



SEAC MEETING

(Special Education Advisory Committee)

Wednesday, November 16, 2005

11:45 a.m.

Catholic Education Centre

MINUTES

PRESENT: Kay Gaffney, Child & Family Services of Timmins, Chair
Kim Morris, Cochrane Temiskaming Resource Centre
William (Bill) Russell, Poverty Action Coalition
Brenda Hevenor, Trustee, Kirkland Lake
Steve Malciw, Trustee, Kirkland Lake
Alana Loreto, Parent Representative
Marc Leroux, Parent Representative
Paul Toffanello, Director of Education
Claire Lamarre-Goyer, Program Principal, Special Education
Judy Piché, Administrative Assistant/Recorder

EXCUSED: Kevin Duke, Canadian Mental Health Association
Dolores Butterworth, Parent Representative
Nancy Cole, Parent Representative

1. Opening Prayer

Kay Gaffney, Chair, welcomed everyone and led the group in a prayer. She also welcomed Bill Russell, representative of the Poverty Action Coalition, and Kim Morris who attended on behalf of Joel McCartney.

2. Approval of Agenda

MOVED BY: B. Hevenor
SECONDED BY: S. Malciw

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.
CARRIED.

3. Approval of Minutes

MOVED BY: A. Loreto
SECONDED BY: S. Malciw

THAT the minutes of the SEAC meeting held October 19, 2005 be approved as presented.
CARRIED.

4. Guest Speaker - Brenda Hevenor and Kids on the Block

Brenda Hevenor, Board Trustee and representative of the Timiskaming Kids on the Block, informed the members of the aforementioned non-profit group which originated in 1977. Children with disabilities are given the opportunity to be educated along with their non-disabled peers. The Kids on the Block are life-size puppets who travel to schools and to other locations within the community to educate the community about coping with disabilities and accepting others who are different. Flyers describing this initiative were distributed.

5. Special Education Board Plan (Website)

Claire Lamarre-Goyer stated that the Special Education Board Plan is now on the Board's website.

6. Approval of CODE Project / New Special Assignment Teacher Position

Claire Lamarre-Goyer announced that the CODE Project has been approved. She also revealed that Dan Loreto, Special Education Resource Teacher at O'Gorman High School, has been chosen as the new Special Assignment Teacher.

7. Budget Estimates for 2005-2006

Claire Lamarre-Goyer mentioned that the Budget Estimates for the 2005-2006 school year have been revised.

8. Claims for New High Needs Pupils

Claire Lamarre-Goyer reported that the Intensive Support Assistance (ISA) claim process ended with the 2003-2004 academic year. Although the Ministry is not decided what to use as a process, the Board nonetheless is required to send them a list of high needs students and to indicate whether or not previous ISA students are still registered with the Board.

9. Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education

The minutes of the Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education were provided.

10. Sponsorship of ISNC (Integrated Services for Northern Children)

Claire Lamarre-Goyer explained that the Integrated Services for Northern Children (ISNC) is a Ministry mandated agency which serves many of our children in outline areas, such as Kirkland Lake, Iroquois Falls, and Cochrane. The Northeastern Catholic District School Board is a sponsor and has been given the responsibility to oversee educational assessments.

11. Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (Myalgic Encephalomyelitis and Fibromyalgia Syndrome)

A letter from The Myalgic Encephalomyelitis Association of Ontario was provided for information purposes.

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, December 14, 2005 at 11:45 a.m. via video conference**. Please call Judy at (705) 268-7443 extension 3210 to confirm your attendance. This meeting is a combination of December and January meetings.

13. Other Business

Marc Leroux mentioned that he spoke with Transportation Officer Kathy Verreault regarding the bus drivers' training on how to deal with students with special needs. She stated that they are not required to have first aid training. Paul Toffanello indicated that it is the responsibility of the employer and that he will look into it.

14. Adjournment

MOVED BY: S. Malciw
SECONDED BY: M. Leroux

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 12:17 p.m.
CARRIED.