



# Special Education Advisory Committee

Wednesday April 8, 2026 - 12:00 p.m.  
Teams Meeting

## MINUTES

### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

|                  |                                                                                           |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Holly Castellani | Chair, Cochrane Temiskaming Resource Centre (CTRC)                                        |
| Shannon Costello | Co-chair, Director of Children's Services, CDSB                                           |
| Shelly Charette  | Indigenous Representative, Education Director, Timiskaming First Nation                   |
| Lorette McKnight | Temiskaming Metis Community Council (TMCC)                                                |
| Jennifer Moorlag | Exec. Director, Student Services, Institutional Research & Registrar,<br>Northern College |
| Dennis Draves    | Trustee                                                                                   |

### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS REGRETS:**

|                 |                                                                       |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Richard Kearney | General Director, Acting Education Director, Timiskaming First Nation |
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### **STAFF PRESENT:**

|                    |                                          |
|--------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Lesleigh Dye       | Director of Education                    |
| Chad Mowbray       | Superintendent of Education              |
| Lisa Edwards       | Superintendent of Business & Finance     |
| Jody Pecore        | Special Education Administrator          |
| Elizabeth Kazienko | Mental Health & Well-Being Lead          |
| Shawn Donovan      | Principal, R. Ross Beattie Public School |
| Andreanne Denis    | Communications Officer                   |

### **RECORDING SECRETARY:**

|                   |                                                       |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Christine Adamson | Executive Assistant to the Superintendents of Schools |
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### **CALL TO ORDER:**

Meeting was called to order at **12:02 p.m.**  
Land Acknowledgement.

### **ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

**MOVED BY, Lorette McKnight, SECONDED, Jennifer Moorlag, THAT** the agenda be approved.

**CARRIED**

### **BUSINESS ARISING:**

**MOVED BY, Shannon Costello, SECONDED BY, Jennifer Moorlag, THAT** the informal meeting minutes be approved.

**CARRIED**

### **SEAC Budget Consultation – Lisa Edwards**



Superintendent Edwards presented the budget consultation survey results highlighting the low response rate (33 responses) and key feedback areas such as the increase in educational assistants, expansion of high support classrooms and the elimination of waitlists.

Ideas were discussed concerning increasing the response rate. Chair Castellani suggested informing parents/guardians about the survey during their IEP meetings or when parents/guardians meet 1-on-1 with staff.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- TDSB SEAC Chair
- TVDSB SEAC Chair

**TRUSTEE REPORT:**

Trustee Dennis Draves – no report

**AGENCY REPORT:**

- No report.

**SPECIAL EDUCATION TEAM UPDATES:**

- Superintendent Mowbray discussed the process of staffing and budgeting for the next school year by examining student achievement data, attendance data, and referrals.
- Special Education Lead Pecore discussed the process of taking some of the modules from CPI (Crisis Prevention Institute) that focus on classroom culture and de-escalation to deliver professional learning sessions in schools.
- Superintendent Mowbray discussed how the group is looking at the IPRC process. The discussions have centered on how to decolonize the process so that it better meets the needs of Indigenous cultures.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

- Nil

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOVED BY, Shannon Costello, THAT** the meeting be adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING:      Wednesday May 6, 2026  
Cochrane Temiskaming Resource Centre (CRTC)  
600 Toke Street, Timmins**