



---

The Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting held at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 20, 2010 at the Catholic Education Centre.

Present (Members of SEAC): Bev Aitkenhead, Maria Castiglione, Allyson Denoble, Gail D'Arcy, Tracy Simmons, Annette Watson, Kathy Dunne, Granville Anderson

Present Administration: Dale Godin, Superintendent of Schools; Susan Mariutti, Administrative Assistant

Absent: Camille Parent  
*Excused from attendance*

Absent: Shawna Belcourt, Lise van Laar

Guest: Karen Stoker, Special Education Consultant

### A. Call to order:

1. Bev Aitkenhead called the meeting to order and asked Dale to lead the group in prayer.
2. Approval of the Agenda.  
Mover: Maria Castiglione  
Seconder: Gail D'Arcy  
Vote: Carried
3. There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

### B. Recommended Action:

1. Approval of the Minutes of March 25, 2010.  
Mover: Allyson DeNoble  
Seconded: Granville Anderson  
Vote: Carried
2. Business Arising from the Minutes  
None noted
3. Remarks from Chairperson  
Welcome everyone to tonight's meeting
4. Remarks from Superintendent of Schools
  - SEAC tour of Special Education Programs was a great success, Dale thanked members who were able to join the tour;

- video conferencing or teleconferencing is available for SEAC meetings if members are interested;
  - letters inviting potential SEAC member are available
5. Special Needs Athletic advisory Committee  
Deferred
6. Connections Model for Students in IBI (*Nicole Cumby, Special Education Consultant*)  
Deferred
7. Learning Disabilities/Empower Program (*Karen Stoker, Special Education Consultants*)
- Karen gave a demonstration of the Empower Program.
  - this program was developed at Toronto Sick Children's Hospital Neuro Sciences department to address the needs of Learning Disabled students in grades 2-6 who have trouble reading.
8. Reports from Members

**Maria Castiglione**

Learning Disabilities Association of Peterborough

summer programs at the LDAP;

Computers for Literacy Program – 7 week summer program in Peterborough, Millbrook, Lakefield, & Havelock;

Stay in School Program – for high school students offered in Lindsay, Omemee, Cobourg & Port Hope;

SOAR program running in August in Lindsay, Bowmanville, and Peterborough.

**Allyson DeNoble**

Down Syndrome Association of Peterborough

No report

**Kathy Dunne**

Easter Seal Society

No report

**Gail D'Arcy**

Autism Ontario –Peterborough Chapter

- the 12<sup>th</sup> annual Cycle for Autism will be on Saturday, June 19, 2010 at Fleming College, 599 Brealey Drive, Peterborough. Registration is at 11:00 A.M. with the cycle commencing at 12:00 noon. There will also be a Yard Sale, Games, Prizes and a BBQ. All funds go to helping children & adults on the Autism Spectrum, who live in Peterborough, City of Kawartha Lakes, Haliburton, and Northumberland Counties, participate in yearly activities. Contact Cycle co-coordinator Joanne Durocher @ 705-657-1764 or by email. All are welcome. Flyer attached.

**Tracy Simmons**

Tri County Community Support Services

- Lego Photo story presentation;
- looking for volunteers for Lego Group who would be considered “experts in Lego.
- RDSP information for parents

**Bev Aitkenhead**

Central East Community Care Access Centre

- Occupational Therapy picking up from April 2010;
- speech picking up from Sept. 2010

9. LEGO Photo Story  
Tracy Simmons shared an awesome photo story on the working and successes of the LEGO group.
10. Special Education Funding  
Dale highlighted changes to special education funding in particular SEA (Special Equipment Amount); SIP (Special Incident Portion); High Needs Amount; BEA (Behavior Expertise Amount). Funding is based on enrolment. Sector discussions will be initiated to encourage efficiency and effectiveness in the use of existing resources. Ministry memo attached to agenda.
11. Special Education Staffing Update  
Decrease in enrolment – 300 at elementary, including 90 special education students. Reduction of 2.5 SERTs at elementary; no change to the BEST, CASA or Learning Centre Programs, (St. Paul, Peterborough, BEST will move to St. Catherine) No reduction of SERTs at secondary. Central staff will increase by 1 Special Education Consultant which will replace the ABA facilitator; decrease by 1 Teacher of the Gifted. EA hours will be reduced by 5% at the elementary and increase by 5% at secondary.
12. Special Education Board Plan 2010  
Dale reviewed the memo, attached to the agenda, regarding changes to submission of the Special Education Board Plan. School's board special education reporting is in a transition year, special education planning is to be aligned with the board improvement planning process focused on improving student achievement.
13. Parent Survey  
Dale explained that we are still exploring the idea and doing research by talking to other boards to see what/ if they have.
14. Best Practice (Bev Aitkenhead)  
The development and implementation of the SEA (Special Education Amount) binder, has resulted in a more efficient and seamless process for student equipment referrals and receipt of the equipment.

**Old Business**

**New Business**

**C. Information Items**

**D. Future Meeting Items**

1. EQAO results
2. Spinclusion (Shawna Belcourt)
3. Differentiated Instruction feedback (when available)

**E. Selection of a Member for Opening and Closing Prayers**

Annette Watson

**F. Selection of a Member to Share a “Best Practice”**

Tracy Simmons

**G. Future Meeting Date and Location**

Next Meeting: Thursday, June 17, 2010  
Boardroom  
Catholic Education Centre

**6:30 – 9:30 p.m. Please note change of time, a light dinner will  
be served**

**H. Conclusion**

1. Closing Prayer  
Granville closed the meeting with prayer.

2. Adjournment  
Mover: Annette Watson  
Seconded: Allyson DeNoble  
Vote: Carried