



Northeastern Catholic District School Board

"Living our Catholic Faith to shape success for all of our learners"

SEAC Meeting **(Special Education Advisory Committee)**

Wednesday, September 28, 2016

11:45 a.m.

Catholic Education Centre

MINUTES

PRESENT: Joel McCartney, Cochrane Temiskaming Resource Centre
Kim Bordignon, Children's Treatment Centre
William (Bill) Russell, The Lord's Kitchen
Billie Richer, VOICE for Hearing Impaired
Elizabeth King, NCDSB Trustee
Fred Salvador, NCDSB Trustee
Tricia Stefanic Weltz, Superintendent of Education
Catherine Hoven, Special Assignment Teacher
Judy Piché, Education Services Officer / Recorder

EXCUSED: Mark Lionello, Canadian Mental Health Association
Val Toner, Community Living Timmins
Kay Gaffney, North Eastern Ontario Family and Children's Services
Natalie Parnell, Timmins Family Counselling Centre
Daphne Brumwell, Superintendent of Education

1. Welcome and Prayer

Superintendent of Education Tricia Stefanic Weltz welcomed everyone and led the group in prayer.

2. Approval of Agenda

MOVED BY: B. Russell
SECONDED BY: J. McCartney

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.
CARRIED.

3. Approval of Minutes

MOVED BY: J. McCartney
SECONDED BY: F. Salvador

THAT the minutes of June 14, 2016 be approved as presented.
CARRIED.

4. Elections – Chair and Vice-Chair

Tricia Stefanic Weltz opened the nomination process. Bill Russell nominated Joel McCartney as Chair of SEAC. Fred Salvador seconded the nomination. Kay Gaffney was also nominated as Chair of SEAC by Joel McCartney and seconded by Elizabeth King. Due to technical difficulties, Kay Gaffney was not able to attend the meeting by teleconference; therefore, the elections were deferred to the next meeting.

5. Schedule of Meetings

The schedule of SEAC meetings for the 2016-2017 school year was shared with the members.

6. School Year Calendars

The 2016-2017 school year calendars were presented to the members. The calendars are posted on our website.

7. Student Services Staffing

The members received an overview of the 2016-2017 student services staffing. There is a small reduction this school year with a loss of 3 educational assistants across the district and half of a teaching position. Catherine Hoven reported that there are 37 new identifications board wide. Members requested information on where these students come from which will be shared at a future meeting.

8. Special Education Plan

Amendments to the Special Education Plan were submitted to the Ministry in July. Members received a hard copy of the Plan and were informed that it is posted on our website.

9. ABA Specialist and New Funding

Tricia Stefanic Weltz reported that the board has hired a new ABA/Behaviour Specialist to replace Genevieve Lemieux. Her name is Kylah Guillemette. Kylah has been working for us as a child and youth worker for the last few years at O’Gorman Intermediate Catholic School. We are looking forward to working with her in this new capacity. She is working closely with our Mental Health Lead, Kim McEntee, to streamline a referral process and to bring greater consistency to how cases are supported. It was also shared that the Ministry of Education has provided each school board with approximately \$65,000 to support students with autism as the province transitions to a new support

system within the next couple of years. We are currently exploring a number of options in an effort to expand the services provided to our students. More information to come on this next month.

10. Professional Learning Plan for 2016-2017

The professional learning plan for support staff was shared with the members.

Date	Educational Assistants	Child & Youth Workers
Thurs., Sept. 1/16	0.5 Supporting Student Mental Health Through “Mind-Up” Strategies and Self-Regulation: Accessing Resources Through the Special Education Community 0.5 Health & Safety *Mandatory Day	0.5 Health & Safety *Mandatory Day – Paid for 3.5 hours
Mon., Nov. 7/16	0.5 School Improvement Planning - am 0.5 Math (Number Talks) OR Suicide Intervention 101 - pm	Not a working day
Fri., Feb. 3/17	UMAB Day 1 *Mandatory Day	UMAB Day 1 *Mandatory Day – Paid for 5 hours + travel if necessary
Mon., Feb. 27/17	UMAB Day 2 *Mandatory Day	UMAB Day 2 *Mandatory Day – Paid for 5 hours + travel if necessary
Mon., April 10/17	0.5 School Improvement Planning - am 0.5 Math (Working with the LD Student)	Not a working day
Mon., June 5/17	0.5 – Mental Health –Considering the 4 P’s When Determining Needs – Predisposing, Perpetuating, Precipitating, Protective Factors - am 0.5 – Supporting Students with Behavioural Challenges using ABA Principles - pm	Not a working day
Thurs., June 29/17	School-Based Learning	Not a working day

Under the Renewed Math Strategy and our MISA PNC funding, the resource teachers will be participating in an inquiry that blends a focus on student mindset in mathematics with targeted intervention in number sense and numeration. They will be working with groups of students in grade 2, 4 and/or grade 7. We will also be considering how we can make better use of touch technology to support mathematics teaching and learning.

In an effort to ensure we are getting students started on the right foot with mathematics, we will be doing some focused work with our Kindergarten and Grade 1 teachers to support number sense and numeration concept attainment. Through the Renewed Math Strategy and our FNMI Action plan, we will be using side-by-side coaching to support our teachers and students.

11. Special Education Report

This item was deferred to a future meeting.

12. SEAC Learning Website

The members were provided with the new link to the SEAC Learning website <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/general/elemsec/speced/seac/>. It offers good information on the role and responsibilities of SEAC members. More information on the role of the child and youth worker was requested and will be discussed at a future meeting.

13. Agency Reports

Kim Bordignon stated that the Children's Treatment Centre has hired two new speech and language therapists: Rachel Pessah and Marie-Lyne Boucher.

Joel McCartney informed the members that Cochrane Temiskaming Resource Centre is looking to replace a psychometrist who is on a maternity leave. He also mentioned that the referral waiting list is approaching 70 children and adults with developmental disabilities; they usually have around 30 to 40. This is a trend across the province and maybe the continent. There is also a noticeable increase in children with special needs. The Ombudsman has received a record number of complaints. One big problem happening now is when children turn 18 years old, their services are cancelled and they must go to a different ministry. They then go on a waiting list for similar services as adults but without respite and no worker. The message to the Ministry at that level is that the high school planning piece is huge and it is important that everyone has this on their radar.

The Lord's Kitchen was closed for five weeks to allow workers to stream clean walls and get a health inspection done. 458 meals were served to 250 guests last week. Bill Russell said that the native population is increasing. He added that he is no longer President of the agency; he is a member of the Board of Directors. We can now follow The Lord's Kitchen on Facebook.

VOICE for Hearing Impaired no longer employs. Billie Richer attended a conference on September 17th which focused on being active SEAC members, student needs and support care.

14. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, October 26, 2016 at 11:45 a.m. at the Catholic Education Centre or via video conference.

15. Other Business

Members were informed that Beth Nowak has resigned from SEAC. A letter thanking her for her contribution will be sent and we will seek a new representative from the Cochrane District Social Services Administration Board.

16. Adjournment

MOVED BY: B. Richer

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 12:48 p.m.

CARRIED.