

## 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 **January 25, 2010** at the Catholic Education Centre, 320 Bloomington Road West, Aurora, Ontario commencing at **7:00 p.m.**

**PRESENT:**

**Committee Members:** K. Bryden, T. Ciaravella, S. Hubers, C. Lampole, A. Pizzolato, M.E. Scriver, P. Whittam

**Association Representatives:** L. Ciccone, M. Reaume

**Administration:** F. Bagley, T. D'Acunto, C. Leger, G. Murphy, L. Wilson

**Regrets:** M. Agosta, L. Aqui, M. Brumwell, A. Care, J. Cocchetto, J. Kelterborn, T. McNicol, C. Newton, M. Paczek, M. Reaume, R. Shepherd, H. Sirola

**Recording:** D. Cultraro

**Guests:** Larry Abas, Parent of Student at St. Jerome  
Kristina McCallum, York University Special Ed, Part 1;  
Karina Starobinsky, York University Special Ed, Part 1;  
Claudia Maola, York University Special Ed, Part 1;  
Cristina Cozos, York University Special Ed, Part 1;  
Antonella Romano, York University Special Ed, Part 1  
Anne Dillon, York University Special Ed, Part 1  
Tye Wong, York University Special Ed, Part 1  
Michelle Mesquita, York University Special Ed, Part 1  
Corry Kilty, York University Special Ed, Part 1  
Lorrie Cipollone, York University Special Ed, Part 1

**1.0 CALL TO ORDER/ATTENDANCE**

P. Whittam welcomed guests

**2.0 Prayer – P. Whittam**

**3.0 Approval of Agenda**

Approval of Agenda for January 25, 2010

Motion – Agenda approved.

**4.0 Approval of the Minutes**

Approval of Minutes December 16, 2009.

Motion – Minutes approved with the following amendment – M. Agosta was present for the December 16, 2009 SEAC meeting.

**5.0 SEAC Report to Board**

Report 2009:09 was distributed and received by committee. Board report to be amended – M. Agosta was present at the December 16, 2009 SEAC meeting.

**6.0 Information Items**

**6.1 Board Agenda**

December 15, 2009 agenda was distributed and received by committee.

**6.2 Report to the Directors: SE/IPRCs**

December 2009 report was distributed and received by committee.

**6.3 Student In-Services Calendar**

January 2010 calendar was distributed and received by committee. The January 25, 2010 agenda to be amended – January 2010 to replace February 2010.

**7.0 Correspondence**

**7.1** Education Law Vol 21, No. 4 December 2009 was distributed and received by committee.

**8.0 Presentations/Discussions**

**8.1 Data Tools to Measure Our Improvement & Successes**

Geraldine Murphy & Cathy Leger presented the YCDSB Using Data to Assess Effectiveness of Programs & Services. The Student Services goal over the next five years is to develop and implement accountability structures to measure effectiveness of our programs and services.

**HANDOUT: See PowerPoint presentation.**

**8.2 Equity & Inclusive Education**

Tina D'Acunto presented the provincial Equity & Inclusive Education Strategy. Tina D'Acunto & Les Miller are on the Ministry team representing the YCDSB. All Boards are required by 2010/2011 school year to have an equity and inclusive education policy to address eight focus areas.

**HANDOUT: See PowerPoint presentation.**

**9.0 Business Arising**

**9.1.** The YCDSB has revisited our practice during exam week. Over the last few years students who were enrolled in the functional life skills program attended school 2 days during exam week. Sue LaRosa, Director of the YCDSB, has supplemented the resources so that schools are now able to provide students in the functional life skills program 3 days during exam week. We are hoping that next year it will be increased to 4.

**10.0 Action Items**

**10.1 SEAC Conference Endorsement Required**

SEAC Conference has been tentatively scheduled for Saturday, March 6, 2010 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. .

Cenza Newton suggested that Alice Morrison be a guest speaker at the SEAC Conference presenting on role and responsibilities of SEAC members. She has been tentatively booked. Michael Way Skinner has also been tentatively booked as a keynote speaker.

Please confirm your attendance with Dora.

Dora to send out invitation via email as soon as possible. RSVP required by February 5<sup>th</sup>.

**SEAC endorses the SEAC Conference plan as recommended by Lee Wilson – motioned by Paul Whittam, seconded by Cathy Lampole.**

**10.2 PPM140 Sustainability Strategy Endorsement Required**

Tina D’Acunto provided a brief presentation on PPM140 Sustainability Strategy. This strategy is intended to strengthen collaborative working relationships between parents, schools and the community.

YCDSB would like SEAC’s endorsement on this document so that it can be official. Once endorsement is received, document will be released no later than January 26, 2010.

**SEAC endorses the PPM140 sustainability strategy as revised and recommends posting on board website as soon as possible but no later than January 31, 2010 – motioned by Theresa Ciaravella, seconded by Cathy Lampole.**

**11.0 Association Reports**

**11.1 AutismOntario, York Region**

Realize Community Potential Program January to March 2010

Social Learning Opportunities:

- Drumming for Teens, January 20 to February 24, Wednesday Evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Cosmic Music, Richmond Hill
- Social Skills for Teens ages 14-17, January 21 to February 11, Thursday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., York Autism Centre, King City
- Circus Skills, January 29 to March 12, Friday evenings from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Big Top Circus School, Newmarket
- Social Skills for Pre-Teens ages 9-13, February 2 to March 9, Tuesday evenings from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., York Autism Centre, King City

**11.2 Down Syndrome Association of York Region**

Programs in Progress: Music therapy, art program, Kids Connections club

Upcoming Activities: DSAO Conference, Winter Bowling & Summer Picnic

More details to follow.

**12.0 New Business**

**13.0 Items for Future Agendas**

- 13.1 Budget Update (J. Porter) (February)
- 13.2 Safe Schools Bill 157 (E. Walters) (February)
- 13.3 ABA Update (M. Paczek) (February)
- 13.4 Accessibility Standards (L. Wilson) (March)

**14.0 Next Meeting:** Monday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in Boardroom at CEC

**15.0 Motion to adjourn meeting was made.** Meeting adjourned: 8:30 p.m.