

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 **October 21, 2009** at the Catholic Education Centre, 320 Bloomington Road West, Aurora, Ontario commencing at **7:00 p.m.**

PRESENT:

Committee Members: A. Care, T. Ciaravella, C. Lampole, T. McNicol, C. Newton, O. Pariselli, A. Pizzolato, P. Whittam

Association Representatives: J. Cocchetto, R. Shepherd

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

Regrets: M. Agosta, L. Aqui, M. Brumwell, J. Kelterborn, C. Laughlin, M. Reaume

Recording: C. Brinias

Guests: J. Evertman, Behaviour Supervisor; S. Persad, Chief Psychologist, Larry Abas, Parent of Student at St. Jerome
Suzy Elster, York University Special Ed, Part 1;
Angela Milne, York University Special Ed, Part 1 & YCDSB Supply Teacher;
Cristina Zucaro, York University Special Ed, Part 1;
Cristina Dimartino, York University Special Ed, Part 1;
Nicole Barberi, 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 October 21, 2009

Motion – Agenda approved.

4.0 Approval of the Minutes

Approval of Minutes September 30, 2009.

Motion – Minutes approved with the following changes/corrections:

- Item 5: SEAC Report to Board #2009-07 under Association Reports – remove Kinark Child and Family Services and add Downs Syndrome Association
- Item 11.4: Association Reports: Down Syndrome Association of York Region – DSAO Conference to be held in Peterborough not Toronto

5.0 SEAC Report to Board

Report 2009:07 was distributed and received by committee.

6.0 Information Items

6.1 Board Agenda

October 13, 2009 agenda was distributed and received by committee

6.2 Report to the Directors: SE/IPRCs

October 2009 report was distributed and received by committee

6.3 Student In-Services Calendar

October 2009 calendar was distributed and received by committee

7.0 Correspondence

7.1 Education Law Vol 21, No. 1 September 2009 was distributed and received by committee.

8.0 Presentations/Discussions

8.1 Parent Program/Survey Results

A parent survey was distributed in 2008-2009 to 217 parents representing a variety of ages, geographic locations, and exceptionalities. Thirty-nine percent of surveys were returned and tabulated. The data accumulated from the survey will provide an overview of student profile information, IEP and IPRC involvement, student skill development, and accessibility of special education information for parents.

Key outcomes:

- 89% of respondents were satisfied or somewhat satisfied with the YCDSB delivery model.
- 90% of parents reported some level of satisfaction.

HANDOUT: See attached detailed summary report of the parent survey results.

8.2 Psychological Services within the YCDSB & Chief Psychologists Role

Dr. Schrine Persad, Chief Psychologist, provided an overview of her department. She provided an overview of the role of the psychological services staff, goals, range & referrals of psychological services, and statistics collected over the years.

HANDOUT: See Powerpoint presentation.

8.3 Behaviour Resource Role

John Evertman, Supervisor of Behaviour Services provided an overview of his team and the services they provide. Behaviour Resource Services is available to teachers of students from JK to Grade 12. There are 3 primary functions of the Service:

- To work with school staff to enhance student learning with a particular focus on social behaviour.
- To work directly with students to assist them in their social learning.
- To provide inservice to member of the school community.

9.0 Business Arising

10.0 Action Items

11.0 Association Reports

11.1 Autism Ontario, York Regions

November 6 & 7 – Autism Ontario SEAC Training, Holiday Inn, Yorkdale

Sessions/Guests include:

- a. Barry Finlay: Ministry Initiatives as they relate to students with ASD
- b. Jennifer Cantello Daw: MACSE
- c. SEAC 101
- d. Review Results Provincial PPM 140 surveys and more.

Smile Cookies Campaign raised \$19,000 for Autism Ontario York Region making 4 year total over \$55,000

Visit www.autismontario.com/york for further details

11.2 Down Syndrome Association of York Region

1. Music Therapy – will be offered again this year. It was a well subscribed & attended program.

2. Kids Connection Club – workshops for siblings – a sib-support group for brothers and sisters of someone with special needs – for ages 8 to 12 years. 10 to 12 children per session. 3 sessions – November, February and May.

3. Buddy Walk – will take place Sunday, November 1, 2009 at Richmond Green Sports Centre, Richmond Hill, to promote awareness of people with DS and the importance of equitable opportunities.

4. National Down Syndrome Awareness Week – November 1 to 7, 2009

12.0 New Business

13.0 Items for Future Agendas

13.1 Secondary Exam Week

13.2 Kinark Autism presentation

13.3 Assessment Tools to Measure Our Improvement & Successes

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

15.0 Motion to adjourn meeting was made. Meeting adjourned: 9:20 p.m.