



SEAC MEETING

(Special Education Advisory Committee)

Wednesday, October 31, 2007

11:45 a.m.

Catholic Education Centre

MINUTES

- PRESENT:**
- Kay Gaffney, Child & Family Services of Timmins / Chair
 - Joel McCartney, Cochrane Temiskaming Resource Centre
 - Nancy Cole, Canadian National Institute of the Blind
 - Marc Leroux, Easter Seal Society
 - Dolores Butterworth, Parent Representative
 - Fred Salvador, NCDSB Trustee
 - Tricia Stefanic Weltz, Supervisor - Student Services
 - Dan Loreto, Special Assignment Teacher - Student Services
 - Karen Rowe, Superintendent of Education
 - Judy Piché, Administrative Assistant / Recorder
- GUEST:**
- Lynn Fecteau, NCDSB Community Relations Officer
- EXCUSED:**
- William (Bill) Russell, Poverty Action Coalition
 - Neil Iserhoff, Aboriginal Community
 - Marc Lionello, Canadian Mental Health
 - Denis Lincez, NCDSB Trustee

1. **Opening Prayer**

Tricia Stefanic Weltz welcomed everyone and led the group in a prayer.

2. **Approval of Agenda**

MOVED BY: M. Leroux

SECONDED BY: N. Cole

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED.

3. Approval of Minutes

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

THAT the minutes of the SEAC meeting held September 19, 2007 be approved as amended.
CARRIED.

4. Guest: Lynn Fecteau, NCDSB Community Relations Officer - Shared Solutions

Lynn Fecteau spoke about the Shared Solutions workshop held in Sudbury on October 18th, represented by a Board team. She shared with the members a powerpoint presentation elaborating on the Board's initiatives. A Shared Solutions guide was also distributed and will be posted on the Board's website for parents' accessibility. It was suggested that the committee members look at ways to help parents become advocates.

5. Elections

To ensure alignment with SEAC regulations, an election of the Chair and Vice-Chair was conducted. It was indicated that Tricia Stefanic Weltz and Judy Piché had volunteered to be Scrutineers should the need arise.

ELECTION OF CHAIR

Tricia Stefanic Weltz opened the nomination process.

1st Call for Nominations

Nancy Cole nominated Kay Gaffney as Chair of SEAC. Dolores Butterworth seconded the nomination.

2nd Call for Nominations - Nil

3rd Call for Nominations - Nil

Tricia Stefanic Weltz declared the nominations closed and declared Kay Gaffney, Chair of SEAC for the 2007-2008 school year.

Motion

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

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the members of Northeastern Catholic District School Board's Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) appoint Kay Gaffney as Chair of SEAC for the 2007-2008 school year.

CARRIED

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

Kay Gaffney, Chair of SEAC, opened the nomination process.

1st Call for Nominations

Fred Salvador nominated Marc Lionello as Vice-Chair of SEAC. Joel McCartney seconded the nomination.

2nd Call for Nominations - Nil

3rd Call for Nominations - Nil

Due to Mr. Lionello's absence, Dan Loreto agreed to contact him. His decision will be known at the next meeting.

6. Roles and Responsibilities of SEAC

Tricia Stefanic Weltz mentioned that SEAC members will be involved in a meaningful way in the preparation of the Board's annual plan and in the annual budget process. The next meeting will be dedicated to the SEAC rules and regulations, a document shared at the September meeting. Kay Gaffney stated that Tricia and Dan are doing a fantastic job of bringing the members up to date with all Student Services projects.

7. Essential Skills Classroom at St. Paul School

The Board has approved the opening of an Essential Skills Classroom at St. Paul School which is specially designed for children with developmental disabilities and exceptionalities. It will be a place where students can receive life skills, practice and implement them, and learn to function in this society. The Board will be posting for a Teacher position along with an Educational Assistant to support specific needs of the classroom. Kay Gaffney congratulated Tricia and Dan for her work on this important program and commended the Board members. Fred Salvador stated that the trustees will have the opportunity to visit the classroom in the near future.

8. Provincial Demonstration Schools Partnership

Dan Loreto has been seconded by the Ministry of Education's Provincial Demonstration Schools branch, where he will be trained to deal with students who have severe learning disabilities. Dan explained to the members that it is difficult for northern children to access Trillium, a residential-type community that takes interventions and applies them to children. Accommodations and travel is provided but the children leave home five days a week. Dan's responsibility now is to take the training and replicate it in the North, an essential benefit to the Board.

9. CODE Update

Tricia Stefanic Weltz attended a provincial forum in Toronto on October 30th where the participants shared last year's CODE results. She added that we are right on track and she will share with the team information on how to sustain great elements of instructional capacity and achievement. Kay Gaffney congratulated the team who implemented this project.

10. **Agency Reports**

Kay Gaffney indicated that the Lions Quest has established a pilot project on prevention and anti-social behavior in nine of Grade 7 classes across the region. She added that ISNC has implemented a health component. For more information on this and other components, we could ask a representative of ISNC to make a presentation at a future meeting.

11. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, November 21, 2007 at 11:45 a.m.** Please call Judy at (705) 268-7443 extension 3210 to confirm your attendance.

14. **Other Business** - Nil

15. **Adjournment**

MOVED BY: D. Butterworth

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