

ALGOMA DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE S.E.A.C.



MINUTES OF MEETING
Monday, September 23, 2013
D.T. Walkom Room
12:00 Noon

Present

Members: P. Mick, V. Greco, Amanda Gauthier, L. Lambert, L. Tombari, M. Yourchuk
Teleconference

Staff: K. Colver, Marilu Horton, K. Colter, C. Phillips

Trustees: B. McEachren

Regrets: Priscilla Southwind, H. Scott, J. Martin, Casey Burgess, D. Morgan,

P. Mick called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m.

1. Welcome (Approval of Agenda)

Agenda motioned for approval by B. McEachren and seconded by V. Greco- All in Favor – Carried

2. Round Table Introduction of members, staff and guests

3. Approval of Agenda and Minutes for June 17, 2013

Motioned for approval for revised minutes by V. Greco and seconded by B. McEachren - All in Favor – Carried

4. Correspondence-

- a) **Letter Minister of Education-** A letter from the Ministry thanking SEAC member s for their commitment and dedication to our students.
- b) **Letters from Halton District School Board, Upper Canada District School Board Peterborough Victoria Northumberland Clarington Catholic and Avon Maitland District School Board SEACs** wrote letters regarding the decline in services/ funding

for developmental disabled students (Special Services at Home) beyond the age of 18.

- c) Letter- Renfrew county DSB- Teacher Education Program - The letter is in support of previous letters sent by SEACs to the Ministry of Education regarding *Special Education Preparatory Course* as a mandatory requirement for all teachers graduating from a Faculty of Education in Ontario.

5. Presentation – None

6. Association Updates

a) P. Mick– Community Living Algoma

- No updates, the last meeting was in August.

b) A.Gauthier- Children's Rehab

- 34 Children took part in the summer programs. Feedback from parents was excellent, what works, what needs to change. CRCA therapists are busy back in the schools.

c) L. Lambert – Infant Development Program

- Busy summer with 66 students who took part in the transition to JK program. 5 camps which were 2 weeks in length, housed at Brule, East View, Kiwedin. The youngsters had the opportunity to ride the bus and participate in classroom like settings. What was very productive this year was having the support of the school board to have the children ride the bus in preparation for their entry to school.

d) L. Tombari

- No update

e) V. Greco - Learning Disabilities

- Stressed the importance of teachers being aware of students coming into their class in September. Also important for noon hour helpers to be aware of students with special needs in order to interact and respond appropriately to students.

f) M. Yourchuck-

- Excited for the “1st Nation children Growing up in 3rd world Conditions.

7. Discussion/ Information Items

a) Special Education Portal- Autism

- M. Horton – showed the group the Special Education Portal for special education resource teachers and principals. The over view provided a look into materials and resources for SERTs who are supporting students. The focus for this meeting was the autism resources. This includes online resources, visuals, printable and

strategies or working and learning with students who present with autism. Some examples of online resources - www.teachspec.ed.ca, www.Zachbrowser.com, www.teachspeced.ca and www.autism.net

- M. Horton asked the group what exceptionally for next month- L. Tombari asked for LD Learning Disability.

b) Section 23 Care & Treatment Custody

- K. Colter provided the group with an overview of the Section 23 programs – we have 8 classrooms presently – 3 custody programs – Don Doucet Centre (2 classes), Justice Derek Holder House, and Gord Saunders – 5 Care & treatment classes – Marg Glimore (Elliot Lake Secondary School, Central Ave PS, Northern Heights PS, Korah C & VS and the newest class at White Pines – Mino Makaniing (The Good Path).
- These programs are supported by the Ministry of Education and we appreciate the partners that support the programs.

8. Up-dates from Superintendent K. Collver

- Gave an update of special education classes – they are presently all full.
- Reviewed the Special Education Plan – in preparation for the Board meeting for approval.
- Updated on the SERT meetings at the beginning of September in preparation for this school year.
- PD day for SERTS in October will focus on FASD and K. Collver will have a guest speaker for the morning and in the afternoon a focus on assessments and giftedness.
- Family of schools for SERT's is being planned
- K. Injic – SLP has resigned and we have posted for the position.
- K. Collver asked the group about changed SEAC to Tuesday, everyone who was present was in favour.

9. Report from the Board (Trustees) B. McEachren

- B. McEachren spoke about Sault Ste. Marie's smaller population and how the ministry is cutting money for special education even though over 18% of population has special education needs.
- Chapleau and Hornepayne have approximately 160 new jobs which will be bringing more families and hopefully increasing enrolment.

- The startup for the new 7/8 program at CASS has been successful and students are nicely adjusting.
- Enrolment is up approximately 50 more high school students and 150 elementary students from last year's projections.
- Anna McCrea and Tarentorus will be housing new day care programs
- We have been working on a new vision and mission statement.

10. Agenda items for Next meeting

- Portal- Learning Disability
- V. Greco copy of alternative learning from the Learning Disability Association
- H. Whitfield will provide an update on the Learning Disability Association

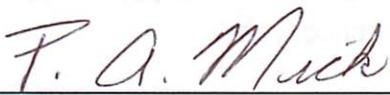
11. Adjournment at 1:20

Motioned for approval by L. Tombari and seconded by B. McEachren - All in Favor – Carried



Kime Collver

Superintendent of Education



Pat Mick

Chair