

**Special Education Advisory Committee
Virginia Beach City Public Schools
SEAC Minutes – June 8, 2015**

Attendance:

Members Present :	Sandy Hermann, Christy Blount, Carol Brubaker, Ping Camano, Carolyn Cox, Donna Robel, Cheryl Ward
Members Absent:	Lee Woodard
Consultants Present:	Dr. Daisy Wood, Allison Jordan, Eileen Ouellette, Rusty Fairhart
Consultants Absent:	Melissa Barnett, Suzie Kumpf
Guests:	
Quorum Present:	No

Welcome:

Meeting began at 9:05 am with Chairperson Sandy Hermann welcoming everyone and introductions were made.

Adoption of Agenda: Cheryl Ward made a motion to accept the agenda, it was seconded by Donna Robel and all members voted aye.

Public Comment:

Public comment was made regarding the SOL retesting policy. If a student declines to retest on the SOLs, they are pulled aside and told that they failed the original test. Administrators have stated this procedure is dictated by state policy. Commenter feels this is an insensitive, negative way to inform student and does damage to the motivation of the student.

Announcements: Donna Robel announced information regarding a webinar on inclusion sponsored by the Down Syndrome Support Group of Greater Richmond. She will send more information to the committee via email. Cheryl Ward invited the committee to the ADA 25th Anniversary Celebration taking place at the Endependence Center on July 24th.

Correspondence: Sandy Hermann received a reappointment request letter from Carol Brubaker. This letter will go forward to the school board.

Reading and Approval of Minutes: Carol Brubaker made a motion to accept the minutes with one correction, motioned was seconded by Ping Camano and all members voted aye.

Reports:

Dr. Wood OPEC	OPEC is reviewing application for new coordinators, expects to have a total of 15 coordinators when school starts in September. OPEC now involved in ESY planning and implementation, approximately 1,000 students (including SECEP) receiving ESY this summer. A discussion about difficulties for transfer students
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	took place. Dr. Wood gave a summary of the regional SEAC training, sponsored by VDOE and PEATC, which took place in Suffolk. Dr. Wood, Allison Jordan, Eileen Ouellette and Cheryl Ward attended.
Eileen Ouellette Parent Support and Information Center	Written report was provided. The Parent Support and Information Center (PSIC) had 1,815 contacts for this year. During the summer the PSIC will be on part time hours, Monday through Thursday. She advised to use email for contact.
Rusty Fairheart SECEP	SECEP budget was approved on 5/25/2015. Eight SECEP students from program at Renaissance Academy are graduating. The first SECEP board meeting for the 2015-2016 school year will be held on 9/30/15. Federal monitoring conducted by VDOE is completed and the report is expected to be received sometime next week.

Reports

Cheryl Ward Independence Center	A brief summary of progress of Medicaid waiver redesign was given.
Dept. Parks & Rec. Carolyn Cox	Summer program guides were distributed. Program start dates were reviewed. Registration starts on 6/2/15. Therapeutic program is searching for summer staff. Swimming classes will be held at the Bow Creek facility. Surf camp has two different dates for classes. New guide will come out in September.
Melissa Barnett VBDHS	No report was received.

SEAC Standing Subcommittees

Policy Review Subcommittee Chair: Sandy Hermann	No activity to report.
Membership Subcommittee Chair: Sandy Hermann	Carol Brubaker's term will expire in September. Her reappointment will go forward to the school board in October.

SEAC Ad-Hoc Subcommittees:

Ad-Hoc Effectiveness Chair:	Ping Camano and Eileen Ouellette are checking for locations to hold the Resource Fair. A subcommittee meeting will be scheduled and the date and location of the subcommittee meeting will be sent to committee members when it has been scheduled. Carolyn Cox suggested Brookwood Elementary as a potential meeting site.
Disability Awareness Subcommittee: Lee Woodard	Suggestions to send reminders to principals, possibly as a “save the date” announcement. The link with activity suggestions will be sent to committee members. Eileen Ouellette will check with VDOE for more activity suggestions.
Ad-hoc Report and Recommendation Subcommittee: Michelle Redmond	No activity reported.
Ad-hoc Transportation Subcommittee: Carolyn Cox	No activity was reported.
Ad-hoc SECEP Joint Board Meeting: Carolyn Cox	No activity was reported.
Ad-hoc Student Performance Review Subcommittee: Suzie Kumpf	No activity was reported.
Nomination Subcommittee	Election was held, no nominations from the floor were made. Nominations of Sandy Hermann for chair, Donna Robel for vice chair and Cheryl Ward for secretary were approved unanimously.

SEAC Representatives

School Board Representative	
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New Business:

- a. A discussion on potential SEAC trainings was held. Focus was on priorities and suggested presentations for the upcoming year. The suggestion of SEAC sponsored focus groups was discussed.
- b. Election of officers – No nominations were put forth from the floor so the slate of nominations, Sandy Hermann for chair, Donna Robel for vice chair and Cheryl Ward for secretary was voted on. All nominations were approved unanimously.

Unfinished business: Cheryl Ward presented five potential goals for the upcoming 2015-2016 school year.

- a. Plan at least two presentations based on topics identified by parents on the Resource Fair questionnaires
- b. Plan at least one presentation on budget issues related to special education services
- c. In order to remain aware of continuous program improvement efforts, request notification and

summary of any grants received that bring funding for services to students receiving special education services

- d. Identify policies to review and discussion of the intent of the policies based on input from parents or committee members
- e. Review discipline statistics pertaining to special education students

Other business: SEAC Calendar – Meeting dates selected are as follows:

September 14 – Daytime meeting – OPEC

October 5 – Daytime meeting - OPEC

Resource Fair – November 16 – Evening

January 11 – Evening - Potential site TCC JUL

February 8 – Daytime meeting – OPEC

April 11 – Evening – Kellam or Princess Anne

May 9 – Daytime – OPEC

June 13 – Daytime OPEC

Review of Public Comment:

Dr. Wood and Allison Jordan will advise testing personnel of the potential for negative impact on students with the current method of retest notification.

Presentation: A presentation by Eileen Ouellette and other Virginia Beach School staff took place at this time. The presentation was followed by a question and answer period.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl Ward

Next SEAC Meeting: September 14 ■ 9:00 a.m. at the Office of Programs for Exceptional Children in Room 25.