



Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting

Wednesday, October 26, 2016

11:45 a.m.

Northeastern Catholic District School Board

MINUTES

PRESENT: Val Toner, Community Living Timmins
Kay Gaffney, North Eastern Ontario Family and Children's Services
Natalie Parnell, Timmins Family Counselling Centre
Billie Richer, VOICE for Hearing Impaired
Elizabeth King, NCDSB Trustee
Fred Salvador, NCDSB Trustee
Daphne Brumwell, Superintendent of Education
Catherine Hoven, Special Assignment Teacher
Judy Piché, Education Services Officer / Recorder

EXCUSED: Mark Lionello, Canadian Mental Health Association
Kim Bordignon, Children's Treatment Centre
Joel McCartney, Cochrane Temiskaming Resource Centre
William (Bill) Russell, The Lord's Kitchen

GUEST: Kim McEntee, Supervisor of Mental Health and Wellness

1. Welcome and Prayer

Superintendent of Education Daphne Brumwell welcomed everyone and led the group in prayer.

2. Approval of Agenda

MOVED BY: V. Toner
SECONDED BY: N. Parnell

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.
CARRIED.



3. Approval of Minutes

MOVED BY: F. Salvador
SECONDED BY: E. King

THAT the minutes of September 28, 2016 be approved as presented.
CARRIED.

4. Roles and Responsibilities of the Child and Youth Workers

Supervisor of Mental Health and Wellness, Kim McEntee, has been working closely with child and youth workers since the winter of last year. She has been working to build a collaborative community with the group so that they feel less isolated. Child and youth workers are school-based professionals who support student mental health and well-being through the provision of social-emotional supports. They work closely with school staff to enhance a student's academic outcome and participation within the school community, by focusing on skill building in the areas of self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills and responsible decision making. Kim explained that her primary focus is on prevention and coping with schools and identifying main concerns and needs. She mentioned that evidence-based research tells us that students need emotional and social skills. CYWs assist with the development of these skills and provide fair and equitable services for students who require them. Kim provided the members with a brochure explaining the roles and responsibilities of child and youth workers. The brochure also provides contact information about other health and wellness agencies that families can connect with, as well as the *Kids Help Phone* number.

Kim McEntee and Daphne Brumwell also commented on the one-time funding the board has received to help with transitions for students with autism. This funding (\$66,336) will be provided for the next two years so that school boards can help bridge services for students while the province undergoes changes to how services are provided to children with autism in the community. Our board will use our current Behaviour and Autism Specialist to support this work, and are also in the process of recruiting a half-time behaviour specialist for the South. This new funding is based on a per-pupil amount that is calculated based on the average daily enrolment. There is also the opportunity to apply for student-specific funding for students who are currently receiving ABA/IBI services from a community agency. This process is referred to as the *Connections for Students* process.

5. Election of Chair

Nominations for Chair held at the September 28th meeting were retained. Bill Russell had nominated Joel McCartney and Fred Salvador seconded the nomination. Kay Gaffney was also nominated by Joel McCartney and seconded by Elizabeth King.

Daphne Brumwell closed the nominations and a vote was held. Scrutineers, Daphne Brumwell and Judy Piché, counted the votes, destroyed the ballots and declared Kay Gaffney, Chair of SEAC for the 2016-2017 school year.

Motion

MOVED BY: F. Salvador
SECONDED BY: E. King

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 2016-2017 school year.
CARRIED.

Election of Vice-Chair

Daphne Brumwell opened the nomination process. Kay Gaffney nominated Joel McCartney as Vice-Chair of SEAC. Val Toner seconded the nomination. Due to his absence from this meeting, Joel McCartney was previously contacted and he mentioned that he would accept the nomination, if his name was put forward. There being no further nominations, nominations were closed and Daphne Brumwell declared Joel McCartney, Vice-Chair of SEAC for the 2016-2017 school year.

Motion

MOVED BY: N. Parnell
SECONDED BY: K. Gaffney

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 2016-2017 school year.
CARRIED.

6. Special Education Report

A report outlining the number of identified students was shared with the members. The report provided a rough idea on the number of identified students and which exceptionality they fit in.

7. Identified Students

Catherine Hoven gave a breakdown of where the 46 new identified students come from:

- 5 new FDK students
- 24 students attended a NCDSB school
- 11 students from DSBONE
- 3 students from the French Catholic board
- 2 students from First Nations
- 1 student from British Columbia
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Catherine mentioned that at least 3 students require extensive equipment which was purchased in June. This allowed us to ensure that everything was ready for the student when they began school in September, resulting in a much smoother transition for the children. When a student

transfers to another school board, equipment is returned and stored at the Board Office and is reassigned to another student, when needed.

8. Special Equipment Amount

The Special Equipment Amount (SEA) allocation is made up of two components: SEA per-pupil amount and a SEA claims-based amount. The allocation received for the per-pupil amount (Technology) was \$84,600. The claims-based amount is accessed through a claims-based process and supports the purchase of non-computer based equipment to be utilized by students with special education needs, including sensory, hearing, vision, personal care and physical assist equipment. 36 individual claims were made last year through the non-technology process and 109 students received a piece of technology or materials related to the technology they already have.

9. Special Incidence Portion

Each year, school boards have the opportunity to apply for Special Incidence Portion (SIP) funding to ensure the health and safety needs of students who have extraordinarily high needs related to their disabilities and/or exceptionalities and who have the staff needed to support them. Based on last year's application process, the NCDSB received \$49,291 to support these students. There are very few students who qualify for this sort of funding. We are only anticipating one student will meet the criteria for the 2016-2017 school year. Applications for this year are due December 15th.

10. Agency Reports

Val Toner informed the members that Community Living Ontario is holding a contest open to elementary school aged children between the ages of 4 to 14 in Ontario. Submissions for the *Together We're Better Contest* are accepted until January 23, 2017 and winners will be announced on February 10th. The brochure provided will be forwarded to all elementary schools.

Timmins Family Counselling Centre has seen an increase in children and youth accessing its services. The agency did not receive funding from United Way and will be required to hold more fundraising events in the community to assist families who cannot pay for services required. Natalie Parnell mentioned that United Way changed their application process and a number of organizations who rely on the funding received a letter from them indicating that their applications were unsuccessful.

Kay Gaffney stated that the Purple Ribbon Campaign is almost over. The accreditation will continue this Fall and the agency will receive the results in January or February.

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, November 30, 2016 at 11:45 a.m. at the Northeastern Catholic District School Board or via videoconference.

12. Other Business

12.1 A letter from Renfrew County Catholic District School Board was shared with the members.

12.2 Members received a copy of a letter from PAAC on SEAC announcing the development of new SEAC training resources and a link to the revised *PAAC on SEAC Effective Practices Handbook for SEAC Members, 2016*.

13. Adjournment

MOVED BY: V. Toner

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

CARRIED.