



**NORTHEASTERN CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**

**www.ncdsb.on.ca**

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**SEAC MEETING**

(Special Education Advisory Committee)

Wednesday, May 16, 2007

5:30 p.m. (face-to-face)

Northeastern Catholic District School Board

**MINUTES**

- PRESENT:** Kay Gaffney, Child & Family Services of Timmins / Chair  
Joel McCartney, Cochrane Temiskaming Resource Centre  
William (Bill) Russell, Poverty Action Coalition  
Nancy Cole, Parent Representative  
Marc Leroux, Parent Representative  
Colleen Landers, Board Chair  
Karen Rowe, Superintendent of Education  
Tricia Stefanic Weltz, Program Principal - Student Services  
Dan Loreto, Special Assignment Teacher - Student Services  
Judy Piché, Administrative Assistant / Recorder
- EXCUSED:** Dolores Butterworth, Parent Representative  
Denis Lincez, NCDSB Trustee - Kapuskasing  
Fred Salvador, NCDSB Trustee - Timmins
- GUEST:** Geneviève Lemieux, Child & Family Services of Timmins

**1. Opening Prayer**

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

**2. Approval of Agenda**

MOVED BY: B. Russell

SECONDED BY: N. Cole

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

MOVED BY: J. McCartney  
SECONDED BY: M. Leroux

THAT the minutes of the SEAC meeting held on April 18, 2007 be approved as presented.  
CARRIED.

**4. School Support Program for Autism Disorder**

Geneviève Lemieux of Child and Family Services of Timmins provided the members with information on the School Support Program for Autism Disorder. She spoke about the purpose of the School Support Program, how the services are delivered, who they serve, and summarized their objectives. Tricia Stefanic Weltz stated that teachers are faced with a wide spectrum of disorders, specifically with autism; therefore, autism is one of the Board's focus for 2007-2008. Kay Gaffney thanked Geneviève for her presentation.

**5. CODE Project Update**

Tricia Stefanic Weltz informed the members that the CODE Project is at its final stage. The provincial team will be visiting on June 9<sup>th</sup> to monitor the project. There will be a project-end institute on June 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> where the CODE schools will celebrate their successes and share best practices. She added that the service delivery model and the quality teacher dialogue has been outstanding. The complete report on financial spending is due late June.

**6. OPA Update**

At a recent monitoring teleconference with OPA, NCDSB was referred to as the poster child for OPA. The OPA group is impressed with the project this year and it will be extended to 2008.

**7. Special Education Board Plan**

The program staff is reviewing the Special Education Board Plan and it will be complete by mid-June. A new plan has been designed for submission with major changes in effect. The plan will be sent to the SEAC members and then brought forward to the June Board Meeting for approval. It will then be accessible to parents through our web site.

**8. The Year in Review**

Tricia Stefanic Weltz reported that this has been an exceptionally successful year. She commended Dan Loreto for providing support to the special education resource teachers. A list of professional development initiatives can be provided to the SEAC members, if requested. Kay Gaffney thanked Tricia and Dan for their leadership.

**9. Agency Reports**

Joel McCartney stated that a consultation was provided for individuals with significant delay with a special education resource teacher at Aileen Wright English Catholic School in Cochrane who participated in the Saganoska training.

Kay Gaffney indicated that she attended the workshop facilitated by Dr. Dianne Mathes, a former social worker and former crown ward. Dr. Mathes works with children with foster care who have behaviour problems. Her telephone number will be provided in the next package.

**10. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be combined with the June meeting and will be held on **Wednesday, September 19, 2007 at 11:45 a.m.** Please call Judy at (705) 268-7443 extension 3210 to confirm your attendance.

**11. Other Business**

Colleen Landers indicated that face-to-face meetings are not always accessible to parents and trustees of the outside areas and requested that videoconference and teleconference be provided for all SEAC meetings. By consensus, the members agreed to remove the clause from the policy as this will get more stakeholders involved from outside areas.

**12. Adjournment**

MOVED BY: D. Loreto

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 6:45 p.m.  
CARRIED.