support Services

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kacl.ca



Kenora Catholic District School Board

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SEAC Report
By Special Education Coordinator

SUBJECT:	Special Education Coordinator's Report – March 2024
DATE:	Friday, March 8, 2024
PREPARED FOR:	Special Education Advisory Committee
AGENDA AREA:	Public Session
PREPARED BY:	Andrea Batters, Special Education Coordinator

Assistant to the Director, Maureen Frankcom and I attended the virtual **Regional Special Education Committee (RSEC) meeting** on **Monday, February 26**. The RSEC is a network of those who lead special education in their northwestern Ontario school boards. Members meet three times a year to gather and share information relating to Special Education priorities in our region.

Discussion and presentation topics included:

- A [Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario](#) presentation by Martin Smit. Martin is the English Language consultant for the [LD@School](#) branch of this organization. His presentation shared school and home resources about Learning Disabilities that we have passed along to KCDSB school teams.
- A **Northern Adjustment Funding** update from the project lead Rick Boisvert. Information on the budget and reporting updates was shared.
- A **Ministry of Education Update** from Charmaine Perera, Acting Director for Special Education and Student Success Branch. She provided
 - Information about the three units in the branch (Financial, Strategic Policy & Programs, and Special Education Policy & Programs),
 - An update on the Developmental Disabilities Pilot for Student Transitions (“Project Serve”) and Barrier Reduction special projects, and
 - An update that the Grants for Student Needs (GSN) funding and support roll-out is upcoming.

Charmaine encourages RSEC members to share feedback with their local ministry officers, as they meet with the provincial team weekly.

- A **Modernization of Preschool Speech & Language Services and Children's Rehabilitation Services** presentation from George Jeffery Children's Treatment Centre & Children's Centre Thunder Bay.

The last RSEC meeting for the 2023-2024 school year is scheduled for May 2-3, which will take place in Thunder Bay.