

**Special Needs Advisory Committee**  
Wednesday February 23, 2011  
1925 Brookdale, Dorval

**Minutes**

Ester Maturi called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

**In attendance:** Celina Berubé, Jennifer DiMarco, Margo Edwards, Helen Finn, Christopher Fuzessy, Ester Maturi, Daniel Olivenstein, Kiley Philp, Barbara Schnider, Joanne Simoneau-Polenz, Douglas Stewart

**Regrets:** Sandra Buckingham, Cindy Finn, Judy Kelley, Franca Kesic, Denise Kovalchuk, Sean O'Reilley, Myriam Rabbat

**Observers:** None

*Minutes recorded by Helen Finn*

*The meeting commenced with a presentation by Carol Heffernan, Senior Director of Finance. The power point version of the presentation will be forwarded to all SNAC members.*

**1.0 Additions to the Agenda**

- add item **3.4:** Digital Citizenship Project – update
- add item **7.1** LEARN Quebec-
- add item **7.2** Refreshments for SNAC meetings
- add item **7.3** Social Thinking Conference Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011

**1.1 Approval of Agenda**

*It was moved by Jennifer DiMarco, seconded by Barbara Schnider, and unanimously resolved that the Agenda of February 23, 2011 be approved.*

**2.0 Correction to Minutes of January 26, 2011**

- Add Jennifer DiMarco to list of those in attendance

**2.1 Approval of Minutes of January 26, 2011**

*It was moved by Ester Maturi, seconded by Margo Edwards, and unanimously resolved that the Minutes of January 26, 2011 be approved with correction as per item 2.0.*

**3.0 Business Arising**

**3.1 Appointment of Representative to Council**

*It was moved by Jennifer DiMarco, seconded by Helen Finn, and unanimously resolved that Kiley Philp be appointed as the SNAC representative to council.*

**3.2 SNAC Website – follow up**

Jennifer DiMarco has updated all the information on the SNAC website with the exception of contact information. Past minutes are to be included on the site. A link to the SNAC site will be located on the main page of the LBPSB website. After each election, a member of SNAC will have to be nominated to maintain the website.

Committee members are to check the site within the next ten days and email Jennifer DiMarco their approval and any comments.

### **3.3 SNAC Meeting Date Change to May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

Still to be confirmed.

### **3.3 Digital Citizenship Project – Update**

Ester Maturi will be the SNAC representative for this program/project.

## **4.0 Reports**

### **4.1 Administration**

Report by Joanne Simoneau-Polenz and Christopher Fuzessy.

The head office will be launching several green initiatives this week.

The Healthy Schools/Addictions Prevention team has planned two evening activities for grade 6 students and their parents. Theatre Parminou will perform at Lasalle Community HS on March 24<sup>th</sup> and at Lindsay Place HS on March 28<sup>th</sup>.

A student services professional has been hired to support Ministry initiatives and the LBPSB Strategic Plan objective of decreasing the drop-out rate and reengaging students in education.

### **4.2 Council of Commissioners**

Written report submitted and discussed.

Highlights include:

- 2% increase in the rental of facilities rates
- Approval of the three-year plan for the allocation and destination of immovables
- Approval of the CGTSIM group purchasing plan
- A contest will be held to name the new school

### **4.3 Central Parents' Committee**

Written report submitted and discussed.

Advertising for the April 2<sup>nd</sup> CPC workshops has been an issue with information only distributed at the elementary level. Joanne Simoneau-Polenz will bring this issue to the Administration Group in order to find a method of informing parents of secondary students of this upcoming conference.

### **4.4 Education Committee**

No report

### **4.5 P.T.U.- NO REPRESENTATIVE**

### **4.6 P.A.S.A.-**

Report by Douglas Stewart - nothing to report.

#### **4.7 Professionals**

Report by Celina Berubé

Professionals have been busy going through the new registrations for 2011-2012. Meetings and Professional Development activities include the following:

- Jan. 4: Special Education Technician meeting was held at Beaconsfield High school. Guest speaker topic: Sexuality and Special Needs Students
- Feb. 11: Aide PD - Menu of Workshops went very well. Feedback was positive
- Feb. 14 & 15: LCEEQ Conference was held. I & two colleagues were presenters: Executive Functioning/Gender Differences.
- Feb. 18: Elementary Resource Teacher (NET): was held. Topic: Looking at the elementary exams - how to modify/who should have modified exams/who should be exempted from writing.
- Feb. 21st: Elementary Resource Teachers/consultants and other professionals from SSD toured Peter Hall
- Feb. 22nd: Workshop at Allion: Linking the QEP to the IEP
- March 22nd Lecture Series is with Sabrina Rangel & November 3rd 2011 is Michelle Garcia Winner.

#### **4.8 IASS-**

Report by Margo Edwards- nothing new to report.

#### **4.9 Treasurer's Report**

No report

#### **5.0 New Business**

- none

#### **6.0 Correspondence**

##### **6.1 Previous budget consultation responses from SNAC distributed by email on Jan 27, 2011**

The 2011 SNAC response should include more funds to be allocated for technical support, such as:

- Smart boards in the resource room – to benefit the children that are working there when withdrawn from a class for special help etc)
- Generally, more software for special needs,
- Voice to text software (very useful for the hearing impaired, dyslexic, dysgraphia (writing and coordination difficulties)

#### **7.0 Varia**

##### **7.1 LEARN Quebec update**

The site is accessible via the LBPSB Portal from home with the student's portal user name and password. The password can be obtained from the school.

**7.2 Refreshments for SNAC meetings**

Kiley Philp will purchase coffee for the next SNAC meeting. Expenses will be covered by SNAC. At the suggestion of Joanne Simoneau-Polenz and Celina Berubé, it was agreed to have the students with special needs from the Riverdale H.S. Resource Department Catering Service program provide baked goods such as muffins and cookies.

**7.3 Social Thinking Conference: November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011**

*It was moved by Margo Edwards, seconded by Barbara Schnider, and unanimously resolved that SNAC cover costs and related expenses incurred by Kiley Philp and Jennifer DiMarco when they attend a conference on Social Thinking to be held November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011*

**8.0 Adjournment**

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

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07pm

**Date of Next Meeting: March 30th, 2011 7:00pm Room 219/221**