



Minutes of the eighth (8th) meeting of the 2015-2016 Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) held on Tuesday, September 27, 2016 in the Board Room at the SWLSB Administrative Centre, 235 Montée Lesage, Rosemère, Québec

Members present: Pamala Cripton, Anna Di Falco, Stephane Henley, Angela Iannantuono, Nadia Zuccaro, Parents; Brian Benoit, James Gore, Teacher; Kate Baldwin, SEPB577 Representative

Alternate parent members present: Jessica D'Ascanio, Caitlyn Harvey

Also present were: Silvia Patella, Director of Complementary Services

Regrets : Lisa Loveland, Marianne Sassen, Stella Talianakis, Carla Tosti, Principal delegate

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 7:14 p.m.

1. Additions, changes & Approval of the Agenda

Nadia Zuccaro MOVED THAT the agenda is approved. Seconded by Brian Benoit.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

2. Introduction of Members

Members introduced themselves.

3. Elections

3.1 Regular Members (at end of 2-year term)

Evan Caminis (JFK Elementary)

Yolanta Wiktorczyk (JFK Elementary)

Patricia Sasso (St-Paul Elementary)

Marianne Sassen (Laurentian Elementary)

Evan, Yolanta and Patricia will not return this year.

Marianne has expressed an interest in remaining but is not present this evening (this vote will be tabled until the next meeting)

Anna Di Falco, Stella Talianakis and Angela, Iannantuono are voted as delegates for the 2016-2018 school years.

3.2 Chairperson

Nadia Zuccaro MOVED THAT Stephane Henley is nominated as Chairperson of SEAC for the 2016-2017 school year. Seconded by Brian Benoit.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

3.3 Vice-Chairperson

Brian Benoit MOVED THAT Nadia Zuccaro is nominated as Vice-Chairperson of SEAC for the 2016-2017 school year. Seconded by Anna Di Falco.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

3.4 Treasurer

Anna Di Falco nominates herself as Treasurer of SEAC for the 2016-2017 school year. Seconded by Brian Benoit.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY



3.5 Secretary (not recording)

Tabled to next meeting

3.6 Delegate to the Parents Committee (2016-2017)

Nadia Zuccaro nominates herself as Delegate to the Parents Committee of SEAC for the 2016-2017 school year.
Seconded by Anna Di Falco.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

3.7 Special Needs Parent Commissioner (2016-2018)

Stephane Henley nominates himself as Special Needs Parents Commissioner for the 2016-2018 school years.
Seconded by Nadia Zuccaro.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

4. Engagement of Recording Secretary 2016-2017

Nadia Zuccaro MOVED THAT Susan O'Keeffe is engaged as recording secretary for 2016-2017 at a rate of \$90 per meeting for the first 2.5 hours and \$10 for every half hour after. Seconded by Brian Benoit.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

5. Approval of Minutes of Meeting held on June 21, 2016

Brian Benoit MOVED THAT the minutes of June 21, 2016 are approved. Seconded by Kate Baldwin.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

6. Question Period

No questions.

7. Business Arising

7.1 Policy for the Organization of Educational Services for Students with Special Needs

An unofficial presentation was made by Stephanie Krenn at the last meeting. Not much feedback was received over the summer. Silvia Patella was unaware that this was unofficial so she will send the Chairperson a copy via e-mail to send to members so that they are prepared to make their comments at the next meeting. All comments are taken under advisement by the committee. This document is confidential and members are asked not to share it with anyone. Both alternates and delegates will be allowed to provide their feedback on this document.

7.2 Official Report on Requests for Reconsideration Made Under Sec. 9 Relating to Students with Special Needs (Ed. Act. 187)

This document will be brought to the SEAC in the next two months.

7.3 Distribution of IEP Toolkits 2016

The balance of the money from last year's budget was allocated to print IEP toolkits. The cost per toolkit has increased as the quantity of toolkits was smaller than the last order.

Pamala Cipton MOVED THAT the printer will be advised to print as many as he can with the funds that he was allotted from last years' budget. Seconded by Stephane Henley.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

Moving forward the members would like this toolkit sent to parents digitally. Silvia cautioned not sending it to parents entering kindergarten as not all parents are aware of them, and for some parents it is a bit scary. When a child with learning difficulties enters the school system, they are entering with a diagnosis, but it is up to the MEES to validate the code. The school boards job is to demonstrate that the child needs the extra help to the MEES in order to receive that code.

If a child comes into the system without an evaluation, and they demonstrate there is a need, the school teams will act on it. This does not necessarily mean they will get an IEP. There could be adaptations to the curriculum, or a modification to their level of instruction. There are steps that must be taken and can take a little while, however services will be given to the child. The team looks for the best way to make it work for the student.

If parents know their child is experiencing difficulty, the first step is to see the teacher with their concerns. If parents are not happy with the answers, they can go to the principal. Parents can request a meeting with the team to find out if an IEP is the way to go. CSD is a bridge between the schools. The MEES does not give codes to all disorders, however the child will get the necessary services that they need.

The committee entered into a long discussion about IEP's and the implementation and holding people accountable for them.

7.4 Digital Copy of French IEP Toolkit

The French version of the IEP toolkit is available and will be put on line. Silvia will ask Principal's to advertise it in their newsletters.

8. Reports

8.1 Chairs Report

Nothing for this month.

8.2 School Board Report

Silvia showed members a presentation on the ententes with the specialized schools for students who we cannot service in our school board.

In response to a question from Valentina, it happens very rarely that CSD pushes a placement into a specialized school when the parents do not agree. They will have tried with the students in a regular setting first. The students will be moved if it is to the detriment to the child.

8.3 CSD Report

Four Assistive Technology deployment evenings are taking place. This is a measure whereby students with codes can receive different assistive technology devices to serve as aids. These devices can go home with the child, comes back to the school for the summer and given back at the beginning of the new school year. About 120-140 devices will be distributed over the 4 days.

Free tutorials and video programs are available to children on the CSD website.

8.4 Treasurers Report

The allocation for SEAC this year is \$1000. Pamala has advised SEAC to strongly contest this amount as this is the second year in a row that the allocation has been reduced. The Chair will send a letter to the school board.



Silvia reported that there was an expense of \$194 from last year that has gone into this year's budget. An invoice was received in June by finance with no treasurers' signature and was refused payment, and by the time it did get paid, the financial years 2015-2016 was closed. Therefore, the remaining budget for this year is \$806.

Members who attend meetings are entitled to mileage. Please hand in these forms at the end of each meeting to the treasurer.

8.5 PC Delegate Report

There has not been a meeting since the last meeting in June.

9. New Business

9.1 Date, Time & Place of Meetings

Pamala Crompton MOVED THAT the meetings will be held on the third Tuesday of each month for the school year 2016-2017 with the exception of December 2016, and September 19, 2017. Seconded by Brian Benoit.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

(October 18, November 15, 2016; January 17, February 21, March 21, April 18, May 16, June 20 and September 19, 2017)

9.2 Internal Rules and Procedures

The internal rules and procedures in packages is not the correct one. This item is tabled to the next meeting.

9.3 Internal Financial Policy

Pamala Crompton MOVED THAT the internal financial policy is approved as presented. Seconded by Brian Benoit.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

9.4 Fall Workshops

Linda Mastroianni of Speaking Ausitn, a writer, parent coach and speaker who coaches parents with special needs kids with effective and positive strategies to help them live, thrive and be their best self, was a guest speaker at the last meeting of PC and she was very interesting. Her fee is \$250. Pamala suggested having her come and speak at a workshop. Silvia will investigate her and get back to Pamala. Pamala mentioned that both Fred and Stephanie were at this presentation so she can speak to them about her.

No fall workshop has been planned by CSD – Silvia mentioned all of the activities that are going on right now in the department and with new members of Directorate team there is no time.



Members would like to have a parent guest speaker who has lived with a special needs child who is older, to give their perspective and their experience.

9.5 Students with Special Needs Exempt from Compulsory School Attendance (Ed. Act. 15)

If there is a student that is going to be absent for a prolonged period of time because of an issue of their special need – this would have to come to this table before this request is granted. This is a formality and would be for information only.

10. Varia

11. Question Period

“No Child Without” provides students with medic alert bracelets and service. Caitlyn Harvey said the company told her that the school board is a member of this. Members would like information on this service.

12. Adjournment

Next meeting is Tuesday October 18, 2016

Brian Benoit MOVED THAT meeting is adjourned at 9:26 pm. Seconded by Stephane Henley.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

Minutes approved: _____ October 18th, 2016

Chairperson: Stéphane Henley Secretary: _____

Respectfully submitted by:
Susan O’Keeffe, Recording Secretary

Alternate Parents on SEAC

1. Tanya Rousseau, Mountainview Elementary 2016-2017
2. Evanick Lacroix, LRHS 2016-2017
3. Caitlin Harvey, PETES 2016-2017
4. Valentina Basilicata, Crestview 2016-2017
5. Jessica D’Ascanio, Pinewood 2016-2017