

Special Education Advisory Committee
Virginia Beach Public Schools
 Approved SEAC Minutes – August 9, 2010

Attendance

Present Members:	Deborah Dougherty, Sandra Hermann, Sara MacDonald, Lisa Parker, Kara Russell, Jan Solock, Dianna Swenson, Cheryl Ward,
Absent Members:	Melissa Barnett, JoAnna Bryant, Ping Camano, Beth Callahan, Rod Curry, Maureen Gibson, Bonita Lyman, Carolyn Stark, Jennifer Stratton, Laura Moran, Chereese Jenks
Consultants Present:	Dr. Brenda Reid (OPEC), Dr. Daisy Wood (OPEC)
Consultants Absent:	Norman Brown, Dr. Judith Green, Suzie Kumpf
Guests:	Rayna Amoreno, Veronica Ellis
Quorum Present:	No

Welcome/Introductions

The meeting began at 9:15 AM, with Kara Russell welcoming everyone present and calling for introductions.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

<u>Announcements</u>	<p>SEAC Chairperson: Kara Russell</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Congratulated Dr. Wood to her new assignment, as Director for the Office of Programs for Exceptional Children, following applauses from all members. <p>Parent Support and Information Center: Dr. Brenda Reid</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ During the month of July-August 150 calls received, 15 center visits made, and 40 emails received in the center.
<u>Correspondence</u>	No correspondence for the month of August.

Reports

Daisy Woods, OPEC	<p>Dr. Wood notified the committee of the many initiatives that have started due to the stimulus funds. She talked about <i>Read 180</i> which successfully is in operation and the math materials have been purchased. She indicated that 25-30 teachers have already been trained in V-Math to supplement the <i>Everyday Math</i>, K-5th grade. Seven individuals from Assistive Technology will be trained and receive National AT Certification in the upcoming months. Plans to hire teacher assistants, teachers and an academic achievement role are underway. Two helpers will be hired to assist Dr. Reid in the Parent Support and Information Center and work through June, 2011. Since these jobs will be funded through the stimulus monies, it is required that they must be posted on the Virginia Work Force site. Dr. Wood indicated that it is a request of the superintendent to have each SPED child's folder be reviewed and that the indicators should meet the 100% goal.</p>
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VBDHS: VaBeach Infant Program & Dept	No report/activity was reported.
Beth Callahan TCC	No report/activity was reported.
Carolyn Stark Parks & Recreation	No report/activity was reported.
Parent Support and Information Center	<p>Parent Support and Information Center: Dr. Brenda Reid June-August Center Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Attended two IEP/504 meetings with parents ➤ Hosted an Understanding Your Child’s IEP training at the Laskin Road Annex. ➤ Conducted a training session on SPED Services IEP’s and 504 Plans for foster parents at the Virginia Beach Department of Human Services. ➤ Presented a display Board at the Fleet & Family Support Center Hampton Roads “Back to School Extravaganza” on August 20, 2010. ➤ Presented a SPED and Parents’ rights at the Women’s Empowerment Social on August 21, 2010. ➤ Presented a PSIC display at Birdneck and John B. Dey Elementary School on September 2, 2010 at their PTA Open House events.
Dept. of Rehab. Services (DRS) Rod Curry, Maureen Gibson, Bonita Lyman	No report/activity was reported.
Cheryl Ward Endeppence Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Virginia will no longer apply for Federal Race To The Top funding. ▪ OCR has come out with a letter regarding ADA standards, based on a complaint against Virginia Beach school systems. The complaint seems to be founded on documentation more than process. Copy of letter will be emailed to VB SEAC members. ▪ There seems to be a federal push for teacher’s merit pay to be based on student performance. ▪ Medicaid waiver workshops will take place in the early fall. Dates will be emailed to committee members. ▪ Pier Meeting -October 1, 2011

SEAC Standing Subcommittees

Membership Subcommittee Chair: Kara Russell	Kara Russell requested that Dr. Reid place her website address at the bottom of her report. We received a letter requesting membership. Will hold until next month since we do not have a quorum present at today’s meeting.
Policy Review Subcommittee Chair: Sandy Hermann	No report/activity was reported

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SEAC Ad Hoc Subcommittees:

SEAC Effectiveness Chair: Joanna Bryant	No report/activity was reported
Minority Review Subcommittee Chair: Cheryl Ward	No report/activity was reported.
Disability Awareness Subcommittee Cherese Jenks	Cheryl Ward described the work done by the committee. Some of the events/activities recommended for the upcoming disability awareness month in October are essay contests, morning announcements pertaining to disability facts, and people first language pledges. The committee has composed guides for the schools, and has many examples the schools may use for these activities. Monetary awards have been provided by community businesses. A proposal for recommendation was also written for Dr. Merrill’s review and approval. The committee is still working towards organizing a judging panel to choose the best written essays.
Annual Report Committee Chair: Sandy Hermann	No report/activity was reported
By-Law Review Chair: Cheryl Ward	Each member received a copy of the Bylaws for review.

SEAC Representatives

Va Beach Employment Transition Connection Representative(s)	No report/activity was reported
SECEP Joint Board Meeting Representative(s)	No report/activity was reported
School Board Representative	No report/activity was reported
VBCPS Curriculum for Students with Moderate to Severe Disabilities Committee SEAC Rep: Joanna Bryant	No report/activity was reported

Old Business

- A. SEAC Draft By-Laws – All members were given a copy of the Bylaws to review for the next meeting in September.

New Business

- A. Cheryl passed around the Disability History Month Proposal for all members to review along with a list of all the activities and events that can be implemented in each school during the month of October.
- B. Sandy Hermann encouraged all members to contact JoAnna Bryant if you know specific vendors who you would like to participate in the upcoming resource fair.
- C. Each member received a copy of the calendar outlining dates and time for each SEAC meeting.

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- D. A sign-up sheet was passed around for members to express their interest to serve on various committees.
- E. The BRIDGES guidelines were read by Sandy Hermann.
- F. A 2010-2011 School Board Meeting sign in sheet was passed around to all members for representation at the School Board meetings.

Other Business

There was no public comment.

Past Month Public Comment:

- A. Erik Wijtmans, Lisa Vega, Theresa Drew—provided public comment regarding the BRIDGES program. The committee requested a written guideline to identify:
 - 1. Description of the program
 - 2. Who is qualified for the program?
 - 3. The acceptance criteria to the BRIDGES program, and
 - 4. Behavioral issues

There was a lengthy discussion on the BRIDGES programs. The committee has additional questions concerning the program and requested Jane Debord and the BRIDGES staff to present at the next SEAC meeting in September, to give an overview and to answer the questions posed.

Cherese Jenks—expressed concern over the policy on “*bullying*” in the schools. Daisy Wood informed the committee that the board has established a committee on bullying of which she is a part.

Reading and Approval of the Minutes:

April minutes was approved by Sandy Hermann and seconded by Lisa Parker. May’s minutes was approved with one correction by Sandy Hermann and seconded by Kara Russell.

The meeting was adjourned by Kara Russell at 12:00 noon.

Next SEAC Meeting

September 13, 2010 ■ 9:00 a.m. at the Special Education Annex, Room #25, ■
1413 Laskin Road, Virginia Beach, VA 23451 ■ (757) 263-2400