MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

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## Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we are on land and surrounded by water, originally inhabited by Indigenous Peoples who have travelled this area since time immemorial. This territory is within the lands honoured by the Wampum Treaties; agreements between the Anishinaabe (Ah-nish-e-naa-bay), Haudenosaunee (Hoe-den-oh-show-nee), Lenni (Len-eh) Lenape (Le-naw-pay) and allied Nations to peacefully share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes. Specifically, we would like to acknowledge the presence of the Three Fires Confederacy, Ojibwe (Oh-jib-way), Odawa (Oh-dah-wah), Potawatomi (Paw-taw-watt-ohme) and Huron/Wendat (Wen-dat) Peoples. We are dedicated to honouring Indigenous history and culture while remaining committed to moving forward respectfully with all First Nations, Inuit and Métis

Approval of Agenda Moved by: S. Yang Seconded by: J. Conrad That SEAC approve the agenda of for January 9, 2024.

The motion was carried.

Approval of Minutes Moved by: T. McCarthy Seconded by: N. Armstrong That SEAC approve the minutes of December 12, 2023.

The motion was carried.

Business Arising as a Result of the Minutes

There was no new business arising as a result of the minutes.

## **Special Education Presentation**

J. Newton and L. Brode presented on Makers Making Change. Makers Making Change is part of the Neil Squire Program. GECDSB staff who sit as part of the SEA Coordinators Council had the opportunity to attend the ASET spring conference and were introduced to Makers Making Change. We partnered with them to offer an Adapt It workshop during the summer institute to teach teachers and support staff who support students who are switch users to adapt 2 toys and build 2 switches that they could then bring back to their classroom for student use. They also ran a "Hack the Holidays" for our GECDSB and JMCCSA families. The students of Mrs. St. Pierre's grade 11 and 12 computer engineering class at Belle River DHS worked on adapting over 20 toys, the toys were generously donated by the Kingsville Optimist Club. On December 9<sup>th</sup> families were invited to attend the Hack the Holiday event. They were guided through the "how to's" of building a switch, upon completion of their switch families selected a free toy. Their wheels are turning for additional adapt it opportunities to incorporate more switch adapted toys into classes.

## **Special Education Updates**

• PD Updates

K. Sweet shared the professional development planned for January 2024. STEPS Administration PD will be held on January 10<sup>th</sup>, this series of workshops will aid administrators in understanding the evolving needs of our more complex learners as they transition to high school. Empower day 3 training for learning support teachers. January 19<sup>th</sup> we will host a number of workshops for our support staff: Structured Learning



NEXT MEETING, March 19, 2024

Board Meeting Minutes available on <u>GECDSB website</u>.

Vicki Houston, Director of Education

Chris Mills, Administrative Liaison

Ministry SEAC website