

Special Needs Advisory Committee
Wednesday November 24, 2010
1925 Brookdale, Dorval

Minutes

Ester Maturi called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

In attendance: Celina Berubé, Sandra Buckingham, Jennifer DiMarco, Cindy Finn, Helen Finn, Christopher Fuzessy, Judy Kelley, Denise Kovalchuk, Ester Maturi, Daniel Olivenstein, Kiley Philp, Barbara Schnider, Douglas Stewart

Regrets: Margo Edwards, Franca Kesic, Sean O'Reilly, Myriam Rabbat, Joanne Simoneau-Polenz

Observers: Fiona du Jardin

Minutes recorded by Helen Finn

1.0 Additions to the Agenda

- 7.3 New Projects for SNAC
- 7.4 Anti-Bullying Program

1.1 Approval of Agenda

It was moved by Jennifer DiMarco, seconded by Denise Kovalchuk, and unanimously resolved that the Agenda of November 24, 2010 be approved.

2.0 Correction to Minutes of October 27th, 2010

- Add Judy Kelley to list of those in attendance
- Item 5.2 Change name from Daniel Olivenstein to Judy Kelley
- Item 6.1 Change name from Sandra Buckingham to Joanne Simoneau-Polenz

2.1 Approval of Minutes of October 27th, 2010

It was moved by Helen Finn, seconded by Ester Maturi, and unanimously resolved that the Minutes of October 27th, 2010 be approved with the above corrections.

3.0 Business Arising

3.1 Appointment of CPC representative and Alternate

It was moved by Kiley Philp, seconded by Jennifer DiMarco, and unanimously resolved that Sandra Buckingham be named as the SNAC representative to the CPC along with Barbara Schnider as the alternate representative to the CPC.

3.2 Appointment of Representative to Council

- Deferred to next meeting

3.3 SNAC Website (follow up)

Sandra Buckingham will contact Bobby Seelan from Information Systems to see what has been done and what remains to be done with the SNAC website. The committee would like SNAC to be more visible on the LBPSB website and various options and possibilities including links from the individual school sites are to be examined.

4.0 Reports

4.1 Administration

Report by Cindy Finn

Administration is busy with Major School Change following the off-island re-zoning and the movement of students necessitated by the construction of a new school in St. Lazare. Reports to the MELS for the declaration of students who are coded will be due in January. These reports are necessary to obtain funding for students with special needs. Additional funds have been allocated by the ministry to help students with behavioural problems and funds have also been allocated to create programs encouraging students old enough to drop out to stay in school.

4.2 Council of Commissioners

See written report by Daniel Olivenstein submitted by email.

A new commissioner to replace the current vacancy on council will be named shortly. The construction of the new school in St. Lazare is underway with a target opening date of the school for Sept. 2011.

4.3 Central Parents' Committee

See written report by Sandra Buckingham submitted by email.

4.4 Education Committee

Report by Denise Kovalchuk

There was presentation on the Work Orientated Training Path. Various research projects were discussed including a project concerning self-efficiency and regulation with technology including ipad technology, for pre-k and kindergarten students and those in grade 11. There was also mention of the creation of a security personnel class opening at PEC.

4.5 P.T.U.- NO REPRESENTATIVE

4.6 P.A.S.A.-

No report. Douglas Stewart was not able to attend the last meeting.

4.7 Professionals

Report by Celina Berubé

- High school resource teachers and some high school literacy/English teachers attended a presentation at the Vieille Brasserie: Julie Hobbs - Literacy Interventions;

- Elementary Resource teachers attended a presentation at the board given by Joelle Hadaya (Occupation Therapist) . - Sensory issues and interventions

-Integration Aide and Special Ed Tech PD sessions were given with a menu of workshops - Julie Hobbs key note speaker: Gender Issues was one of the topics of great interest.

Celina will bring in a list of books on Gender Differences for the next SNAC.

4.8 IASS-

No report

4.9 Treasurer's Report

Report by Denise Kovalchuk – no new expenditures to report.

It was moved by Sandra Buckingham, seconded by Ester Maturi, and unanimously resolved that Helen Finn be reimbursed costs of approximately 100.00\$ for the AQUETA (LDAQ) training session/seminar.

5.0 New Business

5.1 Resignation of Lorraine Meilleur and resulting Vice-Chair vacancy

It was moved by Sandra Buckingham, seconded by Kiley Philp, and unanimously resolved that the status of Barbara Schnider change from that of alternate to regular member of the SNAC committee.

It was moved by Helen Finn, seconded by Ester Maturi and unanimously resolved that Jennifer DiMarco be appointed as the Vice-Chair of the SNAC committee for the remainder of the year 2010-2011.

6.0 Correspondence

-none

7.0 Varia

7.1 Proposal to limit speaking time to 5-10 minutes

Ester Maturi put forward this proposal to ensure that meetings do not run overly long and that all topics can be covered as well as permit time for future presentations. Reports can be emailed to members so they can be read prior to the meeting, then only questions can be discussed.

It was moved by Ester Maturi, seconded by Jennifer DiMarco, and unanimously resolved that future meetings of the SNAC committee aim for a 9:00pm adjournment whenever possible.

7.2 Annual Fall Conference Briefing

The conference was attended by Barbara Schnider and stressed the importance of connections between parents, paths to success, and the advances in inclusion of students with special needs. There also was a discussion of the high graduation rates among the English school boards and various ways to further engage boys.

7.3 New Projects for SNAC

Some future projects for SNAC were put forward including, updating the parent handbook, the SNAC website, and updating the SNAC pamphlet. These projects are to be discussed at future meetings.

7.4 Anti-Bullying Program

Cindy Finn advised that a variety of interventions and programs are used to deal with bullying. There is not one singular method used throughout the board and the methods used are very school specific.

8.0 Adjournment

It was moved by Helen Finn, seconded by Ester Maturi and unanimously resolved to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Date of Next Meeting: January 26, 2011 7:00pm Room 219/221