



SEAC MEETING

(Special Education Advisory Committee)

Wednesday, December 14, 2005

11:45 a.m.

Via Video Conference

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
Dolores Butterworth, Parent Representative
Nancy Cole, Parent Representative
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

GUEST: Glenn Sheculski, Program Principal - Student Pathways to Success

1. **Opening Prayer**

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

2. **Approval of Agenda**

MOVED BY: N. Cole

SECONDED BY: M. Leroux

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED.

3. Approval of Minutes

MOVED BY: A. Loreto
SECONDED BY: D. Butterworth

THAT the minutes of the SEAC meeting held November 16, 2005 be approved as presented.
CARRIED.

4. Guest Speaker - Glenn Sheculski, Program Principal - Student Pathways to Success

Glenn Sheculski, Program Principal for Student Pathways to Success, presented the Best Start Implementation Plan to the members. He explained that this initiative focuses on providing children aged 0 to 6 with resources and supports to enable them to achieve success at school. He added that each school will serve as a 'hub' to deliver the Best Start program.

5. CODE Project Update

The CODE Project was updated by Claire Lamarre-Goyer. She stated that the major focus is to improve student achievement for students with special needs. Elementary schools have received a new computer and the Kurzweil text-to-voice software has been installed in almost all schools. The CODE Project Schools, Holy Family in Englehart and Sacred Heart in Kirkland Lake, will receive more funds to purchase materials.

6. Public Consultation for Special Education

A memo from OCSTA (Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association) was provided requesting assistance in collecting from Catholic trustees information about successful practices, challenges and issues regarding special education programs and services. Claire will submit to the Minister's Advisory Council, on behalf of SEAC, any concerns or good practices happening within our Board.

7. IEP Engine Updates

Major changes were made last year and this year to improve the IEP Engine in order to meet Ministry standards. Further changes were recommended and it is now a lot easier to utilize.

8. Agency Reports

Marc Leroux reported on behalf of the Easter Seals that toiletries and bath aides are now 100% funded. Application for family and residential camp programs and for the Choices program are out. They are available on the Easter Seals' website at www.easterseals.org.

Bill Russell informed the members that the Poverty Action Coalition is working on a food security program with the Porcupine Health Unit.

Kay Gaffney of Child & Family Services of Timmins spoke about the need of foster homes. She added that the agency is gradually moving from Toke Street to its new location at the Lois Plaza.

Claire Lamarre-Goyer mentioned that Mary Mignaco of Community Living Parents Advisory Committee requested representation on SEAC. Paul Toffanello will look into it and respond to her.

9. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, February 15, 2006 at 11:45 a.m. via video conference**. Please call Judy Piché at (705) 268-7443 extension 3210 to confirm your attendance.

13. Adjournment

MOVED BY: D. Butterworth
SECONDED BY: M. Leroux

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 12:55 p.m.
CARRIED.