



SEAC MEETING
(Special Education Advisory Committee)

Wednesday, April 15, 2009

11:45 a.m.

Catholic Education Centre

MINUTES

- PRESENT:** Kay Gaffney, Child & Family Services of Timmins / Chair
William (Bill) Russell, The Lord’s Kitchen / Vice-Chair
Joel McCartney, Cochrane Temiskaming Resource Centre
Rick Brassard, NCDSB Chair
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
Nancy Cole, Canadian National Institute of the Blind
Marc Lionello, Canadian Mental Health Association
- GUEST:** Dan Loreto, Special Assignment Teacher - Student Services

1. Opening Prayer

Kay Gaffney welcomed everyone and led the group in prayer.

2. Approval of Agenda

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

**THAT the agenda be approved as amended.
CARRIED.**

3. Approval of Minutes

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

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

4. Aboriginal Representative

Due to Neil Iserhoff's resignation from SEAC, Tricia Stefanic Weltz will approach our new aboriginal liaison worker, Jamie Corston, who has been contracted through the Timmins Native Friendship Centre.

5. Projected Enrolment 2009-2010

Erica Raymond provided the members with a summary of the projected enrolment for the 2009-2010 school year identifying our student services' needs. A discussion regarding support staff ensued. Joel McCartney mentioned that CTRC is in a position to develop training to help them expand professionally.

6. Staffing 2009-2010

The staffing process has begun based on the projected needs. The special education model for the allocation of teachers per school is being reviewed. We need to be mindful of the declining enrolment.

7. 2008 Annual Report of the Office of the Auditor General

A copy of the 2008 Annual Report of the Office of the Auditor General was handed out. The report provides insights on trends happening across the province and recommendations for the Special Education Board Plan.

8. ABA Expert

Joel McCartney has been chosen as the Board's ABA Lead. He will meet all students with autism and work with the support staff. Any member who wants to borrow Jennifer Krumins' book on ABA can contact Kay Gaffney.

9. SEA Claims

Erica Raymond will report on the SEA claims at the next SEAC meeting in May.

10. April P.D. Day

The April 27th P.D. Day focused on special education, as dedicated by the Ministry of Education. Since the document *Education for All* is not ready to be launched, boards had to make an alternate plan. Five regional sites were chosen where teachers and student services' support staff worked on creating a profile and a plan to meet the specific needs of one or two at-risk students over the next eight weeks. Special assignment teachers supported them in the delivery of the day. Other professional development sessions were also provided such as dealing with aggressive behaviors, behavior management plans, tiers of intervention review, and assistive technologies. The September 2009 Professional Development Day will also be dedicated to Special Education. This day will provide opportunities to build relationships with principals, teachers, educational assistants, and child and youth workers.

11. Agency Reports

Bill Russell suggested that The Lord's Kitchen's aboriginal liaison worker could work with the aboriginal representative on SEAC.

Child and Family Services did get accreditation from both child protection and children's mental health. A public announcement will be made after the June annual meeting.

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 20, 2009 at 11:45 a.m. at St. Paul School.

13. Other Business - Provincial Trillium School

Dan Loreto provided an update on the Trillium classroom at O'Gorman Intermediate Catholic School. The students in this classroom spent a week in Milton where they were tested confirming that the program is effective as 100% growth was shown in five areas. These areas are the five levels of Phonological Awareness that all students require to develop successful reading fluency. The students in our Northern Classrooms (OICS and NLPS) scored very high on these areas in standardized testing through the Hospital for Sick Children's Learning Disabilities Program. The result was improvement in the following areas:

- 1) improvement in multisyllabic word identification;
- 2) improvement in sight word recognition and ultimately;
- 3) improved reading fluency due to 70 hours of sophisticated intervention.

Kay Gaffney requested that these children's teacher, Brenda Gagne, their educational assistant, Elisa Germain, and the school principal, Ted Weltz, be congratulated for their dedication and commitment to this classroom.

14. Adjournment

MOVED BY: J. McCartney

That the meeting be adjourned at 12:45 p.m.
CARRIED.