



CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF EASTERN ONTARIO

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

May 27th, 2009

Board Office, in Kemptville

7:00 p.m.

Present:

SEAC Members:

Sue Wilson (Chair), Trustee
Karen McAllister, Trustee
Fran Brauneisen, Association for Community
Living
Rose-Marie Martin, Learning Disabilities
Association of Ontario
Christina Nichols, Association for Bright
Children of Ontario
Joe Sparling, Easter Seals – Ontario

Board Resource Staff:

Dr. Donaleen Hawes, Superintendent of Education
Brian Peters, Principal of Special Education
Dawn Fewer, Coordinator of Special Education
Ruby Mekker, Resource Teacher

Regrets:

Nancy Kirby, Trustee
Suzanne Whitney, Integration Action for
Inclusion of Leeds & Grenville
James Borer, VOICE
Jason Edge, Autism Ontario

Guests:

Diane Bartlett, Parent
Dave Connors, Parent

Meeting Called to Order

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

I. Opening Prayer

Brian Peters led us in a “Prayer for Restorative Justice”.

II. Welcome and Introduction

Sue Wilson welcomed the group.

III. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Christina Nichols

Seconded by: Rose-Marie Martin

IV. Approval of Minutes

Moved by: Karen McAllister

Seconded by: Rose-Marie Martin

V. Association Updates

Joe Sparling, Easter Seals – Ontario

- The Paper Egg Campaign was a success. The Telethon was also an overwhelming success as their projection was exceeded by a large margin. Easter Seals is now busily preparing for its next golf tournament. Joe reported on an inspirational story about Father Patrick Martin and thought it reminded us of how God views each and every one of us, the Broken. Joe shared the code of ethics which he was required to sign in order to represent Easter Seals in SEAC. A copy was shared with all SEAC members.

VI. Department Update

New Appointment for the Principal of Special Education is Tom Jordan. The Special Education Department is thrilled to welcome Tom to his new role. We wish Brian Peters well as he moves on to retirement.

VII. Board Special Education Annual Review Process

Sue Wilson, Chair of Special Education Advisory Committee, removed herself from the discussion and turned the meeting over to Donaleen Hawes to present the information on the budget. The Special Education funding and expenditures was shared and there was a discussion around the various factors that affect the budgeting decisions. S.E.A.C. members supported the recommendations identified while expressing their appreciation for the Student Support Worker (SSW) role, although they were concerned that there would be reductions in this area.

Motion:

“That Special Education Advisory Committee supports the recommendations as presented.”

Moved by: Joe Sparling

Seconded by: Rose-Marie Martin

The motion was carried.

VIII. Correspondence Received

No correspondence received at this time.

IX. Chair Update

The Prescott Russell Coalition Against Drugs met. The dates are Wednesday, October 28, and Thursday, October 29, 2009, at the River Rock Hotel, in Rockland, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Participants will be on a first come first served basis. Partners have all assumed their roles and plans are well underway.

Sue Wilson has been invited to join the Board of Communities that Care.

X. Good News Sharing

Members shared good news stories.

XI. Action Items

- **Technology Plans** – Many of our assistive technology software titles are now being made available to all our school computers for students who require access. The goal is to increase student access within the educational setting. Our students who are eligible for a sea claim which includes Kurzweil, WordQ and SpeakQ have a second licence for home use. In the fall, the IT Department has made home access a priority. The goal will be to allow students access through a log in to the board server.
- **Sharing of Information Request** - Information Packages from Community Living North Grenville were sent to all schools
- **Making the Cut – 2008-09 Request for number of Participants**
Nov – *Students*: CDSBEO 7 participants
CDSBEO 4 educators

May – *Students*: 157 registered 120 came
CDSBEO 23 register 20 came
CDSBEO 7 educators

XII. Next Meeting

Wednesday, June 10th, 2009, at the Board Office, in Kemptville

XIII. Closing Prayer

Brian Peters led us in prayer.

XIV. Motion to Adjourn the Meeting

Moved by: Joe Sparling

Seconded by: Fran Brauneisen