



# CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF EASTERN ONTARIO

## MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

October 25, 2005

Smiths Falls Board Office

### **Present:**

#### **SEAC Members:**

Sue Wilson (Chair), Trustee  
Suzanne Whitney, Integration Action Leeds &  
Grenville  
Ann McGahey, Member-at-Large, OECTA  
Christina Edge, Autism Society of Ontario  
Rose-Marie Martin, Learning Disabilities  
Association of Ontario  
Gerry Samson, Trustee

#### **Board Resource Staff:**

Donaleen Hawes, Superintendent of Education  
Tom Jordan, Principal of Special Education  
Paula Perrault, Special Education Co-ordinator

#### **Regrets:**

Denis Sabourin, Trustee  
John Adams, VOICE for Hearing Impaired  
Children  
Fran Brauneisen, Association for Community  
Living  
Judy Dallas, Special Education Consultant  
Rod McLeod, Special Education Consultant

#### **Guests:**

Ruby Mekker - Teacher  
Irene Tweddle – CUPE, Educational Assistant

### **Meeting Called to Order**

Sue Wilson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

#### **I. Opening Prayer**

Tom Jordan asked all present to join him in the prayer “We gather to Pray on the Journey”.

#### **II. Approval of Agenda**

Moved by: Gerry Samson  
Seconded by: Ann McGahey

### **III. Minutes of the September 27, 2005 meeting of S.E.A.C. were approved.**

One correction – under **Association Updates**

- **Integration Action Leeds & Grenville** – sibling workshop in Brockville will take place on November 3, 2005, at 7:00 p.m.

Moved by: Gerry Samson

Seconded by: Rose-Marie Martin

### **IV. Association Updates**

Suzanne Whitney, Integration Action Leeds & Grenville, highlighted a recent address from Marilyn Dolmage which restated the idea that a students' program is the I.E.P. rather than a program offered in a particular location or school.

Suzanne also shared an information flyer by the Brockville/District Association for Community Involvement (BDACI) "Back to School INCLUSION – What Parents Need to Know".

Christina Edge, Autism Society of Ontario

The Autism Society of Ontario is continuing to advocate for students with A.S.D. They are focussing on consistent A.S.D. training at College and University levels. The SSP-ASD is undergoing a review of services which the ASO supports.

Christina also highlighted the discussion of the Safe Schools Act with particular references to students with A.S.D.

Finally she requested that, in conjunction with the SSP-ASP, we endeavour to provide more focused training for teachers dealing with students with High Functioning Autism/Asperger's.

### **V. Special Education Department Updates**

We sponsored a large contingent of Resource Teachers for the annual Meeting the Needs Conference on October 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. Participants had the opportunity to choose between a large variety of workshops on best practices in Special Education. Our own Bishop Macdonell team presented the F.R.O.G. program to a large group and it was well received.

We have held two Radium Soundfield System Workshops (Smiths Falls and Cornwall) to train and distribute the systems. Schools are reporting very positive results. The Special Education Department shared with SEAC members that the Board had purchased one Radium Soundfield System for each school within our system, and if a school should wish to purchase any additional systems, the school Principal would decide to use school funds or approach their Catholic School Councils with a wish list for their consideration.

On Friday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2005, we hosted a Catherization Training Workshop for EA's in our Board and UCDSB in our Smiths Falls office. Approximately 20 individuals took advantage of this opportunity.

Paula and Tom met with SSP-ASD partners last week to review and finalize some service plans for the rest of the year. From this discussion we are organizing an in-service for EA's and SSW's on the morning of November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2005 PA day. The workshops will focus on building social skills in special needs students and the role of the EA and SSW as a valued member of the school team. This workshop will be offered in four locations.

The Ministry of Education conducted an audit on the use of specialized equipment (specifically ISA 1 equipment) in CDSBEO. Paula and Judy joined Mr. Jim Leonard, Ministry of Education, as he toured St. James School and St. Luke School.

Tom will be attending the Annual Conference on supporting people with intellectual disabilities in Kingston on Wednesday of this week.

Some of the staffing adjustments mentioned at the last SEAC meeting have taken place. We are continuing to work on this process.

The schools and the department are busy compiling special education statistics for the Ministry of Education, these stats become an important part of the Board's October Report (which determines funding).

## **VI. Topics for Future Meetings**

### Web Based Teaching Tool

Tom presented members with an overview of the Web Based Teaching Tool.

The Web Based Teaching Tool (WBTT) provides a model for educators to identify students at-risk of school failure, and a database of interventions to address areas of need. The Dynamic Screening and Intervention Model (DSIM), encompassed in WBTT, uses:

- Screening tools to acknowledge those students who may not be as school ready as their peers.
- A database of interventions, accessed through the WBTT site, that includes teaching strategies, teaching materials, "take home" strategies for parents, and strategies for behaviour and classroom management.
- Curriculum-based checklists, allowing teachers to track student's progress and response to interventions, further developing the student's learning profile and a better understanding of where their strengths and needs lie.

The result is a dynamic process in which the student is continuously supported.

## VII. New Business

Sue Wilson highlighted the upcoming School Bus Driver Training. This is offered in partnership with the UCDSB, CHEO and ASO.

### List of Training Sessions:

Helping Drivers understand and deal with students who have Autism

- September 29<sup>th</sup>, Monkland
- December 13<sup>th</sup>, Brockville
- January 10<sup>th</sup>, Cornwall
- January 11<sup>th</sup>, Smiths Falls
- January 17<sup>th</sup>, Alexandria
- January 18<sup>th</sup>, Carleton Place

Helping Drivers understand and deal with Special Education Students (CPI)

- November 1<sup>st</sup>, Cornwall
- November 2<sup>nd</sup>, Brockville
- November 22<sup>nd</sup>, Rockland
- November 23<sup>rd</sup>, Carleton Place
- November 29<sup>th</sup>, Alexandria
- November 30<sup>th</sup>, Smiths Falls
- December 6<sup>th</sup>, Monkland
- December 7<sup>th</sup>, Kemptville

Helping Drivers understand and handle Medical Fragile students or students in wheelchairs

- October 6<sup>th</sup>, Carleton Place
- October 27<sup>th</sup>, Brockville
- November 17<sup>th</sup>, Smiths Falls
- January 25<sup>th</sup>, Kemptville
- February 15<sup>th</sup>, Monkland
- March 8<sup>th</sup>, Alexandria

## VIII. S.E.A.C. Meeting Dates

Some changes to locations of upcoming S.E.A.C. meeting were made.

LOCATION	DATE
Kemptville Board Office	Tuesday, September 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2005
Smiths Falls Board Office	Tuesday, October 25 <sup>th</sup> , 2005
St. Mary School, Chesterville	Tuesday, November 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2005
Kemptville Board Office	Tuesday, January 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2006
Kemptville Board Office	Tuesday, February 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2006

<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>DATE</b>
Kemptville Board Office	Tuesday, March 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2006
Cornwall Board Office	Tuesday, April 25 <sup>th</sup> , 2006
Kemptville Board Office	Tuesday, May 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2006
Pope John Paul II, Hammond	Tuesday, May 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2006
Kemptville Board Office	Tuesday, June 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2006

Sue Wilson ensured members that the agendas and minutes of S.E.A.C. meetings would soon be posted on the Board Website under the Spec.Ed/SEAC/Tab.

**IX. Topics for Future Meetings**

- Youth and Transitions (Fall 2005)

**X. Good News Sharing**

Everyone present shared highlights from the past few weeks. Our members identified events in their personal lives which brought to light the success of the students we serve.

We were notified that Rose-Marie Martin and Suzanne Whitney were highlighted for their expertise and service, by their associations.

Parents also shared their child's personal stories of achievement.

This ended with a reminder that our Board is holding a Catholic Symposium on November 10<sup>th</sup>, at the North Grenville Community Centre.

**XI. Next Meeting**

Tuesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2005, at St. Mary School, Chesterville

**XII. Closing Prayer**

Tom Jordan led the group in prayer with "The Board Prayer"

**XIII. Motion to Adjourn the Meeting**

Moved by: Rose-Marie Martin  
Seconded by: Ann McGahey