



SEAC MEETING

(Special Education Advisory Committee)

Friday, November 25, 2011

11:45 a.m.

Catholic Education Centre

MINUTES

- PRESENT:** Kay Gaffney, Child & Family Services of Timmins / Chair
Joel McCartney, Cochrane Temiskaming Resource Centre / Vice-Chair
Kim Bordignon, Children's Treatment Centre
Nancy Cole, Canadian National Institute of the Blind
William (Bill) Russell, the Lord's Kitchen
Colleen Landers, NCDSB Trustee
Dan Loreto, Special Assignment Teacher
Tricia Stefanic Weltz, Superintendent of Education
Judy Piché, Administrative Assistant / Recorder
- EXCUSED:** Marc Lionello, Canadian Mental Health Association
Amanda Wessman, Community Living Timmins
Elizabeth King, NCDSB Trustee
- GUESTS:** Chris Collins, Principal, St. Patrick School - Cobalt
Anne McCrank, Educational Assistant, St. Patrick School - Cobalt
Lindsay Caron, Student, St. Patrick School - Cobalt
Brock Manseau, Student, St. Patrick School - Cobalt

1. **Welcome and Prayer**

Kay Gaffney welcomed everyone and led the group in prayer.

2. **Approval of Agenda**

MOVED BY: C. Landers

SECONDED BY: B. Russell

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED.

3. **Approval of Minutes**

MOVED BY: J. McCartney

SECONDED BY: C. Landers

THAT the minutes of the SEAC meeting held on October 19, 2011 be approved as presented.
CARRIED.

4. **In the Spotlight – Life Skills Classroom at St. Patrick School, Cobalt**

A hot lunch is served every Wednesday and Friday at St. Patrick School in Cobalt. Principal Chris Collins, Educational Assistant Anne McCrank, and Students Lindsay Caron and Brock Manseau explained the process of serving a healthy meal at school, such as soup, pasta, chicken, shepherd's pie, and perogies. A healthy food menu is planned using 3 or 4 items from Canada's Food Guide. The students, with the help of the educational assistant, count the number of tickets requested and deliver them, prepare a list of items to purchase, compare prices from different flyers, shop for the items at a local grocery store, chop the food, cook following safety procedures, and serve the students and staff. Once this is completed, Lindsay and Brock are also responsible to clean the dishes, counters, tables, and sweep the floor. The students also help out with the Breakfast Program at St. Patrick School. Their involvement is part of the literacy and numeracy program in the Life Skills classroom. The learning is remarkable and credit was given to Anne McCrank for an incredible job. The presenters were thanked for their presentation.

5. **FAST For Word Pilot Program**

This item was deferred to a future meeting.

6. **Mental Health and Addictions**

To build on the effective work being done by school boards to support students with mental health and addiction needs, the Ministries of Education, Children and Youth Services, Health and Long-Term Care and Training, Colleges and Universities are working collaboratively to implement mental health literacy and cross-sectoral training on early identification and intervention for educators. New workers will be hired through schools and community-based agencies to enable early identification and referral for treatment, and health resources in schools will be enhanced. The supports and services through this strategy will start in the Fall of 2011 and be phased in over three years.

7. **SIP Applications – Explanation and Update**

Dan Loreto explained the Special Incidence Portion process to the members. School boards may apply for SIP funding for staff support to ensure the health and safety both of students who have extraordinarily high needs related to their disabilities and/or exceptionalities and of others at school. The Ministry will grant up to a maximum of \$27,000 per full time student per year. The Ministry requires that the identified additional supports be in place to respond to the student's needs prior to submitting an application. Submissions are due on December 15, 2011.

8. **Student Support Leadership**

The Student Support Leadership (SSL) is a joint initiative developed by the Ministry of Children and Youth Services, the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. The SSL is designed to provide teachers, parents, and administrators with expertise on what to do about mental health and mental illness issues seen in classrooms. Mark Lionello will make a presentation to the principals in December and will show the internet portal which describes the transitional age group, the tracking, and will provide solid advice to alleviate the symptoms. Every agency is reflected in the portal and the role of agencies is explained.

9. **Agency Reports**

A total of 465 meals were served at the Lord's Kitchen this week for 238 people. Bill Russell stated that the agency is selling perogies to raise additional money. More Native families from up North are being fed every week.

Cochrane Temiskaming Resource Centre is now credited with FOCUS, an accreditation group specialized with developmental disabilities. The agency will ensure that they are providing quality services that are effective, efficient and meets the needs of individuals using or requesting services.

Kay Gaffney mentioned that Katherine Simonovic shared the results of the strategic plan of Child and Family Services to the agency's members. Outstanding marks were given except in the work with stakeholders. The agency is getting accreditation and members are invited to Southern Ontario to share the process used. A francophone summit is being planned to assist agencies that have bilingual delivery programs.

10. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 21, 2011 at 11:45 a.m. at the Catholic Education Centre or via video conference.

11. **Other Business**

Another invitation to sit on the SEAC Committee will be sent to agency representatives in Moosonee.

12. **Adjournment**

MOVED BY: N. Cole

That the meeting be adjourned at 1:00 p.m.
CARRIED.