



Northeastern Catholic District School Board

"Catholic Education Makes the Difference"

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

Tuesday, October 14, 2014

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
Tammie Molenaar, Community Living Timmins
Billie Richer, VOICE for Hearing Impaired
Fred Salvador, NCDSB Vice-Chair
Daphne Brumwell, Superintendent of Education
Catherine Hoven, Special Assignment Teacher
Judy Piché, Administrative Assistant / Recorder

EXCUSED: Mark Lionello, Canadian Mental Health Association
Beth Nowak, Cochrane District Social Services Administration Board
William (Bill) Russell, The Lord's Kitchen
Natalie Parnell, Timmins Family Counselling Centre
Elizabeth King, NCDSB Trustee

GUEST: Cristina Corbett, Special Assignment Teacher

1. Welcome and Prayer

Kay Gaffney welcomed everyone and led the group in prayer. Daphne Brumwell and Catherine Hoven were greeted to SEAC and Tricia Stefanic Weltz and Dan Loreto were thanked for their positive, wonderful experience for students with special education needs.

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. McCartney

THAT the minutes of September 17, 2014 be approved as presented.
CARRIED.

4. Mental Math

Special assignment teachers have developed a screening tool to help teachers identify students in SK, Grade 1 and Grade 4 who are at risk in the area of number sense and numeration. Cristina Corbett, Special Assignment Teacher and Small and Northern Boards facilitator, informed the members that a diagnostic tool and intervention kit called *All About Numbers* will help support small group instruction in mathematics. Teachers will be able to look at their at-risk students' skills and determine the deficits at an early age before it becomes too much of a problem. Furthermore, all math teachers and resource teachers are being trained to use a teaching strategy called *Number Talks* to support mental math instruction from Kindergarten to Grade 10.

5. Ministry Initiatives

Learning for All will support Grade 4 at-risk students in mathematics in several NCDSB schools. At-risk students will be identified by using the EQAO results. Intervention will be provided at both the Tier 1 and Tier 2 levels. School staff will participate in the training in the area of mathematics intervention. The purchase of the revised version of the *Key Math Assessment* will provide further support at identifying students who might require referral to tier 3.

Aboriginal education remains a key priority for NCDSB and for the Ministry of Education. The *First Nations, Métis and Inuit Board Plan for 2014-2015* will help to support the oral language development of FNMI students K to 1 using specific interventions in a small-group setting. Speech and Language Pathologist, John Stark, will be hired to put together a screening package and will work with staff at three or four of our schools with the highest aboriginal population.

Small and Northern Boards facilitators will help Grade 3 and 6 teachers build leadership capacity in mathematics.

The *Collaborative Inquiry for Learning in Mathematics (CIL-M)* initiative continues this year and will provide the opportunity for teachers to co-plan, observe lessons, and listen to students' response as they engage in various mathematics activities. This worthwhile project continues help close the gap on student achievement in mathematics.

The objective of the *System Implementation and Monitoring (SIM)* project is to focus on small-group instruction for all students. Funding will support professional learning in all schools with a continued emphasis on helping students make their thinking visible.

6. EQAO Results

Daphne Brumwell gave a summary of the results of the 2013-2014 Primary and Junior Division Assessments, with specific focus on the achievement of our students with special education needs. As a board, we are demonstrating slow, but steady progress in all areas. However, we are struggling in both the OSSLT and the Grade 9 Mathematics assessment. NCDSB will celebrate the individual success stories in each of our schools and continue to provide support in the areas needed so that our students are more likely to experience success in the future.

7. Professional Learning Plan 2014-2015

This item was deferred to a future meeting.

8. Agency Reports

VOICE for Hearing Impaired will hold a conference in Burlington on November 15, 2014.

Community Living Timmins has been accredited with a 96.5 % outcome by Focus Accreditation.

North Eastern Ontario Family and Children's Services launched its annual purple ribbon campaign. Kay Gaffney will bring more information at the next meeting.

9. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Thursday, November 13, 2014 at 11:45 a.m. at the Catholic Education Centre or via video conference.

10. Other Business

A letter received from Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant LHIN was shared with the members.

11. Adjournment

MOVED BY: K. Bordignon
THAT the meeting be adjourned at 1:00 p.m.
CARRIED.