



SEAC MEETING
(Special Education Advisory Committee)

Wednesday, January 19, 2011
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
Nancy Cole, Canadian National Institute of the Blind
William (Bill) Russell, The Lord’s Kitchen
Amanda Wessman, Community Living Timmins
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:** Marc Lionello, Canadian Mental Health Association
- GUEST:** Genevieve Lemieux, Behaviour and Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Specialist

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 11.1 Services and Supports to Promote the Social Inclusion of Persons with
Developmental Disabilities Act, 2008

11.2 Thank You

CARRIED.

3. **Approval of Minutes**

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

THAT the minutes of the SEAC meeting held December 15, 2010 be approved as presented.
CARRIED.

4. **PPM 140: Incorporating Methods of Applied Behaviour Analysis into Programs for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders**

Genevieve Lemieux, who has been recently hired as Behaviour and Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Specialist, provided the members with a brief overview of the work she is doing system-wide to support the implementation of *PPM 140: Incorporating Methods of Applied Behaviour Analysis into Programs for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders*, released May 17, 2007. PPM140 provides direction to school boards to support their use of applied behaviour analysis (ABA) as an effective instructional approach in the education of many students with ASD. Genevieve is also called upon to assist with behavior challenges in the school setting. NCDSB has approximately 30 students with ASD.

5. **Continuing the Conversation**

Pursuant to the conversation at the December meeting relating to the identification of students in the mild intellectual versus borderline functioning range, Dan Loreto reported that his research concluded that a dated resource was consulted. A mild intellectual disability is second to the 8th percentile. There are no cracks in the borderline intellectual functioning area. We would like the Ministry to coordinate and match the sub-categories under intellectual exceptionality with what is present in the DSM-4-TR (Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 4th Edition, Text Revised). Dan will look into this issue with our regional counterparts.

6. **JK Registration**

A total of 91 students registered in the Junior Kindergarten Program on January 17th. No children with special needs were reported; only 2 out of 91 receiving speech and language services. The staffing process will start next week.

7. **Student Support Leadership**

Workshops on Student Support Leadership will take place in February where mental illness and mental health issues will be discussed. Special education staff will be taught the difference between the two and will be made aware of the services for our students. The workshops will be held on February 7th in Kapuskasing, on February 8th in Timmins, and on February 9th in Englehart. Dan Loreto will attend the session in Englehart and will report at the next meeting.

8. Minutes of the Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education

The Minutes of the Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education were shared with the members.

9. Agency Reports

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind is getting ready for White Cane Week which will take place from February 7-11, 2011.

Just under 500 plates were served last Thursday at the Lord's Kitchen. The agency is running out of cooking room and will revamp the kitchen. The elevator will be removed for extra space. Their long range plans include serving meals two days a week for people who need the extra help. Bill Russell mentioned that a survey on homeless people will be conducted next week by students of Ecole Secondaire Catholique Theriault. The students will be interviewing homeless people at random, and the results will be shared with the government.

10. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 16, 2011 at 11:45 a.m. at the Catholic Education Centre or via videoconference.

11. Other Business

11.1 Services and Supports to Promote the Social Inclusion of Persons with Developmental Disabilities Act, 2008

Joel McCartney asked how NCDSB would handle or respond to the new Act, *Services and Supports to Promote the Social Inclusion of Persons with Developmental Disabilities Act, 2008*. This new Act gives adults, 18 years of age and older who have a developmental disability, more ways to get services and supports. Tricia Stefanic Weltz stated that personnel will be trained and policies will be developed when the new Act is published in the Ministry of Education's Act and Regulations and direction is given to Senior Administration.

11.2 Thank You

Dan Loreto thanked Bill Russell for donating a tool and dye kit used to emboss things on fabric. The Construction teacher at O'Gorman Intermediate Catholic School, Mac Boucher, will incorporate it into his classroom and kids will benefit from it. Kay Gaffney wished Mac good luck with his new undertaking.

12. Adjournment

MOVED BY: C. Landers

That the meeting be adjourned at 12:50 p.m.
CARRIED.