



**NORTHEASTERN CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**

www.ncdsb.on.ca

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SEAC MEETING

(Special Education Advisory Committee)

Wednesday, September 20, 2006

11:45 a.m.

Catholic Education Centre

MINUTES

PRESENT: Kay Gaffney, Child & Family Services of Timmins / Chair
Joel McCartney, Cochrane Temiskaming Resource Centre
Dolores Butterworth, Parent Representative
Nancy Cole, Parent Representative
Marc Leroux, Parent Representative
Karen Rowe, Superintendent of Education
Tricia Stefanic Weltz, Program Principal - Special Education
Dan Loreto, Special Assignment Teacher - Special Education
Judy Piché, Administrative Assistant / Recorder

EXCUSED: Kevin Duke, Canadian Mental Health Association
William (Bill) Russell, Poverty Action Coalition
Elizabeth King, NCDSB Vice-Chair - Cochrane/Iroquois Falls
Steve Malciw, NCDSB Trustee, Kirkland Lake
Paul Toffanello, Director of Education

1. Opening Prayer

Kay Gaffney, Chair, welcomed everyone and led the group in a prayer. She also took the opportunity to welcome Tricia Stefanic Weltz as the new Program Principal for Special Education.

2. Approval of Agenda

MOVED BY: J. McCartney
SECONDED BY: N. Cole

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.
CARRIED.

3. **Approval of Minutes**

MOVED BY: N. Cole
SECONDED BY: D. Butterworth

THAT the minutes of the SEAC meeting held May 17, 2006 be approved as presented.
CARRIED.

4. **Meetings Schedule 2006-2007**

The Meetings Schedule 2006-2007 provided was accepted by the members.

5. **Goals for Special Education 2006-2007**

Tricia Stefanic Weltz outlined the four (4) major areas that the Special Education team is looking at this year: coordination of services, program delivery, communication and professional practice, and alignment of Maplewood and Ministry reporting.

6. **Recruiting New Members**

SEAC is seeking parent representatives from the Tri-Towns, Cochrane and Kirkland Lake. A letter will also be sent to the aboriginal community and those who are not present today will be contacted.

7. **Resignation Letter**

Kay Gaffney read a letter from Alana Loreto informing SEAC of her resignation. A reply letter has been sent to her expressing our appreciation for her interest and input.

8. **Request for Department Name Change**

A request to change the department name from Special Education to Student Services was expressed by Tricia Stefanic Weltz. She explained that the department is trying to move into a different direction losing the stigma that is sometimes attached to special education. The Board wants to connect curriculum and special education while working with all children. Following some discussion, it was agreed to change the department name to Student Services.

9. **Special Education Funding**

Some members expressed their concern regarding the Special Education funding. Karen Rowe and Tricia Stefanic Weltz assured them that the Board is meeting the needs of all children. It was recommended that all parents with personal issues contact Tricia Stefanic Weltz.

10. CODE Project Proposal

The Board received \$200,000 last year to support the CODE Project. Sacred Heart School in Kirkland Lake and Holy Family School in Englehart received extensive support last year. Tricia Stefanic Weltz announced that the Board has applied for additional money. The funds will ensure the assistance of a Special Assignment Teacher (Dan Loreto), and assistive technology training will continue. Schools with a high population of students with special needs will be identified. Tricia will share the project when the proposal is finalized.

11. Agency Reports

Joel McCartney announced that the Cochrane Temiskaming Resource Centre will celebrate their 30th Anniversary on Friday, September 29th. Special events will be held at Northern College beginning with a presentation from a motivational speaker.

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, October 18, 2006 at 5:30 p.m. (face-to-face)**. Please call Judy at (705) 268-7443 extension 3210 to confirm your attendance.

13. Other Business

Marc Leroux reported that the Easter Seals has closed its office in Timmins.

Kay Gaffney thanked Tricia Stefanic Weltz and Dan Loreto for their hard work and wished them the best.

14. Adjournment

MOVED BY: T. Stefanic Weltz

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 1:10 p.m.
CARRIED.