

RENFREW COUNTY CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2012

6:30 P.M.

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PRESENT: Anne Haley (Chair)  
Joan Daley  
Robert David  
Derrick Nearing  
Kathy O'Connor

REGRETS: Jeanne Carmody  
Colleen Whittier

RESOURCE: Peter Adam, Superintendent of Education

1. The meeting opened with prayer.

2. Approval of Agenda

Two items were added to the agenda:

j) 2012-2013 Inclusive Education – (Appendix 12)

k) Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education Template – (Appendix 13)

Moved by: Kathy O'Connor

Seconded by: Joan Daley

That the Agenda for the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting be approved as presented.

Carried.

3. Approval of Minutes Wednesday, June 13, 2012

Moved by: Derrick Nearing

Seconded by: Robert David

That the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting held in the Board Room on Wednesday, June 13, 2012 be approved.

Carried.

4. Business Arising

a) Correspondence from the Near North School District School Board

The Near North District School Board SEAC Committee strongly encourages the Ministry of Education to examine the health curriculum and modify it so that FASD can be discussed with students earlier than Grade 11. SEAC Members agreed that this issue could be introduced earlier in the curriculum and that it should also be possible for FASD to develop units of information in much the same way that units have been developed to inform students about the dangers of smoking and cancer.

b) Correspondence from Kevin Forrest, Manager, Training Institute, Geneva Centre for Autism

The Geneva Centre for Autism is offering on-site training and consultations to help educators build capacity to support students with an Autism Spectrum Disorder. A sampling of the 16 hour certificate courses has been provided to school boards.

c) Correspondence from the Ministry of Community and Social Services

From August 15, 2012 to October 1, 2012 the proposed amendment to the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation will be available for public review and comment on the Ministry of Community and Social Services' website, the Regulatory Registry of Ontario and the Environmental Bill of Rights Registry. All comments will be considered as part of the process of finalizing the regulation. Information item.

d) Highlights of the Minister's Council on Special Education

The 2011-2012 SEA Allocation for the Renfrew County Catholic District School Board is \$57,304.00.

Rob David expressed an interest to the SEAC Committee in becoming involved in research and the investigation of IPADS (and other technological tools) for Special Education pupils in the elementary level.

Peter Adam will contact the Special Education Coordinators and inform them of Mr. David's interest in this technical area.

e) Highlights of the Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education

Highlights of the meeting of the Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education on June 6 and 7, 2012 were shared with members.

f) RCCDSB 2012-2012 School Year Calendar

Information item.

g) Participants of the Autism Training Institute August 22-24, 2012

Five SERTS and Jennifer Reid Hudson represented the RCCDSB at this Summer Training Institute in Ottawa. Members noted that the Positive Behaviour Support Program was part of the agenda on day 2. Peter Adam informed members that Our Lady of Fatima School in Renfrew is currently piloting this program. Peter suggested that a PBS presentation be made at an upcoming SEAC meeting.

h) Special Education Workshops September 12 and 13, 2012

Special Education Teachers attended two workshops and the following modules were presented:

- a) Assistive Technology Session
- b) Functional Behaviour and Data Collection Session
- c) TPM Electronic Individual Education Plan Session
- d) Special Education Information Session
- e) Positive Behaviour Support Program

i) Lorne Keon Scholarships from Bishop Smith Catholic High School and St. Joseph's Catholic High School

Recipients of the Lorne Keon Scholarship are as follows:

St. Joseph's High School -- Scott Andrechek (\$300.00)  
Bishop Smith Catholic High School -- Jodie Purcell (\$175.00)  
Ian Henderson (\$175.00)

j) 2012-2013 Inclusive Education

Members reviewed a copy of the Inclusive Education Webinar Series provided by Community Living Ontario. Peter Adam informed members that this was an excellent resource and that copies will be shared electronically to SERTS and principals.

k) Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education Template

The MACSE have provided School Boards with a template where they can identify successful practices, challenges/issues and possible solutions/future directions. SEAC members were invited to complete this template and forward electronically to Peter Adam who in turn will send to the MACSE.

5. Board Report

Peter Adam reported:

- No news on amalgamation as majority of time is being spent on collective bargaining since the "Putting Students First Law" has been implemented by the government.
- St. Francis of Assisi School in Petawawa's grand opening is October 10, 2012
- Bishop Smith Catholic High School will undergo renovations this Fall.

6. Association Reports

Nil

7. Professional Development Update

The following items were discussed as possibilities for upcoming SEAC presentations:

- a) Development Services Ontario (October 24<sup>th</sup>)
- b) Community Living/Job Placement
- c) Special Olympics

8. Date of Next Meeting

The next SEAC meeting is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

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RENFREW COUNTY CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2012**

**6:30 P.M.**

PRESENT: Anne Haley (Chair)  
Jeanne Charette  
Joan Daley  
Robert David  
Derrick Nearing  
Kathy O'Connor  
Colleen Whittier

RESOURCE: Peter Adam, Superintendent of Educational Services

1. The meeting opened with prayer.

2. PRESENTATION:

Rob David made an informative power point presentation on Developmental Services Ontario. Rob walked members through the power point and outlined the various developmental services and supports that are available. Discussion took place concerning the funding process, the wait times for assessments and the difficulties encountered by parents to access the financial assistance they require in order to compensate caregivers etc. Members felt that this system has created more obstacles than solutions.

Rob David asked Colleen Whittier to attend a meeting with him to discuss these issues with John Yakabuski.

3. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Joan Daley  
Seconded by: Jeanne Charette

That the agenda for the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting be approved as presented.

Carried.

4. Approval of Minutes Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Moved by: Rob David

Seconded by: Kathy O'Connor

That the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting held in the Board Room of the Renfrew County Catholic District School Board on Wednesday, September 19, 2012 be approved.

Carried.

5. Business Arising

a) The Delivery of Education Services for Students who have an Intellectual Disability in the Province of Ontario

Community Living Ontario's Community Inclusion Initiative Report on the delivery of Education Services for students who have an intellectual disability in the province of Ontario is a report of the special education service delivery for students who have an intellectual disability in the Province of Ontario. Its aim is to provide an overview of inclusionary practices for students who have an intellectual disability. Among the most positive outcomes of inclusion of students with exceptionalities are enhanced academic performance and socialization.

b) EQAO Survey About Assistive Technology

The EQAO is conducting a brief survey to gather information about the assistive-technology-related hardware and software used in schools.

The results of the survey will help EQAO determine which assistive-technology versions will be developed for the 2012-2013 assessments and suggest improvements to better serve the needs of schools.

Sally Douglas has completed this survey.

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c) Huron-Superior Catholic District School Board

Correspondence from the Huron-Superior Catholic District School Board expressing concern over the cost of testing that could be prohibitive to some families making it difficult for them to provide the opportunity for their children to access the Developmental Services Ontario.

The members of SEAC question the appropriateness of such a narrow definition and the consequence of limiting access to adult services.

d) L'Arche Canada Educational Initiatives & Publications

L'Arche Canada received a grant from the Government of Canada to develop a website to help young people in high school and in their 20s who have intellectual disabilities make and keep friends. Members commented that this was an excellent resource.

e) ABA in the Valley

ABA Specialists, Jennifer Reid Hudson (RCCDSB) and Rachel McKay (RCDSB) have jointly produced a newsletter entitled "ABA in the Valley" which will be published three times a year. Information item.

6. Board Report

Anne reported:

- St. Joseph's High School Renfrew has been invited to Toronto to be recognized for their outstanding EQAO score results in Grade 9 Math;
- The Board's Inaugural meeting is scheduled on Monday, December 3, 2012; A representative from the SEAC Committee is invited to attend. This item will be discussed at the next SEAC meeting in November.

7. Association Reports

Colleen Whittier discussed the Parent Reaching Out Grant that is designed around more parent involvement. SEAC members would have an opportunity to chat with various members. Peter informed members that the Parent Involvement Committees from the RCCDSB and RCDSB are presenting keynote speaker Elizabeth Manley (former Olympian) to speak on "Nurturing Our Children: Heart, Mind, Body and Soul".

This presentation will take place on November 3, 2012 at Fellowes High School in Pembroke. Kathy Kennedy will send a copy of the flyer to members.

8. Professional Development Update

a) Kurzwell Schedule for Grade 3-8 Teachers

The Board's Special Education Department will be training 101 classroom grade 3 to 8 teachers on the program Kurzwell 3000. Information Item.

b) Essential for Some: Good for All

Members reviewed the document entitled "Leading for All: A research report of the development, design, implementation and impact of Ontario's "Essential for Some, Good for All" initiative Executive Summary. The report concluded that inclusive model for education was by far the most successful approach and that small school boards lead larger boards by achieving positive results for Special Education students.

Peter Adam informed members that St. Joseph's school in Arnprior will participate in a pilot project where an IBI specialist from CHEO will work with a JK student 4 days a week.

9. The next SEAC meeting is scheduled to take place on November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2012 at 6:30 p.m.

Moved by: Joan Daley

Seconded by: Kathy O'Connor

That the meeting adjourn at 8:15 p.m.

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RENFREW COUNTY CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2012**

**6:30 P.M.**

PRESENT: Anne Haley (Chair)  
Jeanne Charette  
Joan Daley  
Derrick Nearing  
Kathy O'Connor  
Colleen Whittier

REGRETS: Rob David

RESOURCE: Peter Adam, Superintendent of Educational Services

1. The meeting opened with prayer.

2. PRESENTATION:

Anne introduced members to Tina Williams, Service Coordinator, Community Living who made an informative presentation and outlined the various services provided by Community Living. Tina emphasized that one important area that Community Living focuses on is planning long before the end of the school year that a smooth transition of an individual into his/her community. "Transitional Planning" is the combined efforts of students with intellectual disabilities, family members, educational support staff, developmental services and others in the community working together to develop and implement a plan to meet the needs and desires of that individual before leaving school. Anne thanked Tina for her informative power point presentation.

3. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Colleen Whittier  
Seconded by: Kathy O'Connor

That the agenda for the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting for November 21, 2012 be approved as presented.

Carried.

4. Approval of Minutes Wednesday, October 24, 2012

Moved by: Joan Daley

Seconded by: Derrick Nearing

That the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting held in the Board Room of the Renfrew County Catholic District School Board on Wednesday, November 21, 2012 be approved.

Carried.

5. Business Arising

a) 2013 AGM and Conference Resolutions

Peter Adam requested that any member(s) who would like to submit a resolution pertaining to SEAC recommendations/concerns do so before the Inaugural Board meeting on December 3, 2012.

b) Special Education Macro-Data Focus Elementary EQAO Highlights

Members reviewed the stats for the EQAO and Peter highlighted 2 areas:

- 1) The average gap in Ontario between all students and special needs students for the three Grade 3 assessments in 10-11 was 31.7 points, for the RCCDSB this gap was 21 points. RCCDSB Special Needs pupils performed an average of 23.7 points higher than all Ontario Special Needs students.
- 2) The average gap in Ontario between all students and special needs students for the three Grade 6 assessments in 10-11 was 37.7 points, for our board this gap was 22.3 points – RCCDSB special needs pupils performed an average of 25 points higher than all Ontario special needs pupils.

c) Special Education Overview, October 2012

Members were provided with a copy of the Special Education Overview (October 12). Information Item.

6. Board Report

Anne inquired if anyone from the SEAC Committee was interested in attending the Board's Inaugural Meeting on December 3, 2012. Derek Nearing stated he would get back to us to let us know if he could attend. Joan Daley will attend if Derek is unavailable that evening.

7. Association Reports

Jeanne reported that a previously scheduled IEP/IPRC Presentation was cancelled and will be reschedule in the Spring.

Three additional events have been planned due to Autism Ontario (local chapter) receiving additional monies: (1) Swimming at Dundonald Hall on December 30<sup>th</sup>; (2) Family get-together and meal in Renfrew; and (3) Movie Screening.

Colleen Whittier reported that Algonquin College's Open House was a wonderful success. The open house for the public is scheduled on November 30, 2012.

8. PD Update

SERTS and Educational Assistants are doing a "Brush up Training" on Track On-Task Behaviour.

School-wide Positive Behaviour Support Program Training commences at Our Lady of Fatima tomorrow.

9. Next Meeting Date

The next SEAC meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, January 16, 2013 at 6:30 p.m.

Moved by: Jeanne Carmody

Seconded by: Kathy O'Connor

That the meeting adjourn at 8:20 p.m.

Carried.

RENFREW COUNTY CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2013**

**6:30 P.M.**

PRESENT: Anne Haley (Chair)  
Jeanne Charette  
Joan Daley  
Rob David  
Derrick Nearing  
Kathy O'Connor  
Colleen Whittier

REGRETS: Rob David  
Joan Daley

RESOURCE: Peter Adam, Superintendent of Educational Services

1. The meeting opened with prayer.
2. Presentation: An update on the Ontario Disabilities Legislation

Sally Douglas, Special Education Coordinator, walked members through informative charts outlining the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation (IASR) Requirements for School Boards, definitions of various disabilities, tools to recognize barriers within the schools and informative websites that individuals may refer to as excellent resources. Anne thanked Sally for her informative and detailed presentation.

3. Approval of Agenda

One item was added to the agenda under New Business: Electronic Agendas

Moved by: Derrick Nearing  
Seconded by: Jeanne Charette

That the agenda for the Special Education Advisory Committee of January 23, 2013 be approved as presented.

Carried.

4. Approval of Minutes Wednesday, November 21, 2012

Moved by: Colleen Whittier  
Seconded by: Kathy O'Connor

That the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee held in the Board Room on Wednesday, November 21, 2012 be approved.

Carried.

5. Business Arising

a) Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation

The Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation (IASR) developed pursuant to the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA), addresses standards related to Information and Communication, Employment and Transportation. Compliance with the requirements under this Regulation will occur in stages from the present time through to 2021.

b) Correspondence from the Upper Canada District School Board

The Upper Canada District School Board have added their support to two issues recently brought to the Ministry's attention: (1) Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorder be discussed with students earlier than Grade 11, and (2) Special Education Preparatory courses become mandatory for all Teachers Colleges in Ontario.

c) Correspondence from the St. Clair Catholic District School Board

The St. Clair Catholic District School Board have requested the following from the Ministry: (1) that the Ministry of Education continues to recognize the importance of professional development in the area of Special Education for all teachers because of the increased complexity of exceptional needs students, and (2) that Special Education Preparatory courses become mandatory for all Teachers Colleges in Ontario.

d) Transition Planning Protocol and Procedures for Young People with Developmental Disabilities

The Transition Planning Protocol and Procedures for Young People with Developmental Disabilities has now been approved by the Ministry of Children and Youth Services and the Ministry of Community and Social Services. The lead agency is Family and Children's Services of Renfrew County.

e) ABA in the Valley

Members reviewed the second edition of ABA in the Valley and found this to be an excellent resource, particularly for parents of special needs pupils. SEAC members requested that if possible this resource be distributed to parents of special needs pupils. Peter Adam will check with Jennifer Reid Hudson and get back to members.

f) Correspondence from the Wellington District School Board

Wellington District School Board have requested the following: (1) that Community and Social Services ensure a continuation of Special Services at Home Funding beyond the age of 18 and (2) that the Ministry of Education revise the funding model to provide a fair allocation for all special education students, wherever they live in Ontario.

g) Ministry of Education Special Education Update

This document was sent to members electronically. Kathy O'Connor noted that VOICE Ontario School Board Training and Mentorship Program where training is now complete in four pilot boards and is currently carrying out training in nine other boards. Training and professional development workshops will continue through the Fall of 2012 and winter 2013. Members also noted The Comprehensive Mental Health and Addictions Strategy which has been recently implemented.

5. Board Report

Anne Smith reported how pleased everyone was to hear that the Amalgamation of School Boards will not take place.

The Audit Committee met and again there is a deficit in Special Education.

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6. Association Reports

Derrick Nearing informed members that Autism Awareness Centre, Inc, is presenting an excellent workshop at the Ottawa Conference Centre on March 25 and 26, 2013.

Jeanne Charette informed members that Autism Ontario is providing a Social Learning Opportunity Family Swim on Saturday, February 2, 2013 at Dundonald Hall, in Petawawa.

Colleen Whittier informed members that the Ontario Ombudsman has announced an investigation into the province's services for adults with developmental disabilities who are in crisis situations, after several desperate families complained their loved ones risked being sent to homeless shelters or jail because there was nowhere to care for them. Complaints to the Ombudsman's office about the Ministry of Community and Social Services to such situations have steadily increased. The Ombudsman is asking anyone who has information relevant to the investigation to contact his office: [info@ombudsman.on.ca](mailto:info@ombudsman.on.ca).

7. New Business

Discussion took place on whether the members would like their agenda packages emailed as opposed to mailed. The following was decided: Anne Haley (drop box), Colleen Whittier (emailed) and the rest of the members would like a hard copy mailed.

8. P.D Update

Peter informed SEAC members that all SERTS have been trained on IPADs by Sally Douglas and Kathy O'Neill.

9. Date of Next SEAC Meeting

The next SEAC meeting is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, February 20, 2013.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

kk

RENFREW COUNTY CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2013**

**6:30 P.M.**

PRESENT: Anne Haley (Chair)  
Jeanne Charette  
Joan Daley  
Rob David  
Derrick Nearing  
Kathy O'Connor

REGRETS: Colleen Whittier

RESOURCE: Peter Adam, Superintendent of Educational Services

1. The meeting opened with prayer.

2. Presentation: Special Education Budget

Mary Lynn Schauer, Superintendent of Business Services, gave members a breakdown of the 2012-2013 Special Education revised estimates. Items from Special Education Revenues, Executive Summary as well as Surplus were explained. Anne thanked Mary Lynn for her informative and detailed presentation.

3. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Kathy O'Connor

Seconded by: Jeanne Charette

That the agenda for the Special Education Advisory Committee of February 20, 2013 be approved as presented.

Carried.

4. Approval of Minutes Wednesday, February 20, 2013

One item was changed on the minutes in the attendance: Joan Daley and Rob David were noted as present and absent. They sent their regrets and were absent.

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Moved by: Derrick Nearing  
Seconded by: Kathy O'Connor

That the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee held on Wednesday, January 23, 2013 be approved.

Carried.

5. Business Arising

- a) Correspondence from the Durham District School Board to the Honourable John Milloy, Minister of Community and Social Services

Information item.

- b) Correspondence from the Hamilton Wentworth Catholic District School Board to the Honourable John Milloy, Minister of Community and Social Services

Information item.

- c) Integrated Transition Planning for Young People with Developmental Disabilities

New transition protocol is to begin in February 2013. The shared goal is to have district school boards, school authorities and MCY/MCSS regional offices work together to integrate and develop a single transition plan for every young person with a developmental disability.

- d) Policy/Program Memorandum 156: Supporting Transitions for Students with Special education Needs

The implementation will begin September 2, 2014. The intent of this memo is to formalize the current effective practices related to supporting transitions in order to ensure a more consistent approach across schools.

6. Board Report

Full Day/Every Day Kindergarten have been expanded to John XXII and St. Francis of Assisi for this year. We are currently in year 4 of 5 for this implementation. By 2014 all schools will have Full Day/Every Day Kindergarten. Anne mentioned that the Madawaska area will be undergoing the ARC (Accommodation Review) process beginning 2013-2014.

7. Association Reports

Joan mentioned that there are programs being implemented at St. Joseph High for students to attend Algonquin College for a dual credit. Bishop Smith is also partaking in this program.

Jeanne informed the members that the ABA Services and Supports in conjunction with CHEO are offering workshops from January to April. The RDSP (Registered Disability Savings Plan) is offering a free information session on February 25 from 7-8 p.m. at the Winning Kid's Centre in Pembroke. Autism Ontario is providing their first online webinar series. The three are: 1) February 27, 2013 2) March 14, 2013 and 3) March 19, 2013.

8. New Business

There was no new business to report on.

9. P.D. Update

Anne informed the committee that the Ottawa Children's Treatment Centre is holding a conference called "Challenging Behaviour" on May 10, 2013.

10. Date of Next SEAC Meeting

There is no SEAC meeting in March. The next meeting will be Tuesday, April 16, 2013 at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

/nsk

**RENFREW COUNTY CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**

**MINUTES**

**SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 2013**

**6:30 P.M.**

PRESENT: Anne Haley (Chair)  
Joan Daley  
Derrick Nearing  
Kathy O'Connor

REGRETS: Jeanne Charette  
Rob David  
Colleen Whittier

RESOURCE: Peter Adam, Superintendent of Education

1. The meeting opened with prayer.
2. Presentation: Mental Health and Wellness: Clint Young

Clint Young, Vice-Principal of Bishop Smith Catholic High School presented the results of his environmental scan of Mental Health and Wellness related data and perspectives in the Renfrew County Catholic District School Board. Included in Clint's presentation were recommendations for consideration around this important topic. Anne thanked Clint for the thoroughness and passion of his presentation. (Follow-up: Kathy Kennedy will forward a copy of Clint's powerpoint to SEAC members)

4. Approval of Minutes

Moved by: Kathy O'Connor  
Seconded by: Derrick Nearing

That the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee held on Wednesday, February 20, 2013 be approved.

Carried.

5. Information Items

- a) Correspondence from the Trillium Lakelands District School Board
- b) Correspondence from the Thames Valley District School Board
- c) Correspondence from the Durham Catholic District School Board
- d) Correspondence from the Ministry of Education concerning ABA Expertise Professional Learning Day – Jennifer Reid Hudson will attend this session.
- e) Correspondence from the Lakehead District School Board

6. Extra High School Credits after Graduation

Kathy O'Connor inquired if Special Needs students would have to pay for extra credits if they graduate and want more than 32 credits. Peter Adam informed members that our Board currently has no restrictions regarding additional credits.

7. Board Report

- Peter Adam updated SEAC members about a recent presentation by Darryl Denyes, Manager of Technological Services concerning Technological infrastructure.
- Enrolment is stable at the elementary level at this time.
- Christian Community Day is scheduled to take place on Friday, May 3, 2013. The guest speaker is Barbara Coloroso. All SEAC members are invited to attend and asked to confirm their attendance with Kathy Kennedy. (Follow up: Kathy to forward information packages to members)

8. Association Reports

Kathy O'Connor informed members of an upcoming workshop at Bishop Smith Catholic High School on May 15, 2013. The keynote speaker is Erin Walsh creator of Mind Positive Parenting. Her topics include brain development and raising resilient young people in the digital age. (Follow up: Kathy K. to send information to SEAC members on these sessions.)

9. Upcoming Dates for SEAC Meetings:

May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2013 and June 19, 2013.

10. Adjournment:

Moved by: Derek Nearing  
Seconded by: Joan Daley

That the meeting adjourn at 7:45 p.m.

Carried.



**RENFREW COUNTY CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**

**MINUTES**

**SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 2013**

**6:30 P.M.**

PRESENT: Anne Haley, Chair  
Jeanne Charette  
Joan Daley  
Derrick Nearing  
Kathy O'Connor  
Colleen Whittier

REGRETS: Rob David  
Peter Adam, Superintendent of Educational Services

RESOURCE: Sally Douglas, Special Education Coordinator

1. The meeting opened with prayer.
2. Presentation: Staffing 2013-2014 – Sally Douglas, Special Education Coordinator

Sally Douglas gave an overview of Special Education staffing and the process involved in determining the needs of Educational Assistants throughout the schools within our board. Sally explained that some of the factors would be addressed and considered would include: a) addressing individualized student needs, b) collective student body, and c) shared Educational Assistants where appropriate. The increase for the need of Educational Assistants for School Year 2013-2014 has increased and an upcoming meeting at the board will determine how student needs can be met.

3. Approval of Agenda

Jeanne Charette requested that the Fully Alive Program be added to the agenda under New Business.

Moved by: Kathy O'Connor  
Seconded by: Joan Daley

That the agenda for the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting be approved as presented.

Carried.

3. Approval of Minutes

Moved by: Kathy O'Connor  
Seconded by: Joan Daley

That the minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of April 16, 2013 be approved.

Carried.

4. **Business Arising:**

a) Draft Copy of Special Education Board Plan

Members were provided with a copy of the Special Education Board Plan to review and bring back any changes/recommendations to the June 19<sup>th</sup> meeting.

b) Correspondence from the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board

Members reviewed correspondence from the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board expressing their concerns about the inclusion of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorder in the Ontario Secondary School Physical Education Program. Members questioned if our board has included teachings of the Fetal Alcohol Syndrome as part of the curriculum and if the teachings included our Grade 8 students. Sally Douglas will follow up.

c) Correspondence from the Durham District School Board

Members noted that this correspondence has stated that funding for the High Needs Amount (HNA) is **partly** reliant on census data which was last done in 2006. This dated data does not reflect the true number of students or the cost to provide the support required for these students.

d) Monitoring of Implementation of PPM 140

Jennifer Reid Hudson will collect data from the principals and submit to the Ministry of Education. Information Item.

e) ABA in the Valley

Members requested that this informative newsletter be placed on the board's Special Education website. Sally Douglas will follow up.

4. Board Report

Anne informed members that trustees recently attended the OCSTA Meeting where once again an appeal was made for additional funding for Special Education.

Members were informed that the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Board recently gave a presentation to the Knights of Columbus entitled "Catholic Education: Past, Present and Future".

5. Association Reports

Colleen Whittier reported that Easter Seals is appealing for additional funding. Funding is dependent on government grants.

Easter Seals is preparing for Summer Camp: Summer Camp starts on the first week of July and adult camp (18 to 26) commences July 14<sup>th</sup>.

Christopher Beesley joins Community Living Ontario as the new CEO.

Jeanne reported that Autism Ontario is coordinating with CHEO an inservice for camp counselors. The training will be for half a day on the last Friday in June. Jeanne will provide additional information as it becomes available.

6. New Business

Jeanne Charette expressed concern on the board's outdated Fully Alive Program and felt there was a need to address and update this part of the curriculum particularly for Special Needs Pupils. Members felt there were better resources available and that there was a need to investigate this program.

Anne informed members that the Official Blessing of the new Chapel at Bishop Smith Catholic High School will take place on October 15, 2013.



7. Next Meeting

The next SEAC meeting is scheduled on June 19<sup>th</sup> commencing with a light lunch at 6:00 p.m.

Moved by: Jeanne Charette

Seconded by: Derrick Nearing

That the meeting adjourn at 7:40 p.m.

/kk

RENFREW COUNTY CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**MINUTES**

**SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 2013**

**6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Anne Haley, (Chair)  
Jeanne Charette  
Joan Daley  
Kathy O'Connor  
Colleen Whittier

REGRETS: Derrick Nearing  
Rob David

RESOURCE: Peter Adam, Superintendent of Educational Services

1. The meeting opened with prayer.

2. **PRESENTATION:**

Kathy O'Neill, Special Education Coordinator, updated and reviewed the changes to the Board's Special Education Plan for School Year 2012-2013.

Moved by: Jeanne Carmody  
Seconded by: Colleen Whittier

That the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the Renfrew County Catholic District School Board's Special Education Plan for School Year 2013-2014.

Carried.

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3. **Approval of Agenda**

That one additional item be added to the agenda:

- d) Lorne Keon Special Education Award

That the Agenda for the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting be approved as presented.

Carried.

3. **Approval of Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes dated May 22, 2013.**

Moved by: Kathy O'Connor

Seconded by: Joan Daley

That the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of May 22, 2013 be approved.

Carried.

5. **Business Arising (Information Items)**

- a) Regional Special Education Council – Closing the Gap
- b) Special Education Overview May 2013
- c) Correspondence from the Peterborough Victoria Northumberland & Clarington Catholic District School Board
  
- d) Lorne Keon Special Education Award

Kathy O'Connor will present this award at the Bishop Smith Catholic High School Graduation on June 26, 2013.

6 **Board Report**

- ✓ Anne Haley informed members that the Board is currently working on the budget for the next school year.
  
- ✓ Peter Adam updated members on the status of staffing for School Year 2013-2014.
  
- ✓ Peter also informed members that the “Fully Alive” program is currently being reviewed and updated.

7. **Association Reports**

Jeanne Charette informed members that the Autism Network of Ontario (Renfrew County Chapter) is partnering with the County of Renfrew Child Care Services Division to offer a half day of training by the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario, Autism Program. This training is a free half day workshop for camp counselors and staff who provide support to children with autism in a recreational or summer program setting.

Training is scheduled on June 28, 2013 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (lunch included) at the County of Renfrew Administration Building.

8. **Professional Development Update**

Peter Adam updated members on Professional Development planning in the Board next school year.

9. **Next SEAC Meeting**

The next SEAC meeting is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, September 18, 2013. One of the goals next year will be to recruit additional members to the SEAC Committee.

10. **Adjournment**

Moved by: Joan Daley  
Seconded by: Colleen Whittier

That the SEAC Committee Meeting adjourn at 7:45 p.m.

/kk