



SEAC MEETING

(Special Education Advisory Committee)

Wednesday, May 22, 2012

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
Mark Lionello, Canadian Mental Health Association
Tammy Molenaar, Community Living Timmins
Colleen Landers, NCDSB Trustee
Dan Loreto, Special Assignment Teacher
Tricia Stefanic Weltz, Superintendent of Education
Judy Piché, Administrative Assistant / Recorder
- EXCUSED:** William (Bill) Russell, the Lord's Kitchen
Elizabeth King, NCDSB Trustee
- GUESTS:** Hunter Scott, Student at Holy Family School
Tanya Shortt, Parent
Matthew Turner, Principal at Holy Family School
Sarah Muender, Teacher at Holy Family School

1. **Welcome and Prayer**

Kay Gaffney welcomed everyone and led the group in prayer.

2. **Approval of Agenda**

MOVED BY: N. Cole

SECONDED BY: K. Bordignon

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 April 25, 2012 be approved as presented.
CARRIED.

4. **Student in the Spotlight**

Hunter Shortt, a Grade 1 student at Holy Family School in Englehart, and his mother, Tanya, agreed to share Hunter's experiences with the Leveled Literacy Intervention (LLI) program at the school. Teacher Sarah Muender explained how reluctant of a reader Hunter was at the beginning and needed a lot of help. Hunter received LLI every day from Resource Teacher Michelle Schaffner and has a strong support at home. Hunter now loves to read a wide range of books and is a competent reader. He is excited that he remains in his classroom all day and is not required to work with Mrs. Schaffner any more. Students who want to participate in the LLI program require parental consent and an attendance commitment of 30 to 40 minutes every day at school.

5. **Student Support Leadership and OPHEA Partnership**

The Student Support Leadership and Ontario Physical Health Education Association (OPHEA) facilitated four workshops in Timmins, Kapuskasing, Englehart, and Moosonee. All sessions were well attended and the feedback was favorable. There was a good combination of mental health and illness issues, strategy interventions, discussion of the portal, and physical activity.

6. **SuccessMaker Intervention Software**

SuccessMaker is an online educational software that differentiates and personalizes K-8 reading and math instruction. It provides instruction, practice and assessment, designed to accommodate a full array of different learning styles, and focuses on the individual needs and desires of students and educators. NCDSB will be using the software on the same kids who are using the Fast ForWord program.

7. **New Technology to Enhance Learning for Special Needs Students**

Dan Loreto provided information on the Web Based Teaching Tool (WBTT), a free online software endorsed by the Ministry of Education for special needs students. The software was piloted in three of our schools which primary teachers use for early screening and intervention.

8. **IEP Audit Progress**

It is a Ministry requirement for school boards to conduct an Individual Education Plan (IEP) audit. A team comprised of senior officials, system lead, principal, teacher, and resource teachers will meet the second week of June to assess the progress and monitoring of IEPs. The report is due to the Ministry at the end of June. The outcome of the reviews will be shared with SEACs throughout the province in the Fall of 2012.

9. **Special Education Board Plan**

The amendments to the Special Education Board Plan was shared with the members. It is the Board's responsibility to submit to the Ministry of Education, by September 1, 2012, a checklist that identifies components of its Special Education Board Plan that include amended information in regards to the special education programs and services. Changes to the plan include special education staff, use of the bus harness, and SEAC membership. The amendments to the plan were accepted by way of motion.

MOVED BY: J. McCartney
SECONDED BY: K. Bordignon

THAT the Northeastern Catholic District School Board Special Education Advisory Committee accept the amendments to the Special Education Board Plan 2005-2012, as revised throughout the 2011-2012 school year.
CARRIED.

10. **Staffing 2012-2013**

Staffing for the 2012-2013 school year includes drafting a budget, working with principals, trying to find efficiencies, working with the number of students registered and the students transitioning out to the public schools. The budget was reviewed and approved by the Board of Trustees.

11. **Agency Reports**

Tammie Molenaar shared that Community Living Timmins is hoping to be accredited in the Fall. It will be a topic of discussion at the agency's Annual General Meeting on June 14th.

North Eastern Ontario Family and Children's Services (NEOFCS) will have all of its managers in place by the Fall of 2012. Provincial budget cuts have caused the closure of the Nick Kuzmich Residence, a youth detention centre in Iroquois Falls.

12. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting, scheduled on Wednesday, June 20, 2012, will be cancelled. The members will be meet at 11:45 a.m. on Wednesday, September 19, 2012 at the Catholic Education Centre or via video conference.

13. **Other Business** - Nil

14. **Adjournment**

MOVED BY: N. Cole

That the meeting be adjourned at 12:45 p.m.
CARRIED.