



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

**Wednesday, November 18, 2009**

**11:45 a.m.**

**Catholic Education Centre**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Kay Gaffney, Child & Family Services of Timmins / Chair  
Nancy Cole, Canadian National Institute of the Blind  
William (Bill) Russell, The Lord’s Kitchen  
Rache Hughes, Payukotayno James Bay Child and Family Services  
Cecile Small, Northern College Day Care  
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  
Linda Reynolds-Lantz, Resource Teacher, Bishop Belleau School  
Judy Piché, Administrative Assistant / Recorder

**EXCUSED:** Joel McCartney, Cochrane Temiskaming Resource Centre/Vice-Chair  
Dolorese Butterworth, Timmins Transition Committee  
Marc Lionello, Canadian Mental Health Association  
Lynne Gray, James Bay Association for Community Living  
Alice Sackaney, Native Friendship Centre

**GUESTS:** Christine Allen, Principal - Bishop Belleau School  
Gina Malciw, Interim Manager of Financial Services  
Dan Loreto, Special Assignment Teacher - Student Services

**1. Welcome and Prayer**

Kay Gaffney led the group in prayer.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

MOVED BY: B. Russell  
SECONDED BY: T. Stefanic Weltz

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.  
CARRIED.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

MOVED BY: F. Salvador  
SECONDED BY: S. Malciw

THAT the minutes of the SEAC meeting held October 21, 2009 be approved as presented.  
CARRIED.

**4. Introduction of SEAC Members at Bishop Belleau School**

An introduction of the members of the Special Education Advisory Committee at Bishop Belleau School was held.

**5. Special Education Budget**

Gina Malciw, Interim Manager of Financial Services, distributed a copy of the Special Education budget and explained that a revised budget will be provided in the near future including the funding for Bishop Belleau School. Kay Gaffney thanked Gina for her presentation.

**6. Learning for All / IEP Session**

A copy of the draft document *Learning for All K-12*, based on the belief that all children can learn, was provided. A team comprising of Tricia Stefanic Weltz, Erica Raymond, and Linda Reynolds-Lantz, attended a session in Sudbury on November 12<sup>th</sup> where participants provided feedback on sections of the document. The final version should be ready by the end of this school year. Karen MacGregor, Principal of St. Jerome School, joined the team the next day for a session on the development and implementation of Individual Education Plans (IEP).

**7. The Assessment Schedule**

Tricia Stefanic Weltz stated that changes to the assessment schedule have been made across the Board. Staff will be trained in assessments within locally developed board tools with the intention to include Bishop Belleau School in the Board assessment schedule in 2010. The BAT is an assessment tool designed for the primary division, a reading assessment administered twice annually, once at the end of September to mid-October, and the second one in February. The french immersion BAT

implementation schools will undergo locally developed assessment tools. There has been a discussion at the junior and intermediate levels. One running record per term is to be completed for each student who has not attained level 30. She added that we are in the process of investigating other assessments, looking to see if there are alternate assessment tools available to ensure accurate assessment of student ability.

**8. Best Practice from Nipissing-Parry Sound**

The Nipissing-Parry Sound SEAC members ran various evening workshops in May 2009 for all stakeholders interested in special needs children and special education. A keynote speaker was brought in and the turnout was very good. Although very costly, this is something the NCDSB SEAC may want to consider. Expenses may be covered through the parent engagement or the Catholic Parent Involvement Committee.

**9. Leveled Literacy Intervention**

Erica Raymond provided an update on the Leveled Literacy Intervention project, piloted in six schools - Aileen Wright, Sacred Heart (Timmins), St. Jerome, St. Joseph, St. Patrick (Cobalt), and St. Paul. Approximately 50 students are undergoing a series of lessons and are progressing very well through the levels. These students will be monitored to ensure that growth continues to progress.

**10. SEA Claims - November Report**

A copy of an Equipment Log for the 2009-2010 school year was distributed. The log will be revised with the addition of laptop computers missing from the list and then sent to the Ministry. Erica Raymond mentioned that she received 12 requests for FM systems but the cost is phenomenal. The Ministry reimburses the board 18 months after receipt of the SEA claim. The board is looking into the purchase of portable FM systems which are more expensive but a better value in the long run.

**11. Agency Reports**

Bill Russell mentioned that the workers at the Lord's Kitchen attempted to get young people to drink more milk products as opposed to sweet juices but recently found out that some kids are lactose intolerant. They are now looking at purchasing some other beverages with lower sugar levels.

Nancy Cole reported that the 2010-2011 calendars from the Canadian National Institute for the Blind are coming out.

Child and Family Services of Timmins have serious funding problems and are asking the Ministry for a review as cuts to children's aid are implemented. Kay Gaffney stated that a two-day workshop on anti-oppression was attended by 3 managers of CFS.

**11. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 16, 2009 at 11:45 a.m. at the Catholic Education Centre.

**12. Other Business**

The Board has received correspondence from other boards concerned about cuts to special education. Tricia Stefanic Weltz will send a letter, on behalf of SEAC and copied to OCSTA, asking the Ministry to reevaluate the funding formula.

**13. Adjournment**

MOVED BY: T. Stefanic Weltz

That the meeting be adjourned at 12:20 p.m.  
CARRIED.