

YORK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

We are a Catholic Learning Community of collaborative partners, called to serve one another by being committed to and accountable for quality learning by all with Jesus as our inspiration.

MINUTES of the SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A regular meeting was held on **February 23, 2009** at the Catholic Education Centre, 320 Bloomington Road West, Aurora, Ontario commencing at **7:00 p.m.**

PRESENT:

Committee Members: M. Agosta, L. Aqui, K. Bryden, A. Care, C. Lampole, C. MacDonald, T. McNicol, C. Walsh-Peters, P. Whittam

Association Representatives: J. Cocchetto, R. Shepherd

Administration: T. D'Acunto, C. Laughlin, G. Murphy, L. Wilson

Regrets: F. Bagley, T. Ciaravella, G. Murphy, C. Newton, A. Pizzolato, M. Reaume

Recording: D. Cultraro

Guests:

1.0 CALL TO ORDER/ATTENDANCE

- P. Whittam

2.0 Prayer – P. Whittam

3.0 Approval of Agenda

Agenda approved as amended – number sequence to be adjusted.
Motion – Agenda approved.

4.0 Approval of the Minutes

Approval of Minutes of December 15, 2008 and January 21, 2009.
Motion – Minutes approved.

5.0 SEAC Report to Board

Report 2008:10 and Report 2009:01 were distributed and received by committee

6.0 Information Items

6.1 Board Agenda

December 9, 2008 and February 3, 2009 agendas were distributed and received by committee

6.2 Report to the Directors: SE/IPRCs

December 2008 and January 2009 Reports were distributed and received by committee

6.3 Student In-Services Calendar

December 2008 and January 2009 calendars were distributed and received by committee

7.0 Presentations/Discussions

7.1 New YCDSB Student Services Website

Tina D'Acunto introduced and presented overview of new YCDSB Student Services website. New features include: "poll" area, photo gallery, school updates, "search" engine, access to Ministry sites, program info by Speciality, etc.

Student Services/Special Education can be reached by going to the "Instructional Services" button or "Special Education" tab on home page. There is concern is that if someone is looking for the Spec Ed site, they may find it more difficult to get to the information (old site had a "Spec Ed" button on the left hand side of home page). Another concern is that terminology is not familiar to parents (site more board geared than parent geared)

Motion that "unapproved minutes" be added to the new site and once approved they move to approved.

Good thought for future is to have survey's available on-line.

7.2 LD Conference Update

Claire Laughlin provided an update on the LD Conference. Conference is Friday, May 8th for teachers & students at Eaton Hall, Seneca College and Saturday May 9 for Parents (9 to 1:00 p.m.). Guest Speaker will be Farley Flex. Team working on logistics and speakers. We are hoping the Minister of Education will be our guest on the Saturday. More updates to follow.

7.3 ABA Training Update

Claire Laughlin provided an update on the ABA Training. Elementary & Secondary training was completed. Multi-disciplinary teams worked together. We are receiving great feedback. Sessions were followed by Boardmaker In-service. Overall sessions were very well received (focus on understanding the student and their environment & tools to meet tasks (over 200 participants).

7.4 New SEAC May Meeting Date

Date will remain the same but meeting will be moved to Room 100.

7.5 Parent Survey

There were no changes requested since last SEAC meeting. Database has been compiled. Translations to be completed (approx. 20). Balance mailed out by end of day February 27 (first language is English).

SEAC's endorsement: SEAC supports the survey as amended in the January 21st meeting All in favour.

8.0 Business Arising

9.0 Action Items

10.0 Correspondence

10.1 Education Law Vol 20, No. 4 December 2008 was distributed and received by committee.

11.0 Association Reports

11.1 Down Syndrome Association of York Region

DSAYR website has received an overhaul with updated information for members and visitors to the site. Please visit dsayr.

New Baby Package – a new baby package will be developed that is more specific to DSAYR than the one presently being issued (from CDSS) and will be translated into 4 different languages.

Family Bowling Party 0 was held February 22nd in Newmarket and served as a fun day to network with other families and have some fun.

11.2 Kinark Child and Family Services

Clinical Transformation continues – new evidence based treatment/interventions approved

- Triple P – Positive Parent Program – Parent Education
- Girl's Circle – Facilitating positive social – emotional self management for Girls

Residential Treatment program has been converted/restructured to service a larger group of clients in evening program through 12 week sessions for 12 clients at a time.

11.3 Community Living Newmarket & District (CLNAD)

Family Support Network is a Family Support group with family members involved with CLNAD.

FSN would like to connect with other parent support groups in the region and province related to any agency or need.

Contact saz61652@yahoo.ca. (See Flyer attached to minutes.)

12.0 New Business

13.0 Items for Future Agendas

13.1 Thank you card for Paul Kalmykow

14.0 Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 25, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in Boardroom at CEC

15.0 Motion to adjourn meeting was made. Meeting adjourned: 8:10 p.m.