

Sector 3 Boards of Education

Sector 3

Meeting- Internet Minutes

OPSEU Head Office

April 15

& 16th 2010

Attending: Silvana Petersen 330, Lesley Chisholm 330, Sandy Barker 330, Lorie St.Amand 614, Kathy Whipple 614, Janet Wright, negotiator (April 15th)

1. Meeting called to order 9:15am

2. Adoption of Agenda
Adopted by Lorie St.Amand
Seconded by Sandy Barker

3. Adoption of minutes- February 8th, 9th 2010 via web conference
- difficult to hear one another during the meeting, the system continuously scrambled voices and echoed speech
- spelling errors and grammatical errors corrected

Web minutes

Adoption of web minutes and meeting minutes

4. Business

4. a) Early Learning Program update. Organizing/ Arbitration
- postings have been released SIMCOE and RDSB
 - Grievance discussion
 - SIMCOE has posters and pamphlets made
 - Ed Ogibowski is organizing both Locals
 - Ministry PD will begin in May for ECE and Teachers
 - Discussion of working hours for ECE
 - On Tuesday document got approval to go to third reading at which point it may have changes made and then be passed after the changes, changes are unknown to us at this time- will have to be researched
 - Standing Committee on Social Policy Submission: Bill 242- Full day Early Learning

Statute Law Amendment Act, 2010 (Bill 242) March 29, 2010 distributed by Janet Wright

4.b) Bill 149 Review (protocol for collaborative agreements with external agencies or individual practitioners in the areas of regulated health professionals and paraprofessionals and regulated social service professionals and paraprofessionals) Jan.2010 came into effect

- RDSB only hires DSW for Educational Assistant positions
- Applications from agencies with services that the outside agency will provide is given to Union which is then reviewed and signed if the Union is in agreement that it isn't performing the role of an EA
- CYW, IBI (Intensive Behavior Intervention) are not in the job description of RDSB EAs, SIMCOE has CYW and RPN within their Local

4.c)Sectors without Exec. Representation

- Sector 3 Boards of education now includes ROM (Royal Ontario Museum) and AGO (Art Gallery of Ontario)

4.d)Pension Summit

- 3 members from SIMCOE attended
- OPSEU was well represented at the Summit
- Double CPP contributions
- effect of Nortel situation
- OMERS is coming up with ASP
- upcoming OMERS workshop with SIMCOE- 44 members have signed up
- discussion of the importance of looking at and understanding pension plan early before retirement

4.e) Health and Wellness- Attendance Support Program

- SIMCOE
- To approve the use of sick leave they need to provide documentation stating: *The existence of a health condition for the period of absence. Dates are required but the details about the actual condition are not *Needs to confirm the existence of a treatment plan. No details about the plan are required *If there are any medical restrictions or limitations and their expected duration *An expected return to work date or the date of your next medical assessment
- Union is involved in every step of the Health and Wellness Program
- RDSB

- Tracks absenteeism and the days used most

4.f) Health and Safety concerns

- discussion regarding containment
- Seeing Canadians suing school boards more often
- Work refusal being followed by all EAs when one is in place
- Safety plan discussion
- When do secretaries call 911?

4.g) Constitutional and Policy Amendments 3 year term

- All chairs discussed how it effects elections, convention, BPS, etc.
- BPS conference would be held once every 3 years which is the only time we connect with the extended group (OPS and CATT will also meet once every 3 years)
- Regionals would be every 3 years
- 1 million dollar savings over a 6 years if 3 year term is passed

4.h) Annual Convention May 5,6,7,8th 2010 BPS Caucus 7:30 Thursday morning

4.i) Review Work Plan for Sector 3

4.j) Regional Educational

- Region 6 last weekend in May
- Region 3 May 1st and 2nd

5. New Business

5.a) SWAG Report (submitted to Ministry)

- report distributed: Report on Supervision
- Recommendations:
 - 1. The Ministry of Education recognize that the primary responsibility for Educational Assistants funded through Special Education grants to provide direct classroom support to students during scheduled instructional time. (Note: The Ontario Principals' Council's Supervision Standards for Ontario Schools item #5: *Supervision duties cannot erode instructional time. For example, Educational Assistants must not be assigned to supervision duties if it will conflict with the instructional time of special needs students.*)
 - 2. SWAG examine best practices of school boards who have implemented supervision models which exclude or restrict the assignment of general supervision responsibilities to Educational Assistants and such models be promoted to other school boards.

- 3. The Ministry request that the school boards report on how the Appendix 1- Elementary Supervision funds were utilized and this information be made available to SWAG.
- 4. In order to address safety concerns of Special Needs students, ensure that general supervision duties cannot be concurrently assigned where the Educational Assistant is responsible for the supervision of a Special Needs student (s).
- Blue Water has an excellent supervision model
- Next SWAG meeting April 27, 2010

Document distributed Under the issues to be discussed by SWAG, the following were identified as two of the issues:

- 1. Change the title of “Teacher Assistants” in the Education Act to “Educational Assistants”
- 2. Roles and responsibilities of Educational Assistants
- Special Education team is the focus

5.b) ESL

- PAT document – Enhancements to redesign Ontario's adult non-credit English/ French as a second language training program distributed by Janet Wright
- Reviewed document

5.c) Video conference February 8th, 9th 2010

- difficult to share documents
- small screen
- voice scrambled
- echoed speech
- not conducive effective to productive meeting
- disconnected with the sector LEC
- inappropriate space (environmental)

5.d) Edvantage

- Silvanna will contact Janet Wright and the other Locals within the Sector
- Goal for membership start date September 2010

5.e) PDT- benefit enhancement

- SCDSB has drafted a letter re: information regarding the allocation of the PDT

monies that were funded for benefit enhancement for the members. In January the benefit costs declined, therefore it is anticipated that the Board cost also declined. The decline in costs should have left remaining funds from last year and now needs to be allocated within the benefit plan.

- RDSB surveyed membership re: what benefits they wanted to most, returned information to Board which then contacted Benefit carrier for estimates, Union met with Board and then presented to the membership which approved the enhancements

Discussion:

- Official minutes from BPS conference distributed by Janet Wright
- PPM 81-amendment to the amendment has been given to Silvanna with the Ministry logo on it
- Programming for students and scheduling
- Grievance language for sick leave during Spring Break vs vacation days that has a supporting clause in the CA, researched ESA language
- EI sick
- LTD- suddenly cutting members off LTD, refusing LTD coverage
- Dealing Human Resources within the Boards
- Temporary employees working during the summer break

Meeting adjourned

Minutes have been revised for Internet use
by Kathy Whipple
Sector 3 Boards of Education
Secretary