



**SEAC MEETING**  
(Special Education Advisory Committee)

**Wednesday, February 18, 2009**  
**11:20 a.m.**  
**O’Gorman Intermediate Catholic School**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Kay Gaffney, Child & Family Services of Timmins / Chair  
William (Bill) Russell, The Lord’s Kitchen / Vice-Chair  
Nancy Cole, Canadian National Institute of the Blind  
Joel McCartney, Cochrane Temiskaming Resource Centre  
Steve Malciw, NCDSB Trustee  
Fred Salvador, NCDSB Trustee  
Tricia Stefanic Weltz, Superintendent of Education  
Erica Raymond, Special Assignment Teacher - Student Services  
Judy Piché, Administrative Assistant / Recorder

**EXCUSED:** Dolores Butterworth, Timmins Transition Committee  
Neil Iserhoff, Aboriginal Community  
Marc Lionello, Canadian Mental Health Association

**GUEST:** Dan Loreto, Special Assignment Teacher - Student Services

**1. School Visit - Trillium Classroom**

SEAC members were excited to visit the Trillium classroom at O’Gorman Intermediate Catholic School where Trillium North Teacher Brenda Gagne provides classroom instruction to eight Grade 7 and 8 students with learning disabilities. Elisa Germain, Educational Assistant assigned to the Trillium classroom, assists in the classroom routines. The students, proud and thrilled to be a part of this classroom, gave a presentation on the importance of learning with the help of assistive technologies. These students are included in all school-related activities and are integrated into other classrooms (i.e. physical education, shops, family studies). The group spoke about their upcoming visit to the Provincial Demonstration Schools in Milton where the children will be tested and evaluated. They were thanked for their presentation and congratulated for all of their work in this program. Dan Loreto informed the members that an integration to high school program is being

developed. He also mentioned that nine applications were received for next year. Ted Weltz, Principal at OICS, was commended for being an integral part of this program. It was recommended that the Board send a letter to the Ministry pursuing the continuation of the Trillium program and its partnership with the Provincial Demonstration Schools.

**2. Opening Prayer**

Kay Gaffney welcomed everyone and led the group in prayer.

**3. Approval of Agenda**

MOVED BY: T. Stefanic Weltz  
SECONDED BY: S. Malciw

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.  
CARRIED.

**4. Approval of Minutes**

MOVED BY: J. McCartney  
SECONDED BY: B. Russell

THAT the minutes of the SEAC meeting held January 18, 2009 be approved as presented.  
CARRIED.

**5. SEA Audit Report**

A Specialized Equipment Amount (SEA) audit took place at NCDSB on January 29<sup>th</sup>. The auditors were very impressed with our files. St. Joseph School in South Porcupine and Sacred Heart School in Kirkland Lake were visited. We were informed that there is funding to access for next year's claims.

**6. ASD Enhancement**

NCDSB has received funding to hire an ABA (Applied Behaviour Analysis) expert to provide training and coordinating ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorder) training and resources to support the implementation of the transition processes that are required in PPM 140. The posting of a contractual position is forthcoming.

**7. Specialized Program in Kirkland Lake**

The NCDSB Board of Trustees has approved a specialized program that will help with the programming requirements of high needs students at Sacred Heart School in Kirkland Lake. This program will commence in March and end in June, and funded by ISNC. An alternate learning setting outside of the regular classroom will be designed to meet the needs of students with profound disabilities. Students

will receive social skills training, literacy and numeracy based. The elements will be similar to the Essential Skills classroom at St. Paul School. A visit of St. Paul School will be arranged for SEAC members in April.

**8. Additional EA Position**

An additional Education Assistant is required at St. Patrick School in Kapuskasing to support the needs of a student with behaviour disabilities.

**9. Projections for 2009-2010**

Enrolment projections for 2009-2010 were provided to the members. These figures will help to calculate the funding for the next school year. Erica Raymond will provide the special education data by grade at the next meeting.

**10. Agency Reports**

Numbers of people taking advantage of the Lord's Kitchen are increasing.

**11. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 25, 2009 at 11:45 a.m. at the Catholic Education Centre.

**12. Other Business - Nil**

**13. Adjournment**

MOVED BY: T. Stefanic Weltz

That the meeting be adjourned at 12:40 p.m.  
CARRIED.