

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 25, 2008** at the Catholic Education Centre, 320 Bloomington Road West, Aurora, Ontario commencing at **7:00 p.m.**

PRESENT:

Committee Members: M. Agosta, L. Aqui, M. Brumwell, A. Care, T. McNicol, C. Newton, O. Pariselli, C. Walsh-Peters, P. Whittam

Association Representatives: J. Cocchetto, R. Shepherd

Regrets: F. Bagley, J. Dixon, T. Ciaravella, J. Kelterborn

Administration: T. D'Acunto, L. Wilson

Guests: Dr. P. Bucci, Program Consultant, OPA Project
C. Craig, Supervisor, Physio/Occupational Therapy Services
G. Cheung, Occupational Therapist
S. Kavcic, York University, Special Education Part 1
Dr. M. Lam, Psychologist
S. McEvoy, Speech & Language Therapist
T. Pinelli, Assistant to Superintendent of Schools
C. Tsang, York University, Special Education Part 1
M. Merecoulias, York University, Special Education Part 1
R. Kotoviets, York University, Special Education Part 1

Recording: C. Brinias

1.0 CALL TO ORDER/ATTENDANCE

- P. Whittam

2.0 Prayer – P. Whittam

3.0 Approval of Agenda
Motion – Agenda approved

4.0 Approval of the Minutes of January 28, 2008
Motion – Minutes approved
Committee received a copy of the approved Minutes for December 19, 2007

5.0 Presentations/Discussions

5.1 Safe Schools

York Catholic District School Board has an interim Safe School Policy (Student Discipline) reflecting the mandate of the new Provincial Safe School Act. It is important that all pupils have a safe, caring and accepting school environment in order to maximize their learning potential and to ensure a positive school climate for all members of the school community. The Provincial Code of Conduct, the York Catholic District School Board Code of Conduct and the Education Act create expectations for behaviour for all persons on school property.

L. Wilson and T. Pinelli provided a comprehensive presentation on the roll out of the Safe School Act and Interim Board Policy 202 from February 1st to August 31, 2008. See the attached handouts for more information.

Handouts:

- **Memo to Elementary & Secondary Principals re: Progressive Discipline and School Safety**
- **Safe Schools (Student Discipline) – Interim Policy**
- **Safe Schools Act and Interim Board Policy 202 PowerPoint**

5.2 OPA Project

The Capacity Building Team comprised of Dr. P. Bucci, G. Cheung, Dr. M. Lam, S. McEvoy provided a presentation on a tiered model approach used in their project to address the four key objectives of the OPA Project:

- Reduce wait times for students in JK to Grade IV requiring professional assessments
- Enhance teacher capacity to provide effective programming for students provided with professional assessments
- Improve literacy/numeracy for students provided with professional assessments
- Sustain process improvements for the long term

Attached is the PowerPoint presentation outlining their findings.

Handout: OPA Project Student Assessment Project (YCDSB 2007-2008)

6.0 Business Arising

7.0 Action Items

8.0 SEAC Report to Board

Report 2008:01 received by committee

9.0 Information Items

9.1 Board Agenda

January 22, 2008 agenda was distributed to members

9.2 Report to the Directors: SE/IPRCs

January 2008 Report received by the committee

9.3 Student Services Calendar

January 2008 calendar was distributed to all members.

9.4 Education Law, Vol. 19, No. 5, January 2008

Circulated to SEAC Members

10.0 Correspondence**11.0 Association Reports****11.1 AutismONTARIO - York Region****Dates to remember:**

February 26	Accessing Funding for Your Special Needs Child
March 4	Parent Support Meeting
March 7 to 14	March Break Activities (swimming, skating, bowling, circus school)
March 26	Telling Your Child About Their Diagnosis
March 27	OT Clinic Day with Shirley Sutton
March 29	Keeping Strong Sane and Connected with Amy Baskin

- Attachments:**
- Poster on Amy Baskin presentation
 - Ministers ASD Education Group Meeting with MACSE
 - Government Action on Implementation of Recommendations From The Report of the Ministers' ASD Reference Group

For more detailed information visit our website at: www.autismontario.com/york

11.2 York Support Service Network

York Support Service Network is available on the following days for Resource Day between the hours of 2 and 7 p.m.

Markham Office (Large and Small Boardroom)

February 25, 2008	April 29, 2008	June 23, 2008
March 18, 2008	May 12, 2008	September 11, 2008
March 31, 2008	May 26, 2008	September 25, 2008
April 8, 2008	June 9, 2008	

Newmarket Office (Oak Street Boardroom)

February 7, 2008	May 21, 2008
March 26, 2008	June 17, 2008
April 15, 2008	September 16, 2008

Sutton Office (Sutton Office Boardroom)

May 6, 2008

12.0 New Business**13.0 Items for Future Agendas****14.0 Next Meeting: Monday, March 31, 2008****15.0 Motion to adjourn meeting was made. Meeting adjourned: 9:00 p.m.**