

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 **May 20, 2009** at the Catholic Education Centre, 320 Bloomington Road West, Aurora, Ontario commencing at **7:00 p.m.**

PRESENT:

Committee Members: M. Agosta, K. Bryden, T. McNicol, C., Newton, C. Walsh-Peters, P. Whittam

Association Representatives: J. Cocchetto, J. Kelterborn, R. Shepherd

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

Regrets: L. Aquí, A. Care, T. Ciaravella, J. Kelterborn, C. Lampole, C. Laughlin, C. MacDonald, M. Reaume

Recording: D. Cultraro

Guests: Celine DeMaria Robinson, Nicole Drumond, Amanda Robar (All students from the YCDSB EA Exceptionalities Course), Melodie Robar, Connie Weber (Vision Staff), Carol Gear (Vision Staff) Rick Dooley (Budget), Jackie Porter (Budget), Jeffrey Rainey (Vision Student)

1.0 CALL TO ORDER/ATTENDANCE

- P. Whittam

2.0 Prayer – P. Whittam

3.0 Approval of Agenda

Approval of Agenda for May 20, 2009
Motion – Agenda approved.

4.0 Approval of the Minutes

Approval of Minutes of March 25, 2009 and April 20, 2009.
Motion – Minutes approved.

5.0 SEAC Report to Board

Report 2009:04 was distributed and received by committee

6.0 Information Items

6.1 Board Agenda

April 14, 2009 and May 5, 2009 agendas were distributed and received by committee

6.2 Report to the Directors: SE/IPRCs

April 2009 Report was distributed and received by committee

6.3 Student In-Services Calendar

April 2009 calendar was distributed and received by committee

7.0 Correspondence

7.1 Ministry of Education – Collaboration Protocols/Student Mental Health Letter was distributed and received by committee.

7.2 Education Law Vol 20, No. 8 April 2009 was distributed and received by committee.

7.3 An Invitation to Input into 2009-10 YCDSB Budget Invitation was distributed and received by committee.

7.4 Removal of “School Information Finder Website” Letter from Susan Blekkenhorst SEAC Lakehead Public Schools was distributed and received by committee.

8.0 Presentations/Discussions

8.1 Student Presentation

Carol Gear and Connie Webber, Vision Teachers, introduced Jeffrey Rainey, one of our Vision Students.

Technology for students who are blind or have low vision has changed significantly in the last 30 years. Access to electronic textbooks is one of the latest and provides students the opportunity to carry several textbooks on one USB key.

Jeffrey demonstrated how he uses a BrailleNote to take notes and access classroom handouts. Connie demonstrated several systems which enlarge material presented both at near and in the distance. Carol demonstrated Perkins Brailier and a slate and stylis.

8.2 Budget

This is a follow-up from the SEAC Budget Sub-committee meeting. Jackie Porter and Richard Dooley provided an overview of the Special Education budget.

Budget to be approved June 16th

At the last budget sub-committee meeting a discussion arose on how are we going to present the Special Education budget to the board. Our needs are definitely growing and more students are requiring Special Education services. Challenge is how to maximize the use of our resources and still maintain our exceptional service.

We will be fine tuning our Board Budget report at the next SEAC meeting on June 15. Board meeting is June 16th.

Handouts: Special Education 2009-2010 Preliminary Presentation to SEAC Budget Sub-Committee, 2009-10 Special Education Budget and Allocation of Resources 2009-10 Financial Estimates

9.0 Business Arising

9.1 Special Education Plan 2008-09 Revisions were distributed for review and approval by SEAC Committee.

10.0 Action Items

11.0 Association Reports

11.1 Autism Ontario York Region Chapter

Pre Vocational Summer Youth Program:

Presently in 5th year. Co-partnership with Autism Ontario York Chapter and Kerry's Place

Designed for transitional aged youth 14 years and older with higher functioning Autism and Asperger Syndrome

For registration and information please contact Kelsi Vink at

kvink@kerrysplace.org or call 905-713-6808 ext. 348

Sponsor a Camper Initiative – please visit www.autimsontario.com/york

12.0 New Business

13.0 Items for Future Agendas

13.1 ASD Coordinator Role & Responsibilities – Fall 2009

13.2 IEP Audit – Fall 2009

13.3 Special Education Program Survey – Fall 2009

13.4 Secondary Exam Week

14.0 Next Meeting: Monday, June 15, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in Boardroom at CEC

15.0 Motion to adjourn meeting was made. Meeting adjourned: 9:15 p.m.