

Special Needs Advisory Committee

Wednesday April 27, 2011

1925 Brookdale, Dorval

The meeting was preceded by a presentation delivered by Peter Gilson of Educational Services concerning the Work Oriented Training Path. A handout about this program was distributed at the meeting.

Minutes

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

In attendance: Celina Bérubé, Sandra Buckingham, Jennifer DiMarco, Margo Edwards, Judy Kelley, Denise Kovalchuk, Ester Maturi, Daniel Olivenstein, Sean O'Reilley, Kiley Philp, Myriam Rabbat, Barbara Schnider, Joanne Simoneau-Polenz

Regrets: Cindy Finn, Helen Finn, Evelyn Lockett, Douglas Stewart

Observers: Ovidiu Burlec, Stanley Schulman

Minutes recorded by Sean O'Reilley

1.0 Additions to the Agenda

3.3 SNAC Website Update

7.1 IEP Process – added at the request of Stanley Schulman

1.1 Approval of Agenda

It was moved by Ester Maturi, seconded by Jennifer DiMarco, and unanimously resolved that the Agenda of April 27, 2011 be approved with the addition of items 3.3 and 7.1.

2.0 Correction to Minutes of March 30th, 2011

- None

2.1 Approval of Minutes of March 30, 2011

It was moved by Jennifer DiMarco, seconded by Sandra Buckingham, and unanimously resolved that the Minutes of March 30, 2011 be approved.

3.0 Business Arising

3.1 SNAC Meeting Date for May – Change to June 1st

All committee members were in agreement to change the May 27th meeting date to June 1st, 2011.

3.2 SNAC Report to Region

Item deferred. Cindy Finn to provide information.

3.3 SNAC Website Update

Item deferred. Cindy Finn to provide information regarding each school adding a direct link to the SNAC site from their respective home pages.

4.0 Reports

4.1 Administration

Report by Joanne Simoneau-Polenz

Administrative changes at the school level have been announced. Planning is underway for the upcoming school year. Consultants and school administrators are working on their plans for special needs to determine the amount of resources that will be requested for the 2011-2012 school year.

4.2 Council of Commissioners

Report by Daniel Olivenstein was distributed and questions answered.

Numerous capital projects for repairs and upgrades to buildings have been approved.

The new school in St. Lazare will be named Birchwood Elementary.

Council approved the Transportation User Fees for 2011-2012, as detailed in the document entitled "*2011-2012 Proposed User Fees*."

Sue Anne Day has been elected the new Chairman of the Board.

4.3 Central Parents' Committee

Report by Barbara Schnider

The CPC parent conference was well received.

During the last CPC meeting a resolution was passed approving the parents who constitute the parent representation on SNAC. According to the Education Act article 185 (1) *Parents of the students concerned, designated by the parent's committee*

4.4 Education Committee

Nothing new to report

4.5 P.T.U. - NO REPRESENTATIVE

4.6 P.A.S.A.-

Nothing to report

4.7 Professionals

Report by Celina Bérubé

Resource network meetings and workshops are ongoing. Consultants and resource teachers are busy preparing for incoming students and reviewing files. Schools are creating their preliminary groupings and special needs plans. Forms are to be completed by all grade 6 teachers for their graduating students. These forms are then reviewed at meetings with the destination high schools.

4.8 IASS-

Report by Margo Edwards

IASS is still awaiting news on their request to have Special Education Technician hours increased from 25 to 30.

Joanne Simoneau-Polenz indicated that a response from Cindy Finn had been sent to IASS. The commissioners also indicated that they were aware and that it would be appropriate to consider this issue during budget priorities for 2011-12

4.9 Treasurer's Report

Report by Denise Kovalchuk

The committee discussed possibilities for the best use of SNAC funds. Suggestions included brochures and a possible parent information evening. It was also discussed that babysitting and mileage costs incurred to attend SNAC meetings could be reimbursed upon submission of receipt(s) to treasurer. Joanne Simoneau-Polenz will look into the possibility of using SNAC funds to subsidize transportation costs to the May 14th rally.

5.0 New Business

5.1 Consultation: *Appropriate Use of Digital Communications & Technologies Policy* (documents available on Website)

Comments are due at the beginning of June.

6.0 Correspondence

6.1 Nathan Leibowitz-Assante Wealth Management

Email sent to SNAC was distributed at meeting.

This company is willing to come to a SNAC meeting to speak about their services. The committee did not think that it was appropriate to bring this to a SNAC meeting but felt that they could be redirected to various associations.

6.2 Public Rally May 14th

There will be a public rally in Quebec City on May 14th in order to increase awareness of the need to increase government funding for children with special needs.

7.0 Varia

7.1 IEP Process

The IEP process was discussed and questions answered.

8.0 Adjournment

It was moved by Ester Maturi, seconded by Joanne Simoneau-Polenz, and unanimously resolved to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:04 pm

Date of Next Meeting: June 1st, 2011 7:00pm Room 219/221