

DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD ONTARIO NORTH EAST

Regular Board Meeting

September 22, 2009 @ 6:45 p.m.

Location:

Schumacher Board Office, 153 Croatia Avenue, Schumacher

AGENDA

	<u>Page(s)</u>
1) <u>CALL TO ORDER</u>	
2) <u>REGULAR SESSION</u>	
3) <u>INTRODUCTION OF STUDENT TRUSTEE</u>	
4) <u>ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA</u>	
5) <u>CONFLICT OF INTEREST</u>	
6) <u>APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 8, 2009</u>	3 - 6
7) <u>BUSINESS/AND OR QUESTIONS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES</u>	
8) <u>PRESENTATION</u>	



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9) **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

- a) Cash Disbursements
- b) Policy – Equity, Diversity and Inclusivity - Revision..... 7 – 9
- c) Technology Report 10 - 11

10) **SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

- a) Minutes of meeting held September 9, 2009..... 12 - 13

11) **ONTARIO PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION**

- Northern Regional Meeting Program..... 14

12) **OTHER BUSINESS**

- Timmins New School Meeting MinutesHandout

13) **CORRESPONDENCE**

14) **MINISTRY OF EDUCATION**

- H1N1 Virus - Update

15) **ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

16) **MOTION TO ADJOURN**



MINUTES of the Special Board Meeting of District School Board Ontario North East held at 5:30 p.m. in the boardroom of the Schumacher Board Office, 153 Croatia Avenue, Schumacher, on **September 8, 2009**.

TRUSTEES PRESENT:

Saunders Porter (Chair)
Howard Archibald
Bill Brookfield
Tom Henderson
Richard Knowles
Juergen Leukert
Peter Osterberg (left before start of public session)
Rosemary Pochopsky (Vice-Chair)
Albert Schaffer

TRUSTEES ABSENT

Heather Bozzer
Dennis Draves

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:

Linda Knight - Director of Education
Michelle Leigh - Superintendent of Schools
Jo-Anne Plaunt - Superintendent of Schools
Steve Pladzyk - Superintendent of Schools
Ken Ryan - Superintendent of Human Resources

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:

Barry Peterson - Superintendent of Business and Finance

GUESTS

Christine Mallette-Widdifield - Student, Wahgoshig First Nation Adult Education Program
Cheryl Tremblay - Administrative Assistant, Wahgoshig First Nation Adult Education Program
Michelle Durant-Dudley - Teacher – District School Board Ontario North East
Liz Babin - Education Manager – Wahgoshig First Nation
Corinna Wrona - Community Use of School Facilities Outreach Co-ordinator

RECORDING SECRETARY:

Janice Sharpe

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Saunders Porter, Chair at 5:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (IN-CAMERA):

3799-09 KNOWLES/LEUKERT:

THAT this board resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, (In-Camera).

CARRIED.



- 3800-09 LEUKERT/KNOWLES:** **THAT** this board reconvene in regular session.
CARRIED.
- 3801-09 LEUKERT/SCHAFFER:** **THAT** the Agenda for the regular Board Meeting dated September 8, 2009 be approved as printed.
CARRIED.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There was no conflict of interest declared.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF BOARD MEETINGS

- 3802-09 BROOKFIELD/SCHAFFER:** **THAT** the Minutes of the regular board meeting held June 16, 2009 be approved.
CARRIED.
- 3803-09 POCHOPSKY/SCHAFFER:** **THAT** the Minutes for the special Board Meeting dated June 29, 2009 be approved as printed.
CARRIED.
- 3804-09 KNOWLES/SCHAFFER:** **THAT** the Minutes for the special Board Meeting dated August 29, 2009 be approved as printed.
CARRIED.

OTHER BUSINESS

- 3805-09 SCHAFFER/BROOKFIELD:** **THAT** Peter Osterberg be appointed Chair of the Timmins New School Committee.
CARRIED.

PRESENTATIONS

Wahgoshig Adult Education Program

Michelle Dudley-Durant, a teacher with District School Board Ontario North East, gave trustees an overview of the events leading to the success of the current Wahgoshig First Nation Adult Education Program. Michelle noted that with the agreement and partnership of Chief David Babin, Education Manager Liz Babin, and District School Board Ontario North East, the Wahgoshig Adult Education program began in February 2009.

Student Christine Mallette-Widdifield spoke passionately about her success within the program, despite setbacks in her past, which will allow her to proudly graduate with her high school diploma in September 2009.

Aboriginal Education Framework

Michelle Leigh, Superintendent of Schools, gave trustees a summary of Planned Activities in 2009 – 2010 within the Aboriginal Education Framework.



Student Success/Learning to 18

Michelle Leigh, Superintendent of Schools, discussed Student Success/Learning to 18's Focus in 2009 2010. Areas of discussion were the 4 key focus areas with include: Student achievement in mathematics; differentiating of instructional strategies to meet needs of all learners; closing performance gaps between specific student populations and; providing all students with access to positive outcomes and pathways towards post-secondary education and/or employment.

3806-09 ARCHIBALD/LEUKERT: **THAT** the presentation titled Wahgoshig First Nation Adult Education Alternative Education Program (New Beginnings) by Michelle Dudley-Durant, be received.
CARRIED.

3807-09 KNOWLES/HENDERSON: **THAT** the presentation titled "Aboriginal Framework" by Michelle Leigh, superintendent of Schools, be received.
CARRIED.

3808-09 SCHAFFER/BROOKFIELD: **THAT** the presentation titled Student Success by Michelle Leigh, Superintendent of Schools, be received.
CARRIED.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Staffing

3809-09 SCHAFFER/BROOKFIELD: **THAT** the Board approve the service agreement of Steven Pladzyk, superintendent of Schools.
CARRIED.

3810-09 KNOWLES/LEUKERT: **THAT** the Board approve the service agreement of Michelle Leigh, Superintendent of Schools.
CARRIED.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE

3811-09 HENDERSON/POCHOPSKY: **THAT** the Minutes of the Parent Involvement Committee Meeting held August 20, 2009 be received.
CARRIED.

ONTARIO PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

3812-09 HENDERSON/POCHOPSKY: **THAT** District School Board Ontario North East renew its membership with the Ontario Public Schools Boards' Association for the period September 1, 2009 to August 31, 2010.
CARRIED.

3813-09 LEUKERT/HENDERSON: **THAT** up to 11 trustees attend the OPSBA Northern Regional Meeting held October 16 – 18, 2009 in Sault Ste. Marie.
CARRIED.



CORRESPONDENCE

3814-09 BROOKFIELD/POCHOPSKY: **THAT** the following Correspondence be received:

- a) Thank you – P. Scagnetti
- b) Thank you – B. Mortson
- c) Thank you – H. Gillissie
- d) Municipality of Temagami

CARRIED.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

3815-09 SCHAFFER/POCHOPSKY: **THAT** we do now adjourn.

CARRIED.

SECRETARY OF THE BOARD

CHAIR OF THE BOARD



SECTION 1.2: SYSTEM POLICIES AND PROCEDURES	Policy Code 1.2.23
	Page 1 of 3
TITLE: EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSIVITY POLICY	REGULATIONS YES
	PROCEDURES YES
	MANUAL NO

POLICY STATEMENT

Whereas: District School Board Ontario North East believes that the development of human potential and maximizing that potential is one of the highest goals their organization can achieve.

Whereas: District School Board Ontario North East believes in providing equitable and fair human resources, business and educational services and the implementation of programs that will permit students and staff to realize their potential.

Therefore be it resolved that:

It is the Policy of the District School Board Ontario North East (“the Board”) to maximize the potential of its students and staff through the promotion of a diverse society in which equal access is provided in all aspects of education, employment, communication and other opportunities. The Board will continue to integrate and promote a learning and working environment that reflects the principles of equity and diversity as set out herein through the establishment and maintenance of policies, systems and structures that supports respect for a broad range of individuals with differing backgrounds, beliefs and experiences.

1st READING:	June 17, 2008	Motion #	3401-08
2nd READING:	June 30, 2008	Motion #	3408-08
3rd READING & APPROVAL:	June 30, 2008	Motion #	3408-08
EFFECTIVE DATE:	June 30, 2008	Revision Date:	September 22, 2009



SECTION 1.2: SYSTEM POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Policy Code 1.2.23
Page 2 of 3

TITLE: EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSIVITY POLICY

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS

1.0 Principles of Equity, Diversity and Inclusivity

The foundation for encouraging equity, diversity and inclusivity is to treat staff and students with respect. Equity is both our goal and our means to attain the goals. The key Principles of Equity and Diversity are:

- 1.2 promoting the dignity of students and staff;
- 1.3 promoting fairness;
- 1.4 valuing diversity and inclusiveness;
- 1.5 encouraging respect for self and others;
- 1.6 ensuring equity in processes in order to achieve an equitable outcome for staff and students; and
- 1.7 maintaining an ongoing critical review of procedures and practices.

2.0 Purpose

Equity, diversity and inclusivity in educational services refers to integrating the Principles of equity, diversity and inclusivity into all policies and programs for students and staff. It also includes the provision of reasonable efforts in educational services that maximize learning opportunities for all students and staff.

Equity, diversity and inclusivity in human resources refers to establishing, monitoring and maintaining equal recruitment and employment opportunities, ensuring equal support for advancement and promotion, and equal learning opportunities by valuing diversity. It also includes reflecting the diversity of the community we serve. By critically reviewing procedures and practices, the Board reaffirms its commitment to sustaining a working and learning environment that at all levels, understands, encourages and responds to a diverse population.

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 30, 2008

Revision Date: September 22, 2009



**TO THE CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD ONTARIO NORTH EAST**

Agenda Ref. No. 2009 09 22

RE: TECHNOLOGY REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2009

Network Infrastructure Upgrade

One of the I.T. department's most significant projects during the Summer of 2009 was the replacement of the network equipment in our schools. This includes the switches that connect our school computers together, and our routers that interconnect our schools for internet access and for free telephone calls between schools. In our replacement of switches, we have equipped our secondary schools with switches that provide power over the network cable, to allow an easy deployment of a wireless network infrastructure. We are exploring that possibility for our secondary schools and are putting in place, the infrastructure to support wireless.

Internet Bandwidth Improvements

Our schools' use of internet-based resources has quickly grown over the last few years, and we recognize the need to provide quick access to web sites for our students and staff. During the month of August, our Network Administrator Adam Kemp issued an RFP for proposals to provide a faster internet connection to our schools. The successful proposal was provided by a leading Northern Ontario ISP and we are now in the process of implementing a 50 Megabit-Per-Second internet feed to our schools. This replaces our 10 MBPS feed that was often too slow during peak access times in our schools. One of the conditions of the RFP was that the internet connection must be easily and quickly upgradeable to 100 MBPS if necessary in the future. This will allow us the capacity to further improve our internet access speed in the future, without needing to replace equipment in our schools or offices.

New Computers for Schools

During the month of September, we have ordered new computers for the following schools: Haileybury PS, R.Ross Beattie PS, Queen Elizabeth PS, and Cochrane High School. The new computers are desktop systems featuring 19 inch LCD displays, optical mice, leading-edge processors, and abundant memory for all our current and future software requirements. The computers will be installed as soon as they arrive and we will use a team approach with our technicians to unpack and configure the new computers.

Netbooks to Help Special-Needs Students

This year we have changed our approach to providing computers to special-needs students. Until now, we have used the "bigger is better" philosophy in selecting laptops to assist students. Kids have taught us that big klunky laptops don't fit easily on their desk in the classroom, and don't run for very long on battery power. We tested three "Netbook" laptops with students in the Spring, and received rave reviews from our testers. They all appreciated the small size of the laptop, which now fits easily on their desk along with text book, calculator, etc. The netbooks feature a 9" diagonal display which is bright and easy to read, while a full-size keyboard allows for fast and easy typing. The netbooks are light and can easily be carried to class, and their low power consumption allows for all-day use on a single charge. One of their best features, is the fact that netbooks have no moving parts to wear out or break if dropped. This Fall we will be deploying more than 30 netbooks and peripherals to special needs students in our schools.



Our sincere thanks go out to the three elementary school students who tested the first three netbooks and sent in written reports outlining their likes and dislikes about the netbooks. There were no dislikes, actually!

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE TECHNOLOGY REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2009 BE RECEIVED.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda L. Knight".

Linda L. Knight
Director of Education

Prepared by:

Mark Gionet, Adam Kemp, Rick Gaudreau
Information Technology Department



**Minutes of the
Special Education Advisory Committee
Wednesday, September 9th, 2009
at**

Schumacher Board Office (v/c Timiskaming District Secondary School)

Committee Members Present:

Eileen Zajac, Chair, Community Representative
Bill Brookfield, Trustee
Juergen Leukert, Trustee
Samantha Genier, Parent Rep
Liz Babin, First Nations' representative
Lynne Marwick, Parent Rep. (v/c TDSS)
Crystal Paige, VOICE (v/c TDSS)

Committee Members Absent:

Kathy Farrell, Community Living Timmins, Acting Chair
Gary Dowe, Cochrane Temiskaming Resource Centre
Mark Callaghan, Canadian National Institute for the Blind
Dennis Draves, Trustee
Eva Rehel (nee Deroche), Parent Rep.

Staff Present:

Jo-Anne Plaunt, Superintendent of Schools
Jane Wallace, District Special Ed. Administrator
Patricia Chertow, District SERT
Joanne Marsh-Peters, District SERT (v/c TDSS)
Alison Fantin, Principal Representative (v/c TDSS)
Tanya Peterson, Social Worker
Carole Horton, Manager of Business Services and Guest Speaker

Staff Regrets:

Linda Knight, Director of Education
Mary-Ann Nielsen, Elementary Principal Representative
Saunders Porter, Chairperson of the Board

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 12:11 p.m. by Jo-Anne Plaunt.

2. Adoption of Agenda:

It was moved by Liz Babin and seconded by Juergen Leukert that the agenda be adopted.

3. Approval of Minutes:

It was moved by Bill Brookfield and seconded by Juergen Leukert that the minutes of the June 2009 meeting be approved.

Election of Chairperson for SEAC for 2009-10 year: Jo-Anne Plaunt assumed the role of Chair in order to oversee nominations and election of a SEAC Chairperson for the 2009-10 year.

Eileen Zajac was nominated by Juergen Leukert, seconded by Bill Brookfield. With no further nominations, Juergen Leukert moved nominations be closed. **Eileen Zajac accepted the position of Chair (acclamation)**

4. Business Arising from the Minutes:

- (i) **Infant Screening Update:** Jane Wallace provided a brief update on the Infant Screening provided to children within the geographical range of District School Board Ontario North East. All infants are screened at birth; follow-up occurs at ages 4 & 8 months, then by phone interviews at 18 and 30 months. With an average of 1-3 babies per 1,000 born with permanent hearing loss and with 5,000 babies born/year between Kenora and the Quebec border, it is quite possible for a number of years to go by with no pre-school children identified with permanent hearing loss in any one school board. In response to earlier questions regarding why only Temiskaming receives free audiology services, Jane was able to confirm that this is an anomaly for the whole of Northern Ontario. At one point in time, this District (and an area of Thunder Bay) were identified



as being under-serviced, leading to the Ministry of Health providing money to support hearing assessments. This funding, therefore, is an exception and not an expectation for areas within our Board.

- (ii) **Definition of Exceptionalities and numbers of Identified Students:** Jo-Anne Plaunt directed SEAC members to review the definitions of exceptionalities as found in our **2008-2009 Special Education Board Plan** (pp.17-20). A breakdown by exceptionality was provided, with a total of 1493 students being serviced (1104 identified and 389 non-identified). This translates to be approximately 18% of our student population. Liz Babin asked for a breakdown for Aboriginal students. Jo-Anne Plaunt will provide a total for self-identified Aboriginal students receiving Special Education support, although she indicated that, unless each Aboriginal student had self identified themselves as such, the data may not be accurate.

5. Guest Speaker: Carole Horton, Manager of Building Services

Carole provided an overview of the Accessibility for **Ontarians with Disabilities Act 2005** (AODA) and provided insight into the legislated requirements that school boards must comply with in the next number of years. (please refer to attached copy of handout for highlights of her presentation).

With reference to **Appendix G** in our **Special Education Board Plan**, Carole indicated there would be a few updates (e.g. adding Folyet and Gogama) and that requirements and work needed are assessed by individual school. Prioritizing the work to be done considers the funding, immediate need, and life of the school and Carole indicated she would continue to update the Board Accessibility Plan (pp.35-61) for our Special Education Board Plan. It was suggested that SEAC members take a few minutes to visit the excellent and informative website www.AccessON.ca .

6. New Business:

- (i) **Updated website:** Jo-Anne Plaunt indicated that the Special Education section of the Board website has been updated over the summer and welcomed SEAC to make ongoing suggestions to continue to improve it. With District SERT Shawn Donovan moving to be vice principal of WE Miller PS, that position is currently being advertised and will be filled soon.
- (ii) **Letters from SEACs for Halton DSB and Durham DSB:** Eileen read the letter which had been distributed to our SEAC from the Halton DSB SEAC. It was addressed to the Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Minister of Education (dated May 20, 2009) and expressed their concern with the funding cuts to special education. Joey provided clarification that 95% of funding will continue to be received by Boards, with the 5% cut being “held” for re-allocation using the new Measures of Variability (MOV) Amount. Joey confirmed that Barry Peterson, our Superintendent of Business, would be applying for the MOV. Juergen Leukert, echoed by our SEAC members present today, recommended that our SEAC also send a letter to the Ministry expressing our concern with funding cuts. Joey agreed to draft a letter for October’s SEAC meeting.
- (iii) Jo-Anne Plaunt announced that we had received communication from the Cochrane-Temiskaming Resource Centre that Wade Durling has accepted a new position in St. Catherines.

MOVED by Juergen Leukert, seconded by Bill Brookfield that, with regret, we accept Wade Durling’s resignation from SEAC.

CARRIED

MOVED by Bill Brookfield, seconded by Lynne Marwick, that we accept Gary Dowe as replacement SEAC representative for CTRC.

CARRIED

Susan will be in contact with CTRC to request an alternate for Gary.

7. Future Agenda Items:

Jo-Anne Plaunt asked if there were any suggestions for future agenda items. Suggestions included:

February: Billie Doucette, currently training with VOICE to be an Auditory/Verbal Therapist

March: Genevieve Lemieux, Autism support worker, Algonquin CFS

April/May: tour of Trillium North classroom

June: no guest speaker; wrap up of SEAC business/ Special Education Board Plan

8. Adjournment:

It was moved by Samantha Genier at 1:07 p.m. that the meeting be adjourned

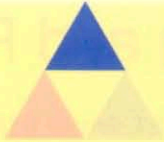
NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, October 7, 2009 at 12:00 noon, Schumacher Board Room

(Timiskaming District Secondary School, room 111, by Video Conference)

Minutes taken by Susan Allen (v/c TDSS),

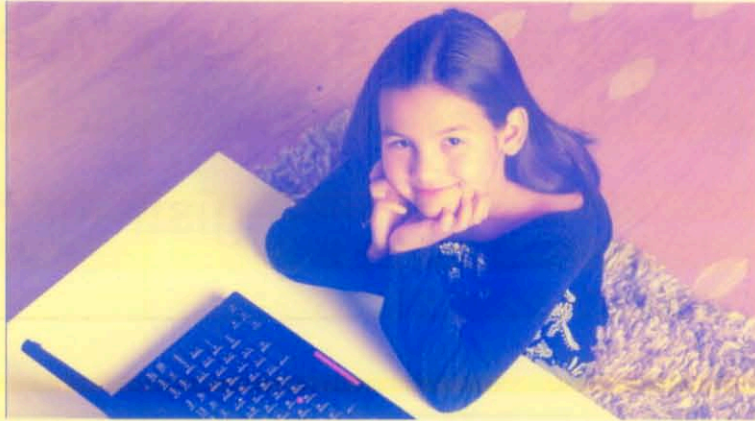
Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Special Education Advisory Committee

By EileenZajac, Chairperson



ONTARIO PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARDS' ASSOCIATION

Leading Education's Advocates



2009 Northern Regional Meeting and Program

Across the North: Connecting for Children

October 16 – 18, 2009 Quality Inn Bay Front, Sault Ste. Marie

Friday, October 16, 2009

Registration and Welcoming Reception

- 8:00 PM Registration
- 8:00 PM Welcoming Remarks
- 8:15 PM **Minister of Education** (invited)
- 8:15 PM Mix and Mingle Reception

Saturday, October 17, 2009

- 8:00 AM Networking Breakfast
- 8:00 AM **First Nations Meeting**
- 8:00 AM **What If? Technology in the 21st Century Classroom - OPSBA's Discussion Paper**
 - > Dave Walpole, OPSBA Director, Program Policy

Saturday, October 17, 2009

Continued

- 9:30 AM **NOEL Oral Language Program**
 - > Jack McMaster, Director of Education, Rainy River District School Board
 - > Larry Hope, Director of Education, Keewatin-Patricia District School Board
- 10:30 AM Networking break
- 11:00 AM **Anti-stigma Anti-discrimination Initiative**
 - > Mental Health Commission
- 12:00 PM Lunch
- 1:00 PM **Conflict of Interest**
- 2:00 PM **Northern Region Business Meeting**
- 6:30 PM Reception
- 7:00 PM Dinner and Awards
- 8:30 PM Entertainment

Sunday, October 18, 2009

- 8:00 AM **First Nations Council Breakfast Meeting**
- CONCURRENT SESSIONS**
- 8:00 - 10:00 AM **Parliamentary Procedures Breakfast in room**
- 8:00 AM Breakfast
- 9:00 AM **OPSBA Update**
- 10:00 AM **LARGE PLENARY SESSION**
 - Mental Health**
 - The Algoma Model: Strengthening Partnerships, Supporting Our Youth**
 - > Dr. Lynn MacKenzie, Executive Director, Algoma Family Services
 - > Asima Vezina, Superintendent of Education, Algoma District School Board
- 11:00 AM Wrap up



ONTARIO PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARDS' ASSOCIATION

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