

Special Education Advisory Committee

Virginia Beach Public Schools

Approved SEAC Minutes – May 10, 2010

Attendance

Present Members:	Joanna Bryant, Ping Camano, Rod Curry, Melissa Barrett, Deborah Dougherty, Sandra Hermann, Sara MacDonald, Laura Moran, Lisa Parker, Kara Russell, Jan Solock, Carolyn Stark, Marianne Stinson, Jennifer Stratton, Dianna Swenson, Cheryl Ward,
Absent Members:	Beth Callahan, Cherese Jenks, Bonita Lyman, Marianne Stinson
Consultants Present:	Norman Brown, Suzie Kumpf, Robert Mitchell, Brenda Reid (OPEC
Consultants Absent:	Dr. Judith Green,
Guests:	Rayna Amoreno, Amy Courtney, Veronica Ellis, Honey Low, Donna Robel, Daisy Wood,
Quorum Present:	Yes

Welcome/Introductions

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

Public Comment

There were three public comments—

1. Honey Low read a letter to the committee (written by her) by the request of a 4th grade student expressing concerns of taking the SOL test even though he was not presented with the 4th grade materials and is not on grade level.
2. Deborah Dougherty (SEAC member) read a letter to the committee in reference to Extended School Year services (ESY) for her daughter Anya's. There were some miscommunication between her and a teacher at her daughter's school.
3. Cheryl Ward read a letter addressed to the committee written by Andrea Anderson, President of the Down Syndrome Association of Hampton Roads. Ms. Anderson was concerned that the ESY is not being offered or encouraged. She also reinitiated that special education teachers and staff are unaware of the ESY options. Cheryl Ward also read a letter addressed to Mr. Mitchell regarding outdated information, posted on the internet under the special education website.

<u>Announcements</u>	SEAC member: JoAnna Bryant <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Autism Society May 2010 Calendar of Events—a hand out was distributed▪ Autism Society will be presenting a three day workshop/conference October 27 – 29, 2010. Registration begins at 8:00-8:30AM▪ Autism Society presents a 5K & 1 Mile Walk-A-Thon on Sunday, June 13, 2010 at Mount Trashmore Park. Registration begins at 7:30AM▪ Sensory-Friendly show of: Shrek Forever After, AMC Entertainment and the Autism Society of America have teamed up to bring families affected by autism an opportunity to enjoy their favorite films on Saturday, May 22, 2010, at 10:00 AM at the AMC theatres.▪ Autism Spectrum Disorder stakeholders meeting has been scheduled for May 18, 2010 at 6:30 PM at City Hall Complex, building 19▪ Parents of Children With Special Needs Support Group, presents Care Connection, sponsored by—Children's Hospital of the Kind's Daughters
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<p><u>Announcements Con'td.</u></p>	<p>All events will be held at the Endependence Center Building. (Flyers and brochures of all events were distributed to each member.)</p> <p>Parent Support and Information Center: Dr. Reid</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Let's Get Organized! Data Collection and Record Keeping for parents on May 13, 2010 at 6:30 – 8:30 PM at Hermitage ES ▪ Two Sessions of Parent Happy Hour will be held on Tuesday, May 25, 2010 at the Laskin Road Annex in Room 1. First session begins at 12:00-1:00PM, the second session begins at 5:30-6:30PM at Landstown High School, in the Schola, for parents of students transitioning from elementary to middle and from middle to high school. <p>SEAC member: Lisa Parker</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ June 4, 2010 ASOL movie titled: “Gerald” (a flyer will be sent via email to all SEAC members) ▪ June 12, 2010 is Deaf Awareness Day at Kings Dominion ▪ June 12, 2010 Virginia for the Deaf picnic at Bayville Park <p>SEAC member: Cheryl Ward</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PIER meeting for May has been cancelled
<p><u>Correspondence</u></p>	<p>None</p>

Reports

<p>Bob Mitchell/Daisy Woods OPEC</p>	<p>Daisy informed the SEAC committee that the stimulus committee will be drawn back to the table to move forward with some of the stimulus issues.</p>
<p>VBDHS: VaBeach Infant Program & Dept</p>	<p>Melissa Barnett reported that there were twelve students currently enrolled in the PALS after school program. She also indicated that the city has decided to keep this program open.</p>
<p>Beth Callahan TCC</p>	<p>No activity was reported</p>
<p>Carolyn Stark Parks & Recreation</p>	<p>The Virginia Beach Parks and Recreation Guides are still available and can be obtained at each of the Recreation centers or on line at www.vbgov.com/parks. Registration begins June 5, 2010 for all summer programs. July 17 and 31, 2010 are summer Surf camp dates.</p>
<p>Parent Support and Information Center</p>	<p>Dr. Reid reported that for April and May there were a total of 123 calls, eleven center visits, and 60 emails received in the center.</p> <p>Parent Support and Information Center Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Seven IEP meetings attended with parents ➤ Hosted a Transition In-service for—elementary to middle, middle to high for parent at Landstown High School ➤ Prepared a PSIC display at Bayside Elementary Parent Resource Fair ➤ Held two one-hour sessions of Parent Happy Hour.
<p>Bonita Lyman, Rod Curry & Maureen Gibson Dept. of Rehab. Services</p>	<p>All categories are currently open, with intakes being conducted in each of the Virginia Beach High Schools. Schools will be realigned due to a staff turnover.</p>

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(DRS)	
Cheryl Ward Independence Center	Virginia Housing Development Authority (VHDA) has a grant program to offer up to \$1,800.00 in accessible home modification for renters. These are Accessibility Grants to improve daily living for people with disabilities. http://www.vhda.com/Renters/Pages/AccessibleRentalHousing.aspx

SEAC Standing Subcommittees

Membership Subcommittee Chair: Kara Russell	A brief meeting is scheduled following today’s SEAC meeting.
Policy Review Subcommittee Chair: Sandy Hermann	The annual plan was sent in to the committee for review. The committee met and made some changes. It will be given to Dr. Magula on 4/15/2010 and will be sent to the School Board sometime in May.

SEAC Ad Hoc Subcommittees:

SEAC Effectiveness Chair: Joanna Bryant	Sandy Herman asked Joanna to give a brief summary of what the SEAC Effectiveness committee is all about. Membership contact list was passed around to each member to ensure its accuracy.
Minority Review Subcommittee Chair: Cheryl Ward	No new activity reported, however, a meeting will be scheduled soon to review the changes on “No Child Left Behind”.
Ad Hoc Disability Awareness Subcommittee Chair: Cherese Jenks	The committee met on May 5, and brainstormed on ideas and activities schools could incorporate during the disability awareness month. They developed short and long term goals. The committee discussed changing the date for the SEAC fair for SY11-12. The next sub-committee meeting is scheduled for June 2, 2010, beginning at 10:00 AM at the Independence Center.
Annual Report Committee Chair: Sandy Hermann	No activity was reported
By-Law Review Chair: Cheryl Ward	Still awaiting results of review by School Board attorney. Daisy Wood informed the committee she will make a call to the attorney.

SEAC Representatives

Va Beach Employment Transition Connection Representative(s)	No activity was reported
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SECEP Joint Board Meeting Representative(s)	No activity was reported
School Board Representative	Sandy Herman attended the April 20 Board meeting and read the public comment to the committee. Norman Brown updated the committee that there is much displeasure with city council on the \$12M they want to withhold from the School Board 2011-12 operating budget which if taken, would have a great impact on the schools
VBCPS Curriculum for Students with Moderate to Severe Disabilities Committee SEAC Rep: Joanna Bryant	Date is pending for a committee meeting.

Old Business

- A. SEAC Draft By-Laws – The Draft is currently with the School Board attorney for review. Daisy Wood will be contacting the attorney for feedback and status.
- B. Virginia Beach Annual Plan and Funding Application will be on the School Board consent Agenda.

New Business

OPEC: Daisy Wood

- A. Daisy Wood shared a power point presentation to the committee
- B. Election of 2010-2011 SEAC Officers—two ballots were given to all SEAC members present for voting. Jennifer Stratton collected and tallied the results. The committee unanimously decided and vote for Kara Russell to be the new SEAC chair, Jan Solock as the new vice chair, and Cherese Jenks as the new secretary to serve for SY10-11. All new members will begin their tenure in August, 2010.

Other Business

Review of Public Comment:

1. Honey Low— Based on the letter Mrs. Low read to the committee, in reference to the 4th grade student SOL test, the committee feels that all the facts were not presented, and unless more information is given they could not address the child’s concern. Mr. Mitchell promised to follow-up with Mrs. Low
2. Deborah Dougherty—in response to the letter Mrs. Dougherty read, Mr. Mitchell will bring a report to the committee at the next SEAC meeting on June 14, 2010. The committee decided, in an effort to promote Extended School year (ESY) it will be placed on the October, coffee and chat agenda.
3. Cheryl Ward—ESY concerns will be addressed at its next SEAC meeting. Also, revisions to the special education internet are being made and will be available for posting in the upcoming weeks ahead.

Current month public comment: None made

Reading and Approval of the Minutes:

Corrections made to the April’s minutes are as follows:

- Under Virginia Beach Infant Program (VBDHS correction—however, the Pals II program will still continue to operate.

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- Under Endependence Center, correction—No new education related activity was reported. Also, next fall, PIER meeting will begin again.
- SECEPT Joint Board Meeting Representative(s) correction—the sentence RE-ED and more students are coming from residential due to the state cuts is eliminated.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:10a.m.

Next SEAC Meeting

June 14, 2010 ■ 9:00 a.m. at the Special Education Annex, Room #25, ■
1413 Laskin Road, Virginia Beach, VA 23451 ■ (757) 263-2400