

Special Education Advisory Committee
Virginia Beach Public Schools
 Approved SEAC Minutes – September 13, 2010

Attendance

Present Members:	JoAnna Bryant, Ping Camano, Deborah Dougherty, Cherese Jenks, Laura Moran, Lisa Parker, Kara Russell, Brianna Sally, Dianna Swenson, Cheryl Ward,
Absent Members:	Melissa Barnett, Beth Callahan, Sandy Hermann, Sara MacDonald, DRS, Jan Solock
Consultants Present:	Dr. Brenda Reid (OPEC), Norman Brown, Suzie Kumpf, Dr. Daisy Wood (OPEC)
Consultants Absent:	
Guests:	Andrea Anderson, Veronica Ellis, Dr. Rick Ellis, Kevin Hill, Laura Irvine, Chuck McCoy, Dr. Sandra Pierce-Mathis, Brook Markley, Donna Robel,
Quorum Present:	Yes

Welcome/Introductions

The meeting began at 9:10 AM, with Kara Russell welcoming everyone present and calling for introductions.

Public Comment

There were three public comments.

- 1 Suzie Kumpf read a letter to the committee written by Dr. Drew in reference to her previous inquiries regarding the BRIDGES program. (refer to letter for more detailed information)
- 2 Cheryl Ward read a letter addressed to the committee on several incidents which occurred on a special education bus. (refer to letter for more detailed information)
- 3 Charles McCoy, III and Kevin Hill, both from Mass Media/Commonwealth Financial Partners. Mr. Hill informed the committee about the many services they offer, especially to parents of students with special needs. He talked about a panel discussion which will be held at Princess Anne High School. Mr. Hill is working along-side Dr. Reid and will provide the pertinent information regarding the panel discussion. Dr. Brenda Reid can be reached in the Parent Support and Information Center.

<u>Announcements</u>	<p>SEAC Member: JoAnna Bryant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Distributed two flyers (English and Spanish) on CHKD Care Connection for Children. An event flyer for the Autism Society, Tidewater VA for September /October was also distributed. ▪ VDOE Survey due on September 30, 2010. ▪ Summer/Fall 2010 Kohl’s Cares—August/October event flyer on Family Forum. A free lecture series on children’s health and wellness. This is a presentation in conjunction with CHKD. <p>SEAC Member: Suzie Kumpf</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Learning disabilities of Virginia 2010 (LDA) Conference is scheduled for October 16, 2010, at the Holiday Inn Central, in Richmond—conference begins at 10:00AM. For more information see Suzie Kumpf.
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<p><u>Announcements</u> <u>Cont'd.</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Summer/Fall 2010 Kohl’s Cares—August/October event flyer on Family Forum. A free lecture series on children’s health and wellness. This is a presentation in conjunction with CHKD. <p>National Down Syndrome Society</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ National Down Syndrome Society presents their 9th Annual “<i>Buddy Walk</i>” on October 2, 2010. The event will be at Mt. Trashmore, walk begins at 11:00 a.m. <p>SEAC Member: Kara Russell</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Barbara Ford—Founder of Forward Motion Farms, this farm provides. Therapeutic riding, a recreational activity, where the client learns riding skills. Therapeutic Riding is taught by a NARHA (North American Riding for the Handicapped Association) instructor, and is trained to incorporate traditional riding and horse management skills into appropriate lesson plans for individuals with special needs. <p>Parent Support and Information Center: Dr. Brenda Reid</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ During the month of August-September 80 calls received, 8 center visits made, and 39 emails received in the center.
<p><u>Correspondence</u></p>	<p>Kara reported an email she received from a mother regarding placement of her child in the BRIDGES program.</p>

Reports

<p>Daisy Woods, OPEC</p>	<p>Dr. Wood notified the committee that she is moving forward to fill the vacant positions that are currently in OPEC. The interviews process has been completed the names of those selected will be sent to Dr. Magula on Wednesday, September 15, and if all goes well, the names will be sent to the School Board by September 25, 2010. Training is being set up for compliance in the weeks ahead. VDOE has a program “Spark Your Brain”, how brains work differently, we don’t all learn alike. This is paid for by VDOE and principals have to apply for this program.</p>
<p>VBDHS: VaBeach Infant Program & Dept</p>	<p>No report/activity was reported.</p>
<p>Beth Callahan TCC</p>	<p>No report/activity was reported.</p>
<p>Carolyn Stark Parks & Recreation</p>	<p>In the absence of Carolyn Stark, Brianna Sally reported that the summer ended well. Fall registration began September 11. There is a job opportunity due to the early retirement of Janet Dell.</p>
<p>Parent Support and Information Center</p>	<p>Parent Support and Information Center: Dr. Brenda Reid August-September Center Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Attended one IEP/504 meetings with parents

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	<p>➤ PTA Open House/Meet & Greet display was presented at Pembroke Meadows, New Castle and Centerville Elementary Schools.</p> <p>Dr. Reid reported that candidates were interviewed for the two part time positions in the Parent Support and Information Center.</p>
Dept. of Rehab. Services (DRS) Rod Curry, Maureen Gibson, Bonita Lyman	No report/activity was reported.
Cheryl Ward Independence Center	October 13 is scheduled for the first PIER meeting. The meeting will be held at the Independence Center beginning at 6:00 PM. The speaker will be from DOE. A Medicaid Waiver workshop will be held in October, date to be announced later. For more information please contact Cheryl Ward, 351-1585 or cward@independence.org

SEAC Standing Subcommittees

Membership Subcommittee Chair: Kara Russell	Kara Russell read a letter written to the committee from Rayna Amoreno requesting membership to SEAC committee.
Policy Review Subcommittee Chair: Sandy Hermann	No report/activity was reported

SEAC Ad Hoc Subcommittees:

SEAC Effectiveness Chair: Joanna Bryant	JoAnna talked about the two upcoming events, the meet and greet to be held at the Virginia Beach Central Library on October 6, and the Community Resource Fair scheduled for November 8. A dual flyer for both events was given to all members for distribution. The flyers are expected to be sent home the week of September 20. JoAnna reported that agencies will be contacted to request give-aways and gifts for door prizes. Instead of having a table set up for ESY at the meet and greet, it was recommended that Dr. Reid represent the Parent Support and Information Center and inform the public of the services offered at the center. There will be a session for questions and answers. Dr. Wood recommended having Dr. Betsy Coffelt at the event to answer any question and to have hand-outs available regarding ESY.
Minority Review Subcommittee Chair: Cheryl Ward	No report/activity was reported.
Disability Awareness Subcommittee Cheresse Jenks	Ms. Jenks announced that during the month of October, several activities will be conducted in each school which includes essay contest, art display and club contest. She plans to have some of the student's art work on display at Pembroke Mall from October 18 – 31. All essay contestants work must be turned in by October 8. In an effort to bring awareness to the community, Ms. Jenks hope to have a snippet in a magazine about the winner. Dr. Wood will inquire the possibilities of having the student's names published in a magazine or other media outlet. A judging panel is being assembled consisting of local artist and

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	self advocates. Judges from the professional and disability community will evaluate each exhibit on a point basis.
Annual Report Committee Chair: Sandy Hermann	No report/activity was reported
By-Law Review Chair: Cheryl Ward By-Law Review Cont'd.	Cheryl feels that some of the changes that were made by the attorney were due to her not understanding some of the roles and functions of the committee. Several of the clauses that were removed will be reinstated and a draft will be sent to the attorney for review. Cheryl asked for the approval by the next SEAC meeting.

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	Daisy notified the committee that Wilma White has looked over the curriculum and gave her feedback. She also indicated that it is in the students' best interest to look at their needs and expectations. Daisy will be working with Wayne Varney. She indicated that ARRA fund is available to make the purchase. A meeting will be held in the next few weeks and Dr. Wood will notify JoAnna of the decision by way of email.
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Old Business

- A. Cheryl indicated that the changes the attorney made to the By-laws were received, however, some of the changes will be denied, based on some of the roles and functions of the committee
- B. A sheet was passed around to SEAC members to express their interest of service on the committee.
- C. The Meet and Greet flyer was completed and distributed to committee members for promotion and distribution. The flyer will be distributed to the school the week of September 20, 2010.
- D. Resource Fair flyer has been completed and will be sent to the print shop for distribution in the upcoming week.
- E. Executive Committee Job Description

New Business

- A. Bridges Presentation—Dr. Wood introduced Jane DeBord and Myra Flint to the committee. Myra shared a clear and extensive power point presentation describing the BRIDGES program, following questions and answers from committee members. A copy of the power point presentation in a larger font was requested by Kara to be sent to all members via email, for future reference.
- B. Teacher Representation—Jennifer Stratton served as the teacher representative, but has since accepted a new position; as a result is unable to continue service. It was discussed that based on the rules in the guideline one must submit a letter of resignation from the committee. There was a discussion based on how to replace a teacher rep. Norman Brown recommended contacting Ms. Stratton to see if she could be an advocate and recommend or select another teacher to replace her. Suzie Kumpf recommends having an ad in the Dialogue. Dr. Wood informed the committee that she will investigate the rules and

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procedures for a teacher representative to the committee, at the new directors' meeting in Richmond, and notify the committee at its next meeting in October. Based on the By-Laws, a teacher has to attend same attendance requirements as other members.

C. Other Business

- A. Cheryl Ward will be sending an email from the “*Meet the Press*” to all committee members.
- B. Ping's will be sending a copy of her letter and bio to OPEC for preparation to the School Board.

Current Public Comment:

- A. Rayna Amoreno's letter was approved by all committee members.
- B. Suzie Kumpf was satisfied with the power point presentation and feels the letter she read was answered satisfactorily and will confer with Dr. Drew.
- C. Concerning the safety issues on SPED transportation, Dr. Wood tasked Dr. Brenda Reid to contact Mr. Crum and to be prepared to address the committee at its next meeting in October.

Past Months Public Comment:

- A. Dr. Wood informed the committee that the School Board has established a committee on “bullying” and she serves as a member. A question was raised—would it be possible that a member from the SEAC to serve on the School Board Bullying committee?

Reading and Approval of the Minutes:

June and August minutes were approved with no correction. JoAnna Bryant made a motion to approve both minutes it was seconded by Cheryl Ward with a suggestion (it was suggested to use only DSR instead of typing all representative names).

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

Next SEAC Meeting

October 4, 2010 ■ 9:00 a.m. at the Special Education Annex, Room #25, ■
1413 Laskin Road, Virginia Beach, VA 23451 ■ (757) 263-2400