

**Special Education Advisory Committee
Virginia Beach City Public Schools
SEAC Minutes – January 14, 2013**

Attendance

Members Present :	Rayna Amoreno, Melissa Barnett Carol Brubaker, Ping Camano, Deborah Dougherty, Sandy Hermann, Kara Russell, Carolyn Stark, Cheryl Ward,
Members Absent:	JoAnna Bryant, Cherese Jenks
Consultants Present:	Rusty Fairheart-SECEP, Suzie Kumpf, Brenda Lenhart, Tania Sotomayor
Consultants Absent:	Allison Jordan, Eileen Ouellette, Daisy Wood
Guests:	Peaches Ellis, Mandi Cumpston, Yolanda Jones-Howell, Kami Lannetti, Kristen McGarity, Tania Sotomayor, Valerie Sutton, Lee Woodard
Quorum Present:	Yes

Welcome:

Chairperson Hermann convened the meeting at 9:10 AM.

Adoption of Agenda: The Chair called for a motion to amend the agenda (Litigation brought forward by Kami Lannetti) and adopt the amended agenda. **Motion:** Cheryl Ward - **Seconded by:** Ping Camano. Ayes 8, Nays 0. Agenda adopted to include a litigation report.

Introductions: Individual introductions were made around the room.

- Kami Lannetti, School Attorney shared information regarding the decision reached by the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) in reference to a complaint that was filed by an individual who applied for membership. OCR’s investigation and analysis found that SEAC’s membership application process was nondiscriminatory and the complaint had no merit. In response to questions from SEAC members, Ms. Lannetti advised SEAC of possible Bylaw changes.

Public Comment

Two public comments were received by e-mail from Sherry Tiaba and read aloud to the committee.

- a. Ms. Tiaba invoked FOIA as a means of requesting that SEAC produce agendas and minutes on a different timetable from their current practice.
- b. Ms. Tiaba was unhappy with a comment made by Joe Burnsworth at the January 8, 2013, School Board meeting during a presentation on the Read 180 program. She also made the assertion that she, as well as many other parents, have gone to Due Process to obtain this program for their children.

<u>Announcements</u>	There were no announcements.
<u>Correspondence</u>	OCR decision shared by Ms. Lannetti, School Attorney.

Reports

Dr. Daisy Wood / Allison Jordan OPEC	Tania Sotomayor represented OPEC in the absence of Dr. Wood and Allison Jordan. No report was provided at this time. Sandy requested that arrangements be made for Jane DeBord, or someone from the department, to provide SEAC with a related services presentation at the February SEAC meeting.
Melissa Barnett VBDHS	Melissa announced the retirement of Pamela Cox and Jay Lazier this year.
Cheryl Ward Independence Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Through the looking glass and its National Center for Parents with Disabilities and their Families are pleased to announce new scholarships specifically for high school seniors or college students who have parents with disabilities. Fifteen \$1,000 scholarships will be given out during the fall of 2013. For more information and eligibility please contact Cheryl ward by email at http://www.lookingglass.org ▪ Thursday, February 22nd and 28th, 2013, Youth Advocates Striving for Independence meeting will be held at 6300 E. Virginia Beach Boulevard, Norfolk. Sandy and Cheryl will be attending the Virginia Department of Education Stake Holder Meeting to discuss new diploma options.
Dept. Parks & Rec. Carolyn Stark	<p>Winter/spring registration was held this past Friday. Registration for Spring Swim and Around Town program is scheduled for January 5, 2013, and will be held at the new recreation center. Summer CAMP registration, scheduled for March 9, 2013, both registration is at the Kempsville location.</p> <p>A Sweet Night for a Dinner and Dance is scheduled for January 18, 2013, at Kempsville Recreation Center (see flyer) for more information. Parks and recreation guides can be obtained at all centers.</p>
Parent Support and Information Center Brenda Lenhart	Transition to Work training is scheduled for January 31, 2013, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Transition to Higher Education training is also scheduled for February 27, at 6:30 – 8:30 p.m., both training venue is the Virginia Beach Central Library. Brenda Lenhart thanked Yolanda on helping to promote the PSIC and all that is being offered. Please see report for any additional information or contact the Parent Support and Information Center at 263-2066.
SECEP Joint Board Meeting Rusty Fairheart	SECEP Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 30, 2013.
Membership Subcommittee Chair: Reyna Amoreno	Rayna informed the committee that five memberships will be expiring in February and encouraged members to submit SEAC membership request letters for consideration of membership reappointment. Members up for expiration are: Joanna Bryant, Deb Dougherty, Cheresse Jenks, Kara Russell, and Carolyn Stark.

SEAC Standing Subcommittees

Policy Review Subcommittee Chair: Sandy Hermann	No report or activity reported.
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SEAC Ad Hoc Subcommittees:

SEAC Effectiveness Chair: JoAnna Bryant	No report or activity reported.
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Ad Hoc Student Performance Review Subcommittee Cheryl Ward	A meeting is scheduled for February following the SEAC meeting.
Disability Awareness Subcommittee Cherese Jenks	As reported in November's minutes, Ping inquired about the announcements that were to be made at each school by the principal, as to date no announcements were made at Kemps Landing Magnet School.
Bylaws subcommittee Cheryl Ward	SEAC Bylaws are currently with the School Attorney. Bylaws will be presented to the committee with recommendations.
Annual Report Subcommittee	Report was deferred to New Business.
Transportation Subcommittee Carolyn Stark	A meeting is scheduled for January 16, 2013, at OPEC in the Parent Resource and Information Center from 9:30 – 11:00 a.m.
Inclusion Subcommittee Rayna Amoreno	No report/activity reported.

SEAC Representatives

VBCPS Transition Connection Committee Meeting (JoAnna Bryant/Kara Russell)	A meeting will be held but no date and time given.
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SECEP Joint Board Meeting

School Board Representative Rayna Amoreno	Carolyn Stark attended the School Board meeting. Previous report provided.
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Old Business - Disability History and Awareness Month Bookmark Contest: A question was raised in regards to the book marks on Kathy Snow's website, in reference to ownership. One member recommends that a copy of all the winners' bookmarks should be given to each individual winner. Sandy Hermann indicated that Cherese Jenks is working with Kathy Snow. It is recommended that all winners be present at the School Board meeting to receive a certificate of recognition. Yolanda Jones-Howell shared with the Committee that the Media department was charged with sending out a press release, notifying the media and the public on the names of the finalists, of the People First Language Bookmark Contest. The Media department will work with OPEC to get the semi-finalists recognized at their schools and the finalists celebrated at an upcoming School Board meeting.

New Business

- Annual Report Planning: Ping will be compiling all public comment from 2010 – 2012 for the Annual Plan Subcommittee for consideration during report planning. Carol Brubaker volunteered to assist with School Board report. Members were to brainstorm on all the things to be included in the report. All information is to be sent to Rayna who will compile a list for preparation of the report for submission to the School Board.

Other Business - None

Review of Public Comment

- a. Ms. Lannetti, School Board Attorney, suggests that the agenda should be made available at the discretion of the committee. After a lengthy discussion regarding the posting of SEAC minutes and agenda, Carol Brubaker made a motion to continue with the current method on how the committee handles it's posting. Kara seconded, Ayes, 9, Nays 0, no abstentions.
- b. To address Mrs. Tiaba's Read 180 concern, the committee agreed to review the past School Board video to hear exactly what was said by Joe Burnsworth in regard to Read 180. Cheryl made a motion that committee members review the video to collect more information. Seconded by Rayna. Ayes, 9 Nays 0, no abstention, motion carries.

Reading and Approval of Minutes

Rayna approved November minutes for posting, seconded by Kara. Ayes 9 Nays 0. Rayna approved December minutes with corrections, seconded by Ping. Ayes 9, Nays 0.

Adjournment: There being no further business before the committee, Carol Brubaker made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Cheryl Ward Ayes 9, Nays 0. The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m. by Sandy Hermann.

Next SEAC Meeting: February 11, 2013 ■ 9:00 a.m. at the Special Education Annex, Room 25.