

Special Education Advisory Committee
Virginia Beach Public Schools
August 10, 2009

Attendance

Present Members:	Joanna Bryant, Ping Camano, Sandra Hermann, Doral Jackson, Sharon LaVier, Jan Solack, Brenda Reid, Cheryl Ward
Absent Members:	Beth Callahan (TCC), Patricia Davis, Judith Green, Bonita Lyman, Kathy Major, Lisa Parker, Kara Russell, Carolyn Stark (P&R), <u>Marianne Stinson.</u>
Consultants Present:	Norman Brown, Suzie Kumpf, Robert Mitchell, Brenda Reid (OPEC),
Consultants Absent:	None
Guests:	Veronica Ellis, Ivy Kennedy, Mary Mathena, Cindy Morgenstern, Jennifer Stratton, Dianna Swenson, Daisy Wood
Quorum Present:	Yes

Welcome/Introductions

The meeting began with Sandy Hermann welcoming everyone present and calling for introductions.

Public Comment

There were two public comments—

1. Ivy Kennedy—represents an advocacy group in Norfolk and was inquiring how the local schools educates and promotes disability awareness and disability history, in conjunction with Senate Joint Resolution 321.
2. Mary Mathena—represents a group of advocates, and wants to know how Virginia Beach City Public Schools will educate the student body about disability history and promote disability awareness, especially during the month of October, as its designated Disability History Awareness Month. Since VBCPS turned down the request to complete surveys, particularly to the middle schools, she was seeking help from SEAC on how to gather the information and promote disability history awareness during October. She offered to serve as a resource within the division as needed.

Announcements

- PIER Meetings will be altered to every other month
- Silent Dinner scheduled for August 14, 2009
- T-TAC training – transition goals for IEPs in January
- Brochures from Art center will be on display in October

Correspondence

None

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Reports

Bob Mitchell/Daisy Woods OPEC	Copies of the draft “ <i>SPED Parent Quick Reference Guide</i> ” brochures were distributed to SEAC members for their input/suggestions and were asked to get back with Mr. Mitchell before the week ends. It was recommended that the brochure be uploaded to the VB website when completed.
VBDHS: VaBeach Infant Program & MR Dept	Because of the time being spent to generate the VBDHS report, Jennifer McElwee inquired about the committee’s need for a monthly report and suggested generating a semi-annual/annual report would be more convenient. Mr. Mitchell indicates that the report has been used mostly for trend instead of numbers and felt that quarterly might satisfy that need. The Effectiveness Subcommittee was asked to evaluate and determine how often the report and other representative reports will be needed.
TCC	No Report submitted, however, Sandy Hermann shared a concern Beth Callahan expressed to her. Based on the committee’s attendance policy, Beth is concerned and is aware that her absences will soon pose a problem. She believes it is important that TCC contribute to the committee but unsure if the committee wishes for TCC to remain a voting member.
Carolyn Stark Parks & Recreation	No report submitted.
Parent Support and Information Center	Welcome Aboard Dr. Brenda Reid— All materials in the center are currently being placed on the computer in a data base for easy access and will be ready by mid October. As of July 1-August 6, twenty-five calls were received, two parents’ conferences were conducted at the center, and five presentations were planned. September 24, Brenda will be at Plaza MS for their open house and plans to set up a booth there to promote the PSIC and to distribute SEAC brochures.
Doral Jackson Dept. of Rehab. Services	Doral Jackson reported that Heather Wilson is now the New Regional Council for the Deaf and is serving students with three or more disabilities. More categories are now opened.
Cheryl Ward Endeppence Center	Cheryl attended the state SEAC meeting in July and provided updates and information to the committee members. Cheryl informed the members to visit the site and encouraged them to read the July minutes when uploaded. She also informed members that information regarding the Special Education Nation Review Incentive is also available on MPR.

SEAC Standing Subcommittees

Membership Subcommittee Chair: Kara Russell	No report submitted.
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Policy Review Subcommittee Chair: Sandy Hermann	No report submitted.
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SEAC Ad Hoc Subcommittees

By-Law Review Chair: Cheryl Ward	Cheryl gave an update and distributed a draft hand-out. She discussed state regulation changes which took effect on July7, 2009.
SEAC Effectiveness Chair: Joanna Bryant	The Effectiveness Subcommittee distributed information on Parliamentary Procedures to all attendees.
Minority Review Subcommittee Chair: Cheryl Ward	No report, but are in the process of setting up a meeting.
Annual Report Committee Chair: Sandy Hermann	No recent activity.

SEAC Representatives

Va Beach Employment Transition Connection Representative(s)	Daisy Wood reported that Amy Schuiteboer is the Transition Connection representative. She emphasized that Amy is reviewing the data for reading and writing for the final Transition Planning.
SECEP Joint Board Meeting Representative(s)	No report submitted.
School Board Representative	Norman Brown reported that the five strategic plans were discussed at length at the School Board members' retreat. One of the major topics discussed, was the concept of professional learning, and how it filters in the school. .
VBCPS Curriculum for Students with Moderate to Severe Disabilities Committee SEAC Rep: Joanna Bryant	SEAC Discussion: Committee members are still reviewing the Texas Curriculum to see how it might align with our ASOL's. Members are still meeting once a month to make a final decision.

Old Business

- A. Transportation Presentation: An invitation is still extended to Mr. Crumm for the September meeting to answer pertinent questions regarding Special Education Transportation.
- B. Stimulus Funding Update: Daisy Wood reported that all the information that was provided through the different entities were incorporated into one list. From that list the ten top issues were taken and submitted to Budget Department. No final word has yet been received. Daisy

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emphasized that one area the money will be used, is to hire two master teachers. She will provide a list to Sandy Hermann of the top ten issues to determine how the funds have been allocated.

New Business

- A. Sandy Herman distributed the 2009-2010 SEAC Calendar and pointed out that the Meet and Greet meeting is not yet on the calendar. It is still being arranged. The usual April evening meeting will be held on March 8, 2010, to avoid any conflict with spring break. The Community Resource Fair will be held November 9, 2009.
- B. Mr. Mitchell gave an update presentation on the Special Education Audit progress; each member was given a copy of the report.
- C. Cheryl Ward gave a presentation of the draft by-laws and presented each member with a copy for review prior to the September meeting. The draft will be submitted to the school attorney for review, then need to be approved by SEAC
- D. All subcommittee members were asked to identify goals for their committees and be ready to present them at the September meeting.

Other Business:

- A. Daisy Wood informed the committee that Nancy Pyatt was the liaison for the Leadership Academy and will assist with administrative tasks. She also indicated that the VB Administrative Guidelines are currently in revision to correlate with the new state Regulations Governing Special Education.
- B. Roberts Rules of Order Training will take place at the September SEAC meeting.

Review of Public Comment:

No past month public comment.

Current month public comments

Ivy Kennedy and Mary Mathena – The committee requested that Mr. Mitchell explore educational opportunities for disability history and awareness with Dr. Magula/Administration for the upcoming disability history and awareness month in October.

Reading and Approval of the Minutes:

Corrections made to the June 2009 Draft minutes:

- ❖ Page 3: Old Business – Dr. Reid was an assistant principal at Hermitage, not the principal.

June 2009 minutes approved with corrections.

Meeting Adjourned

Next SEAC Meeting

September 14, 2009 at 9:00 a.m.
Special Education Annex, Room #25
1413 Laskin Road
Virginia Beach, VA
(757) 263-2400