



SEAC MEETING

(Special Education Advisory Committee)

Wednesday, May 15, 2013

11:45 a.m.

Catholic Education Centre

MINUTES

- PRESENT:** Kay Gaffney, North Eastern Ontario Family and Children's Services / Chair
Joel McCartney, Cochrane Temiskaming Resource Centre / Vice-Chair
Kim Bordignon, Children's Treatment Centre
Mark Lionello, Canadian Mental Health Association
William (Bill) Russell, The Lord's Kitchen
Elizabeth King, NCDSB Trustee
Catherine Hoven, Special Assignment Teacher (replacing Dan Loreto)
Tricia Stefanic Weltz, Superintendent of Education
Judy Piché, Administrative Assistant / Recorder
- EXCUSED:** Amanda Wessman, Community Living Timmins
Colleen Landers, NCDSB Trustee
Lisa Innes, NCDSB Aboriginal Liaison Worker
- GUESTS:** Clayton Wabie, Student, Sacred Heart School - KL
Shana Bates, Resource Teacher, Sacred Heart School - KL
Lorraine Davies, Educational Assistant, Sacred Heart School - KL

1. **Welcome and Prayer**

Kay Gaffney welcomed everyone and led the group in prayer.

2. **Approval of Agenda**

MOVED BY: J. McCartney

SECONDED BY: B. Russell

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED.

3. **Approval of Minutes**

MOVED BY: K. Bordginon

SECONDED BY: J. McCartney

THAT the minutes of the SEAC meeting held on April 23, 2013 be approved as presented.
CARRIED.

4. **In the Spotlight – Sacred Heart School, Kirkland Lake**

We welcomed Shana Bates (Resource Teacher), Lorraine Davies (Educational Assistant), and Clayton Wabie (student) to the meeting to share the successes they have achieved this year with effective transitioning efforts. They recently hosted an evening for families from St. Jerome School and Clayton was able to help the younger students and their families learn first-hand what opportunities await transitioning efforts.

5. **Summary of Psychological Services**

Catherine Hoven reported that a total of forty-five (45) assessments will be completed by Dr. Tom Boniferno across the board this school year. All assessments done so far have come back with clearly defined exceptionalities. The assessment reports will be used to help develop effective programs on student Individual Education Plans (IEP) in the future.

6. **Parent Engagement Update**

A parent satisfaction survey, which provides parents with questions on topics ranging from instructional support, IEP development, parent input, agency collaboration, transition planning, and the use of assistive technology, has been created to help to continually improve our special education programs and services. The survey will be sent out in early June, and then returned to the Board for analysis. The results will be used as part of the development and measurement of the Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement (BIPSA) and the Special Education Plan.

7. **Mental Health Update**

Regrettably, we have been unsuccessful in our recruitment efforts for a Mental Health Leader. It is expected that the NCDSB will achieve greater results in this strategy during the 2013-2014 school year.

8. **Transition Planning for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder**

PPM 140 requires school boards to support their use of applied behavior analysis (ABA) as an effective instructional approach in the education of many students with autism spectrum disorders. Behaviour & Autism Disorder Specialist, Geneviève Lemieux, will be travelling to all schools requiring support and to put an effective transition plan in place with the assistance of resource teachers, classroom teachers, and educational assistants. The plan will be shared in June. We need to focus on improving transition planning now, since in 2013-2014, boards will be required to create a transition plan for all students on an Individualized Education Plan.

9. **Student Support Leadership Update**

A one-day workshop to learn more about child and youth mental initiatives, facilitated by the Student Support Leadership Cluster #14, are offered at four sites:

- Monday, May 27th in Kapuskasing
- Tuesday, May 28th in Englehart
- Wednesday, May 29th in Timmins
- Thursday, May 30th in Moosonee

The sessions are free for school board and agency employees.

10. **M.A.C.S.E. Minutes**

The minutes for the meeting of the Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education of February 6, 2013 were shared with the members.

11. **Special Education Plan – Motion of Approval**

A checklist that identifies components of the Special Education Plan that include amended information in regards to the special education programs and services will be submitted to the Ministry of Education by July 31, 2013. The amendments to the Plan were accepted by way of motion.

MOVED BY: B. Russell
SECONDED BY: M. Lionello

THAT the Northeastern Catholic District School Board Special Education Advisory Committee accept the amendments to the Special Education Plan 2013-2014, as revised throughout the 2012-2013 school year.

CARRIED.

12. **Agency Reports**

Bill Russell reported that the Lord' Kitchen ran out of food last week for the first time since the agency started serving meals.

13. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting, scheduled on Wednesday, June 19, 2013 will be cancelled. The members will meet at 11:45 a.m. on Wednesday, September 18, 2013 at the Catholic Education Centre or via video conference.

14. **Other Business**

14.1 Discussion took place relating to letters written to the Minister of Education.

15. Adjournment

MOVED BY: J. McCartney

That the meeting be adjourned at 1:05 p.m.
CARRIED.