



**Education Committee Meeting Minutes  
February 17, 2015 – 5:30 p.m.  
North Bay and Parry Sound Boardrooms**

**Present:**

Chair Kathy Hewitt, Trustees Michelina Beam, Randy Sheppard, Jim Beatty, Corine Green, Paul Moffat, David Thompson, Director Geof Botting, Superintendents Tim Graves, Craig Myles, Executive Assistant Sue Walker, Me to We Facilitator Bruce Downey

**Regrets:**

Trustee Al Bottomley

Chair Hewitt called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.

**1. Me to We Presentation – Bruce Downey**

Mr. Downey gave an overview of the history of the Me to We partnership. The partnership began with small speaking tours more than 10 years ago and was called Take Action. Two years ago it was decided to expand the program, with the Board asking Mr. Downey to facilitate the program. Presently there are 42 Near North DSB schools involved, over 350 students and approximately 80 teachers. Currently, the Near North DSB is the only Board north of Barrie delivering the program.

He indicated over 20 schools have attended We Day in Toronto in the last two years. He also shared that several schools have been invited to attend the national Me to We day in Ottawa April 1, 2015 - 4 schools are confirmed with tickets, and 7 schools are on a waiting list.

Due to the Board's partnership with Me to We, the Board has received three extra tours at no cost – Massai Warriors, a First Nation speaker and a Recreate the Change tour.

Mr. Downey suggested there are between 70 and 90 elementary teachers involved in writing JK-12 curriculum.

When questioned on how the schools and students are selected to attend We Day, it was explained it is up to the discretion of lead teachers and Principals of the schools to choose students who have earned the right to go.

## **2. Destination Education – Director Botting**

Director Botting shared there are on-going conversations with Nipissing University regarding Destination Education. It was noted that students completing the IB program at Chippewa school will obtain direct entry into second year at Nipissing University. He feels the program has great potential and is hoping to offer a similar program in Parry Sound.

### **Pre-populated agenda for remaining school year**

March – Alternate Education (staff report)

April – EPO Funding (staff report)

May – Supervised Alternate Learning (staff report)

Superintendent Graves requested clarification as to what Trustees are looking for on the EPO funding report. Director Botting suggested a more detailed description on what the amounts of money are being spent on. Superintendent Graves also questioned if more details on the nature of the programs that EPO are funding is being requested.

The Education Committee moved to a Private Session meeting at 6:15 p.m.

The Education Committee reconvened to Public Session at 7:00 p.m.

## **3. Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.