

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 **September 29, 2010** at the Catholic Education Centre, 320 Bloomington Road West, Aurora, Ontario commencing at **7:00 p.m.**

PRESENT:

Committee Members: H. Adams, M. Agosta, K. Bryden, C. Lampole, A. Pizzolato, M.E. Scriver, H. Sirola, P. Whittam

Association Representatives: D. Flynn, R. Shepherd

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

Regrets: A. Care, T. Ciaravella, J. Kelterborn, T. McNicol, C. Newton, M. Paczek, M. Reaume

Recording: D. Cultraro

Guests: L. Abas, Parent
M. Abas, Student
D. Cormier, Superintendent of Education: Curriculum & Student Assessment

1.0 CALL TO ORDER/ATTENDANCE

P. Whittam welcomed guests

2.0 Prayer – P. Whittam

3.0 Approval of Agenda

Approval of Agenda for September 29, 2010.

Motion – Agenda approved with the addition of Item 9.1 Social & Emotional Aspect of Learning to 9.0 Business Arising.

4.0 Approval of the Minutes

Approval of Minutes June 21, 2010.

Motion – Minutes approved.

5.0 SEAC Report to Board

Report 2010:06 was distributed and received by committee.

6.0 Information Items

6.1 Board Agenda

July 6 and August 31, 2010 agendas were distributed and received by committee.

6.2 Report to the Directors: SE/IPRCs

N/A.

6.3 Student In-Services Calendar

June, July, August and September 2010 calendars were distributed and received by committee.

6.4 Caring & Safe Schools in Ontario – Supporting Students with Special Education Needs through Progressive Discipline, Kindergarten to Grade 12
Booklet was distributed and received by committee. Lee Wilson provided a brief overview. Please see attached “Brief Summary”.

6.5 Fall 2010 Special Education Funding Section Discussions – Monday, October 4, 2010

The Ministry of Education is hosting meetings across the province seeing input from various stakeholders regarding special education funding. On October 4th representatives from our board including a SEAC representative (Cenza Newton) will be attending the Barrie Regional Meeting.

7.0 Correspondence

7.1 Education Law Vol 21, No. 10 June 2010 was distributed and received by committee. Paul Whittam suggested that a good article to read is the “Role of Special Education Tribunal”.

8.0 Presentations/Discussions

8.1 Board Improvement Plan

Debra Cormier, Superintendent of Curriculum and Assessment and Tina D’Acunto, Assistant to Superintendent Special Education: Exceptional Learners presented the YCDSB Board Improvement Plan. The Board is proud of growth that has taken place over time for both the primary and junior divisions. Grade 9 Applied Mathematics is an area we are working on and will continue to work on. Grade 9 academic mathematics is an area where we are doing better than the provincial average. We are working on a plan to increase the success rate of OSSLT for Special Ed students.

YCDSB has spent a lot of time in ensuring that everyone is aware of our goals.

Special Education prospective was included/imbedded in the Board Improvement Plan. It is a one year plan with a three year measurement plan – building momentum over the 3 years

Presentation and information was very well received.

HANDOUT: See PowerPoint presentation, Draft Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement, 2010-2011 and The YCDSB Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement Kindergarten into Grade 12: Goals & Strategies 2010-2011 glossy brochure

8.2 Revised Student Services Resource Staff Model

Lee Wilson, Superintendent of Education: Exceptional Learners and Safe Schools presented the revised Student Services Resource Staff Model (elementary). The proposed model is to address our current realities. The focus is to build capacity within our schools by a differentiated central level resource staffing model. Although all schools will be supported, staff allocations will be differentiated based on school needs. The attached PowerPoint presentation explains the concept.

The pilot project has been shared with all pertinent staff and it was well received.

HANDOUT: See PowerPoint presentation.

9.0 Business Arising

9.1 Social & Emotional Aspect of Learning (SEAL)

Kathy Bryden shared the York Public School Board SEAL program. It is a JK to Grade 12 social curriculum. SEAL was shared at the Learning Disabilities Association general meeting in September. Ms. Wilson informed SEAC that the YCDSB Curriculum and Special Education departments are presently investigating the possibility of developing a social curriculum that aligns with the new report card learning skills.

10.0 Action Items

11.0 Association Reports

11.1 Learning Disabilities Association – York Region

AGM was held last Monday – Geraldine Murphy was recognized and received the LDAYR VIP Award. October is Learning Disabilities Awareness Month – further info on website at www.ldayr.org.

11.2 Kinark Child & Family Services

Services are being realigned.

11.3 Down Syndrom Association

Programs are restarting – music therapy, cooking, family day at Canada's Wonderland – get more info on website at www.dsayr.on.ca.

12.0 Items for Future Agendas

12.1 YCDSB plan for Services for Students with Special Needs/Special Education Needs and the Early Learning Program in Year 1 2010-2011

12.2 SEA Claim 5 year Implementation Plan

12.3 PPM140 Implementation Plan

12.4 EQAO/OSSLT Special Education Results

12.5 IEP Collaboration Review Results

14.0 Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 19, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in Boardroom at CEC

15.0 Motion to adjourn meeting was made. Meeting adjourned: 9:30 p.m.