

**Special Education Advisory Committee  
Virginia Beach City Public Schools  
SEAC Minutes – May 9, 2016**

**Attendance:**

<b>Members Present :</b>	Carol Brubaker, Ping Camano, Carol Koceja, Sandy Hermann, Donna Robel, Cheryl Ward, Lee Woodard
<b>Members Absent:</b>	Christy Blount, Michelle Redmond
<b>Consultants Present:</b>	Donald Fairheart, Veleka Gatling, Eileen Ouellette
<b>Consultants Absent:</b>	Suzie Kumpf
<b>Guests:</b>	
<b>Quorum Present:</b>	Yes

**Welcome:**

Meeting began at 9:10 am with Chairperson Sandy Hermann welcoming everyone, identifying the role and purpose of SEAC.

**Adoption of Agenda:** A motion to accept the agenda with no changes was made by Carol Koceja and seconded by Lee Woodard. All members voted to accept the agenda.

**Public Comment:**

No public comment was made.

**Announcements:** Eileen Ouellette informed committee of events being held by the Noblemen (a charity organization) Equikids event and she passed around an article from the Beacon.

**Correspondence:** The only correspondence for SEAC was an email scheduling a meeting with Sandy Hermann and Dr. Gatling prior to this SEAC meeting.

**Reading and Approval of Minutes:** The April minutes require one change to a name misspelling, a motion was made by Carol Koceja to accept the minutes with the identified change, motion was seconded by Carol Brubaker and all members voted to approve the motion and minutes with the change.

**Reports:**

<b>Dr. Veleka Gatling OPEC</b>	Discussion of meeting schedule for the upcoming year too place, with a request from Dr. Gatling to change evening meeting dates to ensure no conflict with the Virginia Beach Special Education PTSA. Discussion of potential presentation topics for the upcoming meetings. Some of the suggested topics were defining the roles of school staff and OPEC staff, Title One services, Performance Indicators and Budget issues. The possibility of a September meeting as an opportunity for parents and students to meet with OPEC coordinators was discussed. Discussion of what information SEAC would like to see included in Dr. Gatling’s report to
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	SEAC at our meetings include a summary of complaints filed against VB on behalf of students with disabilities. The summary would contain the number of complaints (quarterly or monthly), the issues, and the resolutions. Another summary of the number of MDRs that are held, the number of MDRs that were determined to be a manifestation of the student's disability, and the number of students with IEPs that were suspended, expelled or had their LRE changed due to discipline. Another item discussed was a review of performance indicators when they are issued by the state. This will be further reviewed/discussed at the September meeting.
<b>Eileen Ouellette Parent Support and Information Center</b>	Written report submitted. Eileen also spoke of status of the MOCA grant for students with disabilities. She gave out samples from a grant that PRCs in our region participated in, developing materials helpful for parents in understanding what transition resources exist in our area.
<b>Rusty Fairheart SECEP</b>	Summary of VDOE audit results and Corrective Action Plan given. SECEP was the first stand-alone agency to be audited. Five of the seven Virginia Beach Project SEARCH students were selected for employment at the Bon Secours Maryview site.

**Reports**

<b>Cheryl Ward Independence Center</b>	Announced the closing of VATS at ODU. Discussion of priority ranking now taking place for people on the ID and DD wait lists. Information on upcoming webinars on waiver redesign was disseminated.
<b>Dept. Parks &amp; Rec</b>	No report was submitted, no representative has been assigned to replace Carolyn Cox.

**SEAC Standing Subcommittees**

<b>Policy Review Subcommittee Chair: Sandy Hermann</b>	No policy reviews have taken place since the review of the annual funding application in April.
<b>Membership Subcommittee Chair: Sandy Hermann</b>	No report was given.

**SEAC Ad-Hoc Subcommittees:**

<b>Ad-Hoc Effectiveness Chair:</b>	No report was given.
<b>Disability Awareness Subcommittee: Lee Woodard</b>	No activity reported.

<b>Ad-hoc Report and Recommendation Subcommittee: Michelle Redmond</b>	No activity reported.
<b>Ad-hoc Transportation Subcommittee:</b>	No activity reported.
<b>Ad-hoc Student Performance Review Subcommittee: Suzie Kumpf</b>	No activity was reported.
<b>Ad-hoc Bylaws Subcommittee: Carol Brubaker</b>	Several questions are being addressed by the subcommittee, questions have been submitted to school attorney. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Are background checks required for new members and current members</li> <li>2. How do we comply with bylaws regarding appointment/reappointment process that conflicts with school board schedule preference</li> <li>3. Limited number of members on subcommittees, should this be changed or removed</li> <li>4. If spelling/grammar changes needed for bylaws, does that require a formal change process</li> </ol>

**SEAC Representatives**

<b>School Board Representative</b>	
<b>Fair and Equitable Grading</b>	Carol Brubaker has served for a year on this committee for reviewing grading policies and their work has been completed. Recommendations were sent to the school board and their work has now been put on hold because of concerns from school board and the public on the recommendations that were made.

**New Business:**

Parent questions and staff questions from the audit were discussed as well as the interviews that some of the SEAC members participated in.

Nominating committee was formed by volunteers. Carol Koceja, Carol Brubaker, Ping Camano and Lee Woodard will develop a slate of nominees to present to SEAC at the June meeting for election of officers.

Clarification was requested on VB's policy regarding Educational POA and whether a letter can stand in lieu of an actual POA.

Cheryl Ward will request information from Amanda Raymond regarding statistics for inclusion numbers of students with ID at local level and state level that were used in her presentation to SEAC.

Discussion of Homebound/Homebased Policy for Intermittent Services demonstrated the need for more

information and policy clarification to determine if this is a systemic problem.

**Unfinished business:** None reported.

**Other business:** No other business was discussed.

**Review of Public Comment:**

None needed.

**Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 11:38 am

Respectfully submitted,  
Cheryl Ward

Next SEAC Meeting: June 13th, 2016 ■