Commission scolaire English-Montréal
English Montreal School Board

Minutes of the meeting of the
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES (ACSES)
Tuesday, May 7, 2013 in the William Dawson Room of the
English Montreal School Board at 7:00 PM.

PRESENT:

Parent Members:
Elizabeth Arnot
Isabelle Baas
Angie Bertone
Joanne Charron
Cynthia Dudley
Kurtis Law
Patricia Willis

Teachers:
No members

Non-Teaching Professionals:
Susan Waite, Speech-Language Pathologist

Support Staff:
Paul Robichaud, Child Care Worker

In-School Administrator:
Patricia Ciccarelli, Principal

Commissioner:
Marvin Helfenbaum

Non-Voting Members:
Lew Lewis, Director, Student Services
Julie René de Cotret, Assistant Director, Student Services
Brigida Sellato, Communications Consultant/Secretary

REGRETS:

Parent Members:
Michael Beigleman

Outside Agency:
Robert Gervais, CSSS

Observers:
Tina Monaco, Region 1 Observer
Caleigh Saucier, Region 2 Observer
Filomena Trindade, Region 3 Observer

MINUTES:

1. Welcome

The chair, Angie Bertone, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm.

2. Approval of the Agenda

It was moved by Isabelle Baas, seconded by Joanne Charron and unanimously resolved that the agenda be approved with the following addition;

7.1 Suspension and Collaboration with the CSSS

Vote: 8-0-0 **Motion Carried**

3. Adoption of the minutes from March 13, 2013

It was moved by Cynthia Dudley, seconded by Patricia Ciccarelli and resolved that the minutes be approved with minor corrections in spelling.

Vote: 7-0-1 **Motion Carried**

4. Business Arising

4.1 Transportation Policy

The item was tabled to June as Luc Harvey was unavailable to attend the meeting.

A concern was raised by a member pertaining to EMSB students who take public transportation that are aggressive and rude to other students and the public giving a bad image to the EMSB.

4.2 Sex Education for Special Needs Students (Possible topics for Workshop)

The chair asked that the topic be retained for a future workshop next year.

5. New Business

5.1 June Social

It was moved by Isabelle Baas, seconded by Kurtis Law and resolved that the social be catered by LT Traiteur which will take place on the last meeting in June.

Vote: 8-0-0 **Motion Carried**

5.2 Budget

The members asked whether to request an increase in the ACSES allocation for the next year. Lew Lewis advised the members that in previous years the complete budget was not spent but should it be needed he can cover expenses from elsewhere.

5.3 Distribution of Services

The members raised concerns on having more services at the High School level for special needs students and for those that are integrated in regular High Schools. It was suggested to look at reallocating resources and how Speech and Language Therapists are deployed at schools.

5.4 Three Year Plan Consultation

The members reviewed the Three Year Plan document. Recommendations were made with regard to; adding the reference to the CARE Program to page 13 and 17 and adding the IBO program to Carlyle.

Seeing that there were a few questions on the capacity numbers the chair asked that the answers come first and then the consultation could be approved at the next meeting seeing that the deadline is June 10th.

Question/Answer:
Why did the capacity change from last year to this year?

All the capacities were reviewed in the fall of 2012 by the Regional Directors (Mr. Dansereau and Ms. Miniaci) using MELS's ratios. The Three-Year Plan 2012-2015 (available on the EMSB website) had informed the stakeholders that the capacities will be reviewed and finalized in the 2012-13 school year.

Patricia Willis arrived at 8:20 pm

6. Reports

6.1 Director of Student Services

1. SPECIAL EDUCATION ITEMS

- L. Lewis reviewed Mesure 30364 and the recommendations which were made to the Council of Commissioners.
- L. Lewis discussed the addition of the following classes for 2013-2014 school year:

- Parkdale – One Welcoming class
- Westmount Park – Welcoming Class
- Edward Murphy – Junior ASD Class
- St. Gabriel – Special Nurturing Program

- L. Lewis reviewed the orientations presented to the Council of Commissioners.

2. CHILD CARE WORKERS

- Allocations with respect to the 2013-2014 school year are ongoing. Also discussed were the budget constraints.

3. MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCE CENTRE (MHRC)

- L. Lewis discussed Mental Health Week taking place during the week of May 6-10, 2013. Also discussed the plans for the atrium during the lunch hour on Wednesday May 8, 2013. Dr. Reggie Melrose will be launching Mental Health Week at the Costa Del Mare reception hall on May 6, 2013.

4. ALLOCATION OF GUIDANCE COUNSELLORS, PSYCHOLOGISTS, AND SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST

- L. Lewis reviewed the procedure with regard to the allocation of such resources including examining the school population, special needs population, inner-city index, preferences of professionals as well as principals, number of secondary 4 and 5 students (for the purposes of allocating guidance counselors).

6.2 E&F

The meeting was cancelled.

6.3 CPC

In April there was a special meeting to discuss the Ethics Policy followed by a joint meeting between Council and CPC. The topics at the May meeting were the promotion policy, a report from the FCPQ conference and discussion on the social.

7. Varia

7.1 Suspension and Collaboration with the CSSS

A concern was raised over using suspension as a solution to a behavior problem at school. There should be an alternative program for suspension perhaps something linked to the CSSS. Lew Lewis advised the members that the school should come up with a plan to resolve the problem by forming a multi disciplinary team. Should that not work then Student Services could come in to help.

8. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday, June 5, 2013 at 7:00 pm.

9. Adjournment

On a motion from Patricia Willis, seconded by Isabelle Baas that the meeting be adjourned at 9:20 pm.

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Angie Bertone, Chair, ACSES Brigida Sellato Secretary, ACSES