



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

**Wednesday, May 26, 2010**

**11:45 a.m.**

**Catholic Education Centre**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Kay Gaffney, Child & Family Services of Timmins / Chair  
Joel McCartney, Cochrane Temiskaming Resource Centre/Vice-Chair  
William (Bill) Russell, The Lord’s Kitchen  
Elizabeth King, NCDSB Trustee  
Colleen Landers, NCDSB Trustee  
Tricia Stefanic Weltz, Superintendent of Education  
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  
Erica Raymond, Special Assignment Teacher - Student Services

**1. Welcome and Prayer**

Kay Gaffney led the group in prayer.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

MOVED BY: E. King  
SECONDED BY: B. Russell

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 March 24, 2010 be approved as presented.  
CARRIED.

**4. Special Education Budget**

Manager of Financial Services, Mary-Lou Pollon, presented the 2009-2010 Special Education Revised Budget Estimates and the draft 2010-2011 Special Education Funding. The Ministry of Education continues to implement funding for special education based on a per pupil amount. Kay Gaffney thanked Mary-Lou for her presentation.

**5. SEA Expenses**

Tricia Stefanic Weltz provided the members with an update on the SEA claims submitted on April 30, 2010. The total invoices amounted to \$34,419.19; however, claims under \$800 per pupil will not be reimbursed. Therefore, NCDSB will receive \$20,819.19 of its SEA claims.

**6. Special Needs Programming**

A Special Needs program will be made available at St. Jerome School in September 2010 because the majority of students are at primary level and it is in the best interest of that community. The developmental program at St. Paul School will be maintained.

**7. EP 101 Online Workshop**

Funding was provided to the Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario (LDAO) to work collaboratively with the Ministry of Education and parents across the province to develop a website that will be a resource to parents and students regarding their consultative role in the development and implementation of the IEP. The *IEP Online Workshop for Parents and Students* is a workshop created to help parents and students understand their role in the IEP process. There is no charge for the workshop and participants may log in as a guest without needing a user name and password to [http://ldalearning.ldao.ca/login/index.php?lang=en\\_utf8](http://ldalearning.ldao.ca/login/index.php?lang=en_utf8). This information has also been sent to schools to add to their newsletters and posted on the Board's website.

**8. Ministry of Education's Special Education Website**

In March 2010, the Ministry of Education posted a reorganization and enhancement of the special education component of its website. A letter to all parents with identified students at our Board will be sent informing them about the revised website ([www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/speced.html](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/speced.html)) and providing them with a list of topics which are described in detail.

**9. Draft Guidelines for Programs and Services for Students Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing K-12**

The draft document *Guidelines for Programs and Services for Students Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing K-12* was shared with the members. It describes effective practices for district school boards when providing support and services to these students. The guidelines are designed to help educators and other professionals design and implement structures and processes that will enhance learning and move toward consistent practices across the province. Further consultation and feedback will take place in the Fall of 2010. NCDSB has three students who are deaf or hard of hearing. There is also an increase in students who are blind or have low vision.

**10. Services for Students with Special Needs / Special Education Needs and the Early Learning Program in Year One, 2010-11**

School boards have the responsibility to provide special education programs and services to students with special education needs; this responsibility extends to include those students enrolled in the Early Learning Program, including the extended day component. NCDSB is in compliance with the provisions. The designate ELP site is St. Paul School. YMCA will offer their program in Year One and an Early Childhood Educator will be placed in both classrooms.

**11. Special Education Board Plan**

A copy of the amendments to the Special Education Board Plan was provided. They will be submitted by September 1, 2010 and posted on our website, as requested by the Ministry.

**12. Agency Reports**

1400 to 1500 meals were served at The Lord's Kitchen during the month of May, with one more week to go. The Timmins Police were present last week to serve meals. Cold meals will be served during the Summer. Bill Russell informed the members that he is not running for Chairman or President of the Board and that Phil Kelly was named President and Chair of the agency. 2010 will mark the Lord's Kitchen's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

A children's mental health conference will take place in the Fall. A lobby day for social services agencies across the province was held in May regarding funding. Kay Gaffney is hoping that something will be improved.

**13. Date of Next Meeting**

The meeting scheduled on June 16, 2010 will be cancelled. Therefore, the next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 15, 2010 at 11:45 a.m. at the Catholic Education Centre or via videoconference.

**14. Other Business**

**14.1 PPM 149**

Joel McCartney enquired about *PPM 149 - Protocol for Partnerships with External Agencies for Provision of Services by Regulated Health Professionals, Regulated Social Service Professionals, and Paraprofessionals*. Tricia Stefanic Weltz mentioned that our Board policy *F15 Provisions of Health Support Services in Schools* responds to this PPM but will look into it.

**15. Adjournment**

MOVED BY: J. McCartney

That the meeting be adjourned at 12:47 p.m.  
CARRIED.