



# CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF EASTERN ONTARIO

## MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Board Office, in Kemptville

7:00 p.m.

### **Present:**

#### **SEAC Members:**

Karen McAllister, Trustee  
Christina Nichols, Association for Bright  
Children of Ontario  
Joe Sparling, Easter Seals – Ontario  
James Borer, VOICE

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

Donaleen Hawes, Superintendent of Education  
Tom Jordan, Principal of Special Education  
Christine Campeau, Teacher Consultant  
Michael Glofcheskie, Teacher Consultant

#### **Regrets**

Sue Wilson (Chair), Trustee  
Dave Conners, Autism Ontario  
Fran Brauneisen, Association for Community  
Living  
Diane Bartlett, Alternative Representative for  
Easter Seals – Ontario

#### **Guest:**

Liz Harrison, President, CUPE Local 4154

### **Meeting Called to Order**

Karen McAllister called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

### **Opening Prayer**

Tom Jordan led the group “*In Praise of Spring*”.

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Karen McAllister expressed her thanks to all for coming this evening.

## **I. Approval of Agenda**

Moved by: James Borer

Seconded by: Dave Connors

CARRIED

Note: *This vote was collected electronically via email.*

## **II. Approval of Minutes – February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2011**

Moved by: Dave Connors

Seconded by: James Borer

CARRIED

Note: *This vote was collected electronically via email.*

## **III. Association Updates**

### Easter Seals – Ontario – Joe Sparling

During the 2010 season, Easter Seals raised approximately \$16,853.00 in this area. Easter Seals spent \$17,750.00 on children from the Kemptville area. Some upcoming events are:

- \$2.00 paper eggs for sale at local participating retailers (March 31<sup>st</sup> – April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011)
- Scotia Bank Power Play (June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2011)
- Camp Merrywood Open House (June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011 from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.)
- Bushtukah Bring on the Bay Swim (July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011) – registration is now open for this event
- Easter Seals Regatta weekend at NSC and BYC (July 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011)
- DROP ZONE Ottawa presented by Morguard Investments (September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011) – registration is now open for this event

### Association for Community Living – Fran Brauneisen

#### Upcoming Meetings or Conferences:

- The Canadian Association for Supported Employment Conference will be hosting the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual National Supported Employment Conference from June 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>, 2011, in Halifax, Nova Scotia.
- The 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference and AGM – Community Living Ontario will be held from June 8<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>, 2011, at the Scotiabank Convention Centre, Niagara Falls, Ontario.

#### New Initiatives:

- May is Community Living Month. May 4<sup>th</sup> is the kick off of celebrations with a pancake breakfast at the Municipal Centre from 8:00 – 10:00 a.m. The cost is \$5.00 per person. For further information see [www.communitylivingontario.ca](http://www.communitylivingontario.ca)

#### Other Information:

- Bill 83, a private member's bill to prevent developmental service workers from picketing at the homes of people they support, had passed a second reading in October 2010. There is guarded optimism it will pass into legislation before the provincial legislature dissolves for the fall election.

- The Canadian Association for Community Living honoured Jim Hansen with their Inclusive Education Award for 2011. Mr. Hansen is a retired Superintendent with the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board, who pioneered inclusive education 40 years ago and attracted people from all parts of the province and beyond who wanted to be part of the model he created.
- A reflection from Gordon Porter, Director of Inclusive Education Canada and another award-winning pioneer in the field, can be found on the website quoted above. He shares some thoughts on why inclusive practices work well in some areas but not in others.

VOICE – James Borer

No report at this time.

Association for Bright Children of Ontario – Christina Nichols

No report at this time.

#### **IV. Department Update**

Our new IEP template is not being field tested. We will be rolling it out to the system in April.

We are starting to review the high needs students in all of our schools.

Early Development Instrument (EDI) training took place in the western part of our Board on March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011. All our senior kindergarten teachers have now completed and submitted the data.

Community Violence Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA) consultations with our community partners, police and principals took place in four locations during the week of March 28<sup>th</sup> to April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011.

We are starting to revise the Annual Report to the Ministry on the Provision of Special Education Programs and Services. Like other years, our plan will be to bring DRAFT revised sections to the Special Education Advisory Committee over the next couple of meetings.

The Special Education Department has offered a cost share deal to our elementary schools on radium soundfield systems.

The legislation around Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL) has been recently changed by the Ministry;

- One of the new requirements is the formation of a Board SAL Committee where 31 students were recently presented for consideration as Supervised Alternative Learning students,

- This gives the student/parents and Board quite a bit more flexibility when it comes to programming/attendance.

## **V. Presentation**

CDSBEO Special Education Teacher Consultants, Christine Campeau and Michael Glofcheskie presented an overview of how our Board's focus on differentiated instruction can meet the needs of all learners, with a particular emphasis on our gifted learners and those who need an extra challenge. In this presentation, we were reminded that "every child is gifted", and as educators we have the responsibility to help all students discover and develop their gifts. The presentation focused on the value of open ended tasks, flexible groupings, higher order thinking skills, tiered learning, multiple intelligences, universal design for learning and gradual release of responsibility model.

Christine and Michael demonstrated how resources such as our CDSBEO *Targeting Achievement for All* magazines on *Differentiated Instruction, Flexible Groupings, Systematic and Explicit Instruction and Assessment For, As, Of Learning* can be used to support the classroom teacher and create a very inclusive classroom environment where the needs of all learners can be met.

## **VI. Good News Sharing**

Members and guests shared items of good news from across our eight counties.

## **VII. Next Meeting**

The next SEAC meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011, at the Board Office, in Kemptville, starting at 7:00 p.m.

## **VIII. Closing Prayer**

Tom Jordan led the group in our CDSBEO Board Prayer.

## **IX. Motion to Adjourn the Meeting**

Moved by: Karen McAllister

Seconded by: Christina Nicholls

CARRIED

Karen McAllister adjourned the meeting at 8:52 p.m., and thanked everyone for coming out this evening.