



SEAC MEETING

(Special Education Advisory Committee)

Wednesday, February 20, 2008

11:45 a.m.

Catholic Education Centre

MINUTES

PRESENT: Kay Gaffney, Child & Family Services of Timmins / Chair
Dolores Butterworth, Timmins Transition Committee
Neil Iserhoff, Aboriginal Community
Marc Leroux, Easter Seal Society
Marc Lionello, Canadian Mental Health
Joel McCartney, Cochrane Temiskaming Resource Centre
William (Bill) Russell, Poverty Action Coalition
Rick Brassard, NCDSB Chair
Steve Malciw, NCDSB Trustee
Tricia Stefanic Weltz, Supervisor - Student Services/Student Success
Judy Piché, Administrative Assistant / Recorder

EXCUSED: Nancy Cole, Canadian National Institute of the Blind
Dan Loreto, Special Assignment Teacher - Student Services
Karen Rowe, Superintendent of Education

1. Opening Prayer

Kay Gaffney welcomed everyone and led the group in prayer.

2. Approval of Agenda

MOVED BY: B. Russell

SECONDED BY: J. McCartney

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED.

3. Approval of Minutes

MOVED BY: B. Russell
SECONDED BY: N. Iserhoff

THAT the minutes of the SEAC meeting held January 16, 2008 be approved as presented.
CARRIED.

4. Safe Schools

Tricia Stefanic Weltz presented an executive summary of the new legislative on Safe Schools and how it affects students with special needs. Members were asked to read the booklet distributed and questions, if any, will be answered at the next meeting.

5. Special Education Board Plan - Section 3

Part of Section 3 of the Special Education Board Plan was reviewed by the members. Tricia Stefanic Weltz stated that the Binder of Assessment Tools (BAT) will most likely replace the section on assessments (pages 18 to 31). Members are to read sub-sections 3.10 to 3.18 (pages 36 to 78) for the next meeting.

6. Educational Assistants ABA Training

Educational Assistants underwent training on autism on November 12th provided by the Geneva Centre. A follow-up session will take place on February 27th or 28th in Timmins and in New Liskeard.

7. Summary of Equipment Orders

Tricia Stefanic Weltz provided the members with a summary of equipment purchased for students with special needs. She mentioned that the equipment leaves the board if the child attends a public high school. There is a need of physical space in order to manage the equipment centrally and relocate it within the board. She added that she is currently working on a Special Education equipment policy. It was suggested that the board invoice the other board. Rick Brassard suggested to bring ideas to the next meeting and make a recommendation to the board on behalf of SEAC.

8. Upcoming Events

Teachers are participating in Catholic Learning Communities in their individual schools. As of March 31, 2008, the ISNC program will be realigned with cross-sector organizations. Marie Rouleau of ISNC has been invited to the April SEAC meeting and will present an overview of the intensive support model. Dr. Alan Lawrence will be conducting assessments in the southern schools next week.

9. Agency Reports

The Timmins Transition Committee will be hosting a workshop on March 6th and 7th.

The Youth Justice Committee is currently training its volunteers. Referrals are being accepted from the Crown Attorney and the Police who are running the program.

Neil Iserhoff expressed his concern that the board is lacking in aboriginal representatives. He would like to see workers act as liaison between schools and aboriginals and get better parent involvement in aboriginal communities. He added that a First Nations representative should sit on the Board of Trustees. Rick Brassard will bring this issue up at the next Board Meeting.

Kay Gaffney reiterated the fact that ISNC will be dismantled as of March 31, 2008.

10. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, March 19, 2008, 2008 at 11:45 a.m.** Please call Judy Piché at (705) 268-7443 extension 3210 to confirm your attendance.

11. Other Business

An update on the Provincial Demonstration Schools partnership will be provided at the next meeting.

12. Adjournment

MOVED BY: J. McCartney

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 12:57 p.m.
CARRIED.