



SEAC MEETING
(Special Education Advisory Committee)

Wednesday, October 21, 2009

11:45 a.m.

Catholic Education Centre

MINUTES

- PRESENT:** Kay Gaffney, Child & Family Services of Timmins / Chair
Dolores Butterworth, Timmins Transition Committee
Joel McCartney, Cochrane Temiskaming Resource Centre
Steve Malciw, NCDSB Trustee
Fred Salvador, NCDSB Trustee
Jamie Corston, NCDSB Aboriginal Liaison Worker
Tricia Stefanic Weltz, Superintendent of Education
Erica Raymond, Special Assignment Teacher - Student Services
Judy Piché, Administrative Assistant / Recorder
- EXCUSED:** William (Bill) Russell, The Lord's Kitchen / Vice-Chair
Nancy Cole, Canadian National Institute of the Blind
Marc Lionello, Canadian Mental Health Association
- GUEST:** Tamara Jones, Special Assignment Teacher - Student Achievement
Dan Loreto, Special Assignment Teacher - Student Services
Linda Reynolds-Lantz, Resource Teacher, Bishop Belleau School

1. Welcome and Prayer

Kay Gaffney led the group in prayer.

2. Approval of Agenda

MOVED BY: J. McCartney

SECONDED BY: F. Salvador

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED.

3. **Approval of Minutes**

MOVED BY: F. Salvador
SECONDED BY: J. Corston

THAT the minutes of the SEAC meeting held September 23, 2009 be approved as presented.
CARRIED.

4. **Special Education Resource for Classroom Teachers**

Special Assignment Teacher Tamara Jones informed the members that she is enrolled in the Principals' Qualification Program. Part of the requirements of this course is to complete a practicum where she is creating a teacher-friendly binder containing useful information for educators related to special education. Included in the binder will be Board contact information, list of services in area, information on different identifications and strategies used for each, strategies offered by professionals, IEP creation examples, Smart Goals examples, checklist for IEPs and IPRCs, procedures on how to complete provincial report card, a differentiated instruction package, a section including all forms for special education, and much more. Timeline for completion is early March, before taking Part II of the course. Kay Gaffney thanked Tamara for her presentation and indicated that this type of binder is definitely needed.

5. **Elections - Chair and Vice-Chair**

To ensure alignment with SEAC regulations, an election of the Chair and Vice-Chair was conducted. It was indicated that Tricia Stefanic Weltz and Judy Piché had volunteered to be Scrutineers should the need arise.

ELECTION OF CHAIR

Tricia Stefanic Weltz opened the nomination process.

1st Call for Nominations

Dolores Butterworth nominated Kay Gaffney as Chair of SEAC. Joel McCartney seconded the nomination.

2nd Call for Nominations - Nil

3rd Call for Nominations - Nil

Tricia Stefanic Weltz declared the nominations closed and declared Kay Gaffney, Chair of SEAC for the 2009-2010 school year.

Motion

MOVED BY: D. Butterworth
SECONDED BY: J. McCartney

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the members of Northeastern Catholic District School Board's Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) appoint Kay Gaffney as Chair of SEAC for the 2009-2010 school year.

CARRIED

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

Kay Gaffney, Chair of SEAC, opened the nomination process.

1st Call for Nominations

Doloresse Butterworth nominated Joel McCartney as Vice-Chair of SEAC. Fred Salvador seconded the nomination.

2nd Call for Nominations - Nil

3rd Call for Nominations - Nil

Kay Gaffney declared the nominations closed and declared Joel McCartney, Vice-Chair of SEAC for the 2009-2010 school year.

Motion

MOVED BY: D. Butterworth
SECONDED BY: F. Salvador

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the members of Northeastern Catholic District School Board's Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) appoint Joel McCartney as Vice-Chair of SEAC for the 2009-2010 school year.

CARRIED

6. Bishop Belleau School - Moosonee

Erica Raymond introduced Linda Reynolds-Lantz, Resource Teacher at Bishop Belleau School in Moosonee. Linda spoke about the special education services available at Bishop Belleau School. 30% of the students are identified and are supported by various agencies and, at the school, by a full-time resource teacher and educational assistants. Linda is excited that the school has additional resource support with NCDSB. Kay Gaffney wished Linda the best of luck.

7. School Snapshot

A School Snapshot of NCDSB's fourteen (14) schools was distributed identifying the enrolment, the total number of identified students, and the number of special education support staff. Tricia Stefanic Weltz mentioned that the biggest challenge we face is the type of resources needed at each school and we need to be cautious about individual cases.

8. Special Education Budget

A discussion on the Special Education budget was held. This year's budget does not include the amalgamated funds of Bishop Belleau School which will need to be flowed into the existing budget. The Manager of Financial Services will be asked to explain the budget at a future meeting.

9. Learning for All K-12 Regional Session

A Learning for All K-12 Regional Session will be held in Sudbury on November 12, 2009 hosted by the Ministry of Education. Funding will be provided in 2009-2010 to support the use of the draft document *Learning for All K-12*. On the following day, there will be a session on the *Continuous Improvement of the IEPs to Support Student Achievement*. This session will provide an opportunity for participants to converse about the development and implementation of IEPs.

10. Agency Reports

The Timmins Transition Committee is creating a new website. Information has not been inputted but it can be navigated.

Jamie Corston is visiting schools on a regular basis teaching students about aboriginal culture. Her sessions are based on self-esteem and self-worth and respecting others. She has also provides students with extra help with school work.

The Cochrane Temiskaming Resource Centre has a new Executive Director, Mr. Gary Dowe.

Child and Family Services of Timmins will occupy the entire building once their last tenant moves out shortly. A health and wellness plan was presented to the Board, used for senior management after the strike in 2005. The plan will help them to be healthier to do a better job. CFS has launched its annual Purple Ribbon Campaign in October to raise awareness needed to ensure the safety of children and youth in the community. A conference was held in Timmins attended by 78 directors of Child and Family Services from across the province. Kay indicated that they received overwhelming accolades from the participants. The Board of Directors are meeting this week.

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 18, 2009 at 11:45 a.m. at the Catholic Education Centre.

12. Other Business - Nil

13. Adjournment

MOVED BY: D. Butterworth

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