



**S**pecial  
**E**ducation  
**A**dvisory  
**C**ommittee



COMMISSION SCOLAIRE SIR-WILFRID-LAURIER  
SIR WILFRID LAURIER SCHOOL BOARD

**MINUTES OF THE  
Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, May 6th, 2014.  
ESD/CSD Conference Room - 239, montée Lesage, Rosemère, QC**

**Present:** *Fred Greschner, Director of Complementary Services;  
Jennifer Maccarone, Pamala Cripton, Bessie Athanasopoulos, Lisa Fennessey, Natalina Pace, Patricia Sasso - Parents  
Grace Courey – Principal;  
Pasquale Machado - LTU; Ghyslaine Massé - SEP577;  
Naz Facchino – Commissioner;  
Sylvia Repas - Recording Secretary*

**Absent with regrets:** *Eileen Kelly, Assistant Director , Adèle Leeming, Janet Sallie,  
Audrey Kannon, Elaine Sassen – Teachers; Jack Fitch, Peter MacLaurin, Elio Lattanzio*

AGENDA TOPIC	DISCUSSION	Remarks and Actions To be Taken
1.0 Welcoming remarks		
2.0 Additions and approval of the Agenda	<i>Meeting called to order at 7:04 PM with quorum Add to agenda ... 6.3 - Gifted Students 6.4 - Allocation of Resources 6.5 - Date and time of 2014-15 meetings Welcome to Grace Courey – Principal</i>	<i>Moved by: Lisa Fennessey Seconded by: Ghyslaine Massé Carried</i>
3.0 Approval of minutes of meeting held April 3rd, 2014	<i>7.2.2 – Should read &lt;ententes with specialized schools&gt; 11.0 – Should read &lt;A student with Asperger Syndrome&gt; 5.0 (Business Arising) –Pascale Machado noted the following... - date is incorrect..should read March 13<sup>th</sup> -3<sup>rd</sup> line, the word &lt;contract&gt; should be replaced with &lt;rights&gt;...should read <u>Teacher’s rights</u>. -Last line, should read...&lt;it is not an obligation of the teacher....&gt;</i>	<i>Moved by: Bessie A Seconded by: Natalina Pace Carried with 3 Abstentions</i>
4.0 Chairperson’s Report	<i>Natalina expanded on the Social Integration Services noted in Jennifer’s PC report.</i>	
5.0 Business Arising		

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5.1 Fall Conference - Parent Survey of Needs	<p><i>We will be moving the Spring to a Fall Conference. Fred mentioned that a meeting should take place to discuss the details of this Conference. Survey monkey to be sent out to parents, to find out what their preferred topics would be. To go out through our Communications Department. Jennifer suggested that this survey should have fewer questions. Survey should go out before the end of the school year.</i></p> <p><i>Pamala Crompton, Ghyslaine Masse, Grace Courey, Natalina Pace, Jennifer Maccarone volunteered to be on the organizing committee. Please e-mail your ideas.</i></p>	
5.2 I.E.P. Policy Review and SEAC Recommendations	<p><i>Jennifer suggested that this should be looked at as a group. Fred explained that there is no IEP policy. He explained how policies are developed. We presently have a number of policies that need to be updated and reviewed.</i></p> <p><i>Until we get a mandate the policies remain as is. Pasquale suggested that handbooks and booklets available to parents be reviewed and up-dated to be in line with school policies. Pamala suggested that the present handbook is useful, therefore, needs to be updated.</i></p> <p><i>The present guide is out since 2005, and partly used presently. Jennifer questioned what is being used if this guide isn't? How are the teachers aware of what they are supposed to do? Pasquale explained that there is a SLSNC committee in each school, trained on how to implement the various policies.</i></p> <p><i>Every school receives on a yearly basis an updated SLSNC binder, and staff is then trained at the beginning of each school year. Fred explained the IEP process in the schools. We have a Consultant assigned to this project. Grace Courey also briefly explained how the process works at the school level.</i></p> <p><i>Patricia Sasso &amp; Bessie Athanasopoulos both described their frustrations with the IEP PROCESS. Lisa Fennessey agreed with the above parents wherein she feels that the present process is flawed. Pasquale explained that it is a legal document which must be abided by the teachers.</i></p> <p><i>Pamala feels that some IEPs may occasionally be wrongly completed. Mr. Facchino noted that the process has not really changed in the last 15 years. Basically, the reality is that teachers don't always have time to do this, and that there are most likely more IEPs now. Pasquale explained that this process needs to be re-organized to make it efficient for everyone.</i></p>	

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	<p><i>Jennifer described her experience to be positive and effective. Fred reminded everyone that it is important to go to your school Principal with your questions. We have made improvements in the past few years. The IEP is a legal educational plan, and that we are continuously striving on improving its effectiveness. As each child is unique and we want the IEP to be useful and successful – we have reduced the number of goals on the IEP. Only people directly involved, and privy to the child’s information have access to the IEP. Ghyslaine mentioned that attendants also follow student for added support. Fred agreed with Pamala that the child’s code should NOT be noted on the IEP. <u>Fred to clarify this issue.</u></i></p> <p><i>Mr. Facchino emphasized that Fred has done a great job in getting funding for our students. Fred stated that this dossier involves a great team, as well as a good rapport with our local MELS.</i></p> <p><i>Natalina questioned whether it is a legitimate objective to have uniformity from school to school with every aspect to the child’s rights. At SWLSB, we are constantly striving and evolving in finding uniformity and always working on improving our practices. Lisa mentioned that the number one priority for uniformity is to have all the teachers that know the child at the IEP meetings. Pasquale explained that all of the teachers cannot always all be there due to union restrictions, but they are encouraged to submit their recommendations in writing.</i></p> <p><i><u>Parents are always the best advocates for their child, and that School administrators are ultimately responsible at the school level to inform and give parents information.</u></i></p> <p><i>It was suggested that an IEP guide be developed for the high school level. Send your suggestions and comments to Jennifer with regards to this document.</i></p>	
<b>6.0</b> New Business		
6.1 Special Transportation: Minivan drivers contract dispute	<p><i>Natalina shared a letter from the mini-van driver with everyone. Fred to forward it to our Transportation Department.</i></p>	

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6.2 Consultation on the Reorganization of Laval High Schools: Response from SEAC	<p><i>Jennifer mentioned that it would be good to have SEAC input. PC table overall parents seem to be favoring model 2 having 2 principals. No formal resolution yet. Fred mentioned that in large schools, the Vice-Principals are also delegated with certain powers. Deadline to submit to school board is June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014. Jennifer asked Fred if there is a risk to these students in terms of continuity. We will continue to use our guidelines and systems and ensure that we maintain continuity as much as possible.</i></p> <p><i>SEAC supports Model 2</i></p>	<p><i>Moved by: Pamala Cripton Seconded by: Natalina Pace Abstention by: Grace Courey</i></p>
6.3 Gifted students	<p><i>Fred explained that there is no policy or procedure for gifted students. Ghyslaine explained that she has seen some teachers implement special plans for gifted students.</i></p>	
6.4 Allocation of Resources	<p><i>Pamala requested a more detailed document on the allocation of resources. Fred briefly explained the process. Close to \$2 million extra to support our students. We have increased the budget for attendants/technicians this year. We are still going ahead with our Parity with 5.2 million on projections. Jennifer recommended that Fred bring forward to SEAC information on the Board's parameters for the allocation of resources. This could be an agenda item for September. Mr. Facchino mentioned that this Board has always allowed the parameters for allocations to surpass.</i></p>	<p><i>Fred to provide a document.</i></p>
6.5 Date and time of 2014-2015 meetings	<p><i>Pamala mentioned that an allotment of 1 hour is not enough for these meetings. Start time of 7PM is better. June and September meeting date to be announced.</i></p>	
7.0 Complementary Services Report		
7.1 Financial Report – Budget Update	<p><i>No changes.</i></p>	
8.0 Parents' Committee Report		
9.0 Question Period	<p><i>Ghyslaine attended the Crestview Cares presentation – great presentation. Spoke briefly about concerns about what happens to students once they leave high school.</i></p>	

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	<i>Last Crestview Cares meeting is - Thursday, May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2014. RSVP with Marie-Helen Goyetche.</i>	
<b>10.0</b> Next Meeting	<i>June 2014 – date to be determined.</i>	
<b>11.0</b> Adjournment	<i>Meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM.</i>	<i>Moved by: Jennifer Maccarone Seconded by: Pamala Cripton Closed at 9:30 PM</i>

Respectfully submitted by: Sylvia Repas