



SEAC MEETING
(Special Education Advisory Committee)

Wednesday, December 15, 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
Kim Bordignon, Children’s Treatment Centre
Marc Lionello, Canadian Mental Health Association
Elizabeth King, NCDSB Trustee
Colleen Landers, NCDSB Trustee
Tricia Stefanic Weltz, Superintendent of Education
Dan Loreto, Special Assignment Teacher
Judy Piché, Administrative Assistant / Recorder
- EXCUSED:** Nancy Cole, Canadian National Institute of the Blind
William (Bill) Russell, The Lord’s Kitchen
Amanda Wessman, Community Living Timmins
- GUEST:** Mary-Lou Pollon, Manager of Financial Services

1. Welcome and Prayer

Kay Gaffney welcomed everyone and led the group in prayer.

2. Approval of Agenda

MOVED BY: J. McCartney

SECONDED BY: C. Landers

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

Add 10.1 ASD Behaviour Consultant

CARRIED.

3. **Approval of Minutes**

MOVED BY: K. Bordignon
SECONDED BY: J. McCartney

THAT the minutes of the SEAC meeting held November 17, 2010 be approved as presented.
CARRIED.

4. **Presentation: Revised Budget**

Manager of Financial Services, Mary-Lou Pollon, presented the revised Special Education budget. Even though the Special Education budget is in a deficit, the board is forced to ensure that services are in place for students with needs. Kay Gaffney thanked Mary-Lou for her presentation.

5. **Parent Guide**

A draft copy of the revised *Parent's Guide to Special Education* was distributed. The guide explains the elements of Special Education. It will be circulated to all schools and posted on the board's website. It will also be shared with parents so that they can provide feedback.

6. **Discussion: Range for Intellectual Disabilities**

Dan Loreto facilitated a conversation relating to the identification of students in the mild intellectual versus borderline functioning range. It was determined that there was still some research to be conducted in order to make the best possible decision in support of our students.

7. **Policy Review**

Tricia Stefanic Weltz reported that she is currently working on a policy/procedures which will define the purchase of equipment for students with special needs. She added that components of Policy/Procedure Memorandum (PPM) 149 - *Protocol for Partnerships with External Agencies for Provision of Services by Regulated Health Professionals, Regulated Social Service Professionals, and Paraprofessionals* are covered in one of the board's policies, and that NCDSB is compliant with PPM 149. She is working to define the procedures in this regard more thoroughly and any future information will be shared at the next meeting.

8. **Agency Reports**

Child & Family Services of Timmins and District is still waiting for the Ministry's approval of the merging of agencies. Kay Gaffney listed the guidelines of the Commission for Sustainable Child and Welfare.

9. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 19, 2011 at 11:45 a.m. at the Catholic Education Centre or via videoconference.

10. Other Business

10.1 ASD Behaviour Consultant

Genevieve Lemieux has been hired as ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorder) Behaviour Consultant and will assume her position effective January 5, 2011. She will be housed at St. Joseph School in South Porcupine, but will work with all schools across the district.

11. Adjournment

MOVED BY: J. McCartney

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