



SEAC MEETING

(Special Education Advisory Committee)

Wednesday, September 21, 2005

11:45 a.m.

Catholic Education Center (Video Conferenced)

MINUTES

PRESENT: Kay Gaffney, Child & Family Services, Chair
Nancy Cole, Parent Representative
Marc Leroux, Parent Representative
Brenda Hevenor, Trustee, Kirkland Lake
Alana Loreto, Parent Representative
Claire Lamarre-Goyer, Program Principal, Special Education
Janice Viskovich, Executive Assistant, Recorder

EXCUSED: Joel McCartney, Cochrane Temiskaming Resource Center
Dolores Butterworth, Parent Representative
Kevin Duke, Canadian Mental Health Association
Steve Malciw, Trustee, Kirkland Lake
Paul Toffanello, Director of Education

GUESTS: Dan Loreto, Special Education Resource Teacher, OHS

1. Opening Prayer

Kay Gaffney, Chair, welcomed everyone back and led the group in a prayer.

2. Approval of Agenda

MOVED BY: A. Loreto
SECONDED BY: B. Hevenor

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED.

3. **Approval of Minutes**

MOVED BY: B. Hevenor
SECONDED BY: A. Loreto

THAT the minutes of the SEAC meeting held June 1, 2005 be approved as presented.
CARRIED.

4. **Guest Speaker - Dan Loreto, Special Education Coordinator, Northern College**

Mr. Loreto was unable to attend. Mrs. Goyer will contact and schedule him for a later meeting. Timiskaming Kids On The Block will present at our next meeting in November.

5. **E.D.I. Results & Upcoming Testing**

Early Developmental Instrument - Our board has received the results from Child & Family Services and the University of Western Ontario. The testing is performed in JK and the results are used to do their programming. They have asked that we allow them to test our SK students in March. The teachers do the testing and receive training and release time to do so. Results are not given out individually, they are implemented at a regional level and school to school programs. An example of this is the Best Start Program now in the works for children beginning at 18 months.

6. **Goals for 2005-2006 Program Principal, Special Education**

This item was deferred. Mrs. Goyer will bring forward the goals upon completion.

7. **Purchase of Assistive Technology & Implementation**

The board has purchased the Kurzweil Program for all of our schools. This is the program that was demonstrated at our meeting hosted by Northern College Special Education Department. The Ministry of Education is promoting the use of assistive technology for our students that will assist them later in life. Mrs. Gaffney noted that our Board is ahead of the game with regard to technology and should be complimented.

8. **Modification to IEP Engine**

The Board purchased a new IEP engine last year. We encountered some difficulties and they were forwarded to the developer. He has since passed away, however, his widow is continuing the business and a computer specialist was hired to make the necessary changes. The revised engine is better and three people from Toronto will be up next week to provide a one-day workshop for principals secondary and elementary (the engines are different). These individuals will also help with the writing of goals and objectives for IEPs to make them manageable.

9. Meeting with CODE

Paul Toffanello, Karen Rowe and Claire Lamarre-Goyer travelled to Toronto to meet with the Council of Directors regarding the new project for special education. We will receive \$50,000.00 and must develop a plan to help with student learning. Claire, Karen Rowe, Tricia Weltz and Liz Mulholland will develop the plan which is due the first week of October.

A discussion was held regarding the needs of our aboriginal children and children who come from another country. In the southern boards, ESL is available in most schools; however, we do not have this to offer in our region.

10. Other Business

Marc Leroux asked if bus drivers were trained to deal with students with special needs. Claire said she will make some inquiries and report back at the next meeting.

Brenda Hevenor stated that she would be away for the next meeting but if there was any information, please forward it to her.

Judy Piche will be replacing Janice as recorder of SEAC. Janice will put the Board plan on the website. There was also some discussion around recruitment. Kay will contact Bill Russell to see if he will be sitting on the committee. Kay and Claire both thanked Janice for her excellent work on SEAC.

**11. Date of Next Meeting - Wednesday, October 19, 2005 at 5:30 p.m. (face to face)
Please call Judy at (705) 268-7443 extension 3210 to confirm your attendance.**

12. Adjournment

MOVED BY: A. Loreto
SECONDED BY: N. Cole

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 12:30 p.m.
CARRIED.