

**Special Education Advisory Committee
Virginia Beach Public Schools**

Approved SEAC Minutes – February 8, 2010

Attendance

Present Members:	JoAnna Bryant, Ping Camano, Beth Callahan (TCC), Sandra Hermann, Sharon LaVier (Dept. of Human Services), Bonita Lyman (DRS), Kara Russell, Cheryl Ward, Carolyn Stark (Dept. of Parks and Rec.), Lisa Parker, Marianne Stinson
Absent Members:	Jan Solock,
Consultants Present:	Dr. Judith Green (SECEP), Robert Mitchell, Brenda Reid (OPEC), Daisy Wood (OPEC), Suzie Kumpf
Consultants Absent:	Norman Brown
Guests:	Debbie Dougherty, Veronica Ellis, Sara MacDonald, Emily Fisher, Chereese Jenks, Sandra Mathis, Laura Moran, Debbie Patch, Jennifer Stratton, Dianna Swenson, Kenny Weinstein
Quorum Present:	Yes

Welcome/Introductions

The meeting began at 9:00 a.m. with Sandy Hermann welcoming everyone present and calling for introductions.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

<u>Announcements</u>	<p>Independence Center: Cheryl Ward</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ HBO premiered an original film based on the inspirational, true story of Temple Grandin, starring Claire Danes, on Feb. 6, 2010. Temple Grandin paints a picture of a young woman’s perseverance and determination while struggling with the isolating challenges of autism. <p>Parent Support and Information Center: Dr. Reid</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Two sessions of Parent Happy Hour will be held on Wednesday, February 24, 2010, one at 12:00 – 1:00PM and the other at 5:30 – 6:30PM. Topic for discussion “Understanding Special Education Testing, and how it Impacts the Eligibility Decision.” ▪ A Transition to Higher Education Workshop will be held on Wednesday, February 17, 2010 at Landstown High School in the Schola. The event is scheduled to begin at 6:30 - 8:00 PM. ▪ Virginia Branch International Dyslexia Association will sponsor its 34th Annual Conference on Saturday, February 27, 2010 at the University of Richmond. The event is scheduled to begin at 7:00AM to 6:00PM. The conference Titled is: Intervention Survival Guide: Practical Strategies for Professionals and Parents.
<u>Correspondence</u>	Five letters were received from applicants seeking to become members of the SEAC committee.

Reports

Bob Mitchell/Daisy Woods OPEC	On February 16, 2010 at 6:00 PM—Mr. Mitchell will present an overview of special education to the School Board. Appointment and Reappointment letters have been submitted and will go forward at February 16 th School Board meeting. All committee members are asked to attend.
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<p>VBDHS: Va Beach Infant Program & MR Dept</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Current Infant Program Enrollment: 294 ▪ Total Number of Discharges in January: 25 ▪ No. of children discharged in November who will attend VB preschools: 4 ▪ No. of those children who were three years old: 3 ▪ Total No. of children entering VB Schools since July 2009 for 09-2010: 53 ▪ Of the total number, those who were three years old: 38 ▪ PALS Program currently has openings in the after school and adult program.
<p>Beth Callahan TCC</p>	<p>Discussion was based on students’ academic performance. It is not the school’s practice to send parents updates/information on their child(ren). However, a parent can get a signed release to talk with the instructor.</p> <p>Student must exercise a level of responsibility and accountability. Emphasis is placed on accommodation sheets—they <u>must</u> be turned in. Beth indicated that Regent University is able to do Psychology Testing, and some students were referred there for testing.</p>
<p>Carolyn Stark Parks & Recreation</p>	<p>Carolyn Stark informed the committee that the spring recreation guides can be obtained at each of the six recreation centers or online—www.vbgov.com/parks. Winter/Spring programs begin the week of February 15, 2010, there are still openings. Summer Camp registration and Summer program registration begin March 13, 2010 from 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM at the Kempsville Recreation Center. Therapeutic Recreation Summer Employment application will be available on line beginning March 1, 2010. The New “DIRECT” phone number to the Therapeutic Recreation office is (757)-474-8877.</p>
<p>Parent Support and Information Center Dr. Brenda Reid</p>	<p>Dr. Reid reported that for January-February, there were 55 calls received, seven visits made and 3 emails received in the center.</p> <p>Parent Support and Information Center Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Four IEP meetings attended with parents ➤ Hosted a Brown-bag Informational Lunch for Assistant Principals ➤ Hosted a Transition to Work In-service for Parents at Princess Anne HS ➤ Two one-hour sessions of Parent Happy Hour was held
<p>Doral Jackson K. Major/Bonita Lyman Dept. of Rehab. Services (DRS)</p>	<p>Effective December 15, 2009, all order of selection categories are open due to stimulus funds, and applications are currently being taken. Intakes are also being conducted in each of the Virginia Beach High Schools.</p>
<p>Cheryl Ward Endeppence Center</p>	<p>A PIER meeting is scheduled for Saturday, February 20, 2010, from 9:00AM to 12:00 PM at the Endeppence Center. Discussion will be based on—Issues that have come before local SEACs, and information from the State SEAC will be shared. Based on the report Cheryl received from the General Assembly, she informed the committee that there are still pending cuts in the budget for the state, human services and education remain substantial.</p>

SEAC Standing Subcommittees

<p>Membership Subcommittee Chair: Kara Russell</p>	<p>Kara reported six new membership appointments and five re-appointments.</p>
<p>Policy Review Subcommittee Chair: Sandy Hermann</p>	<p>Regulations on the Learning Plan have gone forward to the School Board. A meeting will be scheduled in the future to review the Learning Plan previously submitted and an announcement will be forwarded to all SEAC members. February 23, at 9:00AM</p>

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SEAC Ad Hoc Subcommittees

SEAC Effectiveness Chair: Joanna Bryant	No activity was reported.
Minority Review Subcommittee Chair: Cheryl Ward	Cheryl Ward reported that the committee met after January’s meeting and formulated three goals from the goals the School Board has established— <i>The Academic Performance of African American Males</i> .
Annual Report Committee Chair: Sandy Hermann	No activity was reported.
By-Law Review Chair: Cheryl Ward	Mr. Mitchell announced that the By-Laws are being reviewed, and the results should become available within the upcoming weeks.

SEAC Representatives

Va Beach Employment Transition Connection Representative(s)	Career Connection will be held at the Advanced Technology Cent on March 9, 2010, at 6:30 PM. There was an extensive discussion on employment transition connection— <i>allowing the child to self advocate</i> . Parents must allow their child to make their own career decision after graduation from school, and then pilot them in the area of their choice.
SECEP Joint Board Meeting Representative(s)	OT services are being provided for SECEP students. The next meeting is scheduled for March 31, 2010.
School Board Representative	No activity was reported.
VBCPS Curriculum for Students with Moderate to Severe Disabilities Committee SEAC Rep: Joanna Bryant	There is still no curriculum in place for students with moderate to severe disabilities. The Texas program being considered does not measure up to the Virginia ASOL’s.

Old Business

- A. SEAC Draft By-Laws is currently with Kami Lannetti for review.
- B. Virginia Beach SAIL History Grant/Disability History and Rights Movement—Cherese Jenks gave an update on Disability Curriculum—there is a seven year window for revision to be made to the curriculum.
- C. Special Education Administrative Guidelines Review – A meeting is scheduled for February 23, 2010.

New Business

- A. SEAC new appointment letters were read for Cherese Jenks, Deobrah Dougherty, Laura Moran, Jennifer Stratton, and Dianna Swenson. Sara MacDonald’s letter was pending. Ballots were distributed to voting members, all new appointment letters were approved by the committee. It was announced that the new appointment letters will go forward at the February 16, 2010 School Board meeting for final confirmation.
- B. 2010 March evening meeting topics:
 - Accommodations/Curriculum Modifications Tonya Metzger, Instructional Specialist using “parent friendly” vocabulary instruction vs. curriculum.
 - Parent Support and Information Center, Dr. Brenda Reid

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Bridges Program presentation—Myra Flint sheared a power point presentation to the committee regarding the BRIDGES (cross category) program; the three parts presented:

1. Observation /Consultation which involves preschools – 12th Grade
2. Training/Assessment, and
3. The classrooms

Forty teachers are currently being trained in the Applied Behavior Analysis program, due to the stimulus funds, an asset to the BRIDGES program.

Other Business

Review of Public Comment:

There was no public comment.

Past Months Public Comment

There was no past months public comment.

Reading and Approval of the Minutes:

- ❖ *Cheryl Wards motioned and Lisa Parker seconded the motion. December's minutes were approved with noted corrections.*

Meeting Adjourned

11:15 a.m.

Next SEAC Meeting

March 8, 2010 ■ 6:30 p.m. at Landstown High School ■ 2001 Concert Drive ■ Virginia Beach,
VA 23456 ■ (757) 263-2400