

**Special Education Advisory Committee  
Virginia Beach City Public Schools  
SEAC Draft Minutes – December 10, 2012**

**Attendance**

Members Present:	Rayna Amoreno, Melissa Barnett, Carol Brubaker, Ping Camano, Deborah Dougherty, Sandy Hermann, Cherese Jenks, Donna Robel, Carolyn Stark
Members Absent:	JoAnna Bryant, Kara Russell, Cheryl Ward-
Consultants Present:	Rusty Fairheart-SECEP, Allison Jordan, Suzie Kumpf, Eileen Ouellette
Consultants Absent:	Brenda Lenhart, Dr. Daisy Wood
Guests:	Ruth Angulo, Ana Castellanos, Peaches Ellis, Yolanda Jones-Howell, Kami Lannetti, Valerie Sutton, Sherry Tiaba, Rod Curry
Quorum Present:	Yes

**Welcome:**

Chairperson Hermann convened the meeting at 9:10 AM.

**Adoption of Agenda:** The Chair called for a motion to adopt the agenda and to enter into closed session.

**Motion:** Cherese Jenks - **Seconded by:** Rayna Amoreno. Ayes 8, Nays 0.

Non-voting members/consultants and guest vacated the room as the committee members entered a closed session meeting.

**Closed Meeting - Personnel Matter:**

Pursuant to the Exemptions from Open Meetings Allowed by Section 2.2 – 37 of the *Code of Virginia*, 1950, as Amended, for the following purposes: Personnel Matters

The Chair will entertain a motion to break into closed session pursuant to the exemption from open meetings ALLOWED BY Section 2.2-3711(A)(3) of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended for the following purposes.

PERSONNEL MATTERS: Discussion consideration of, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A0(1), **namely: for discussion of the qualifications of candidates for appointment to the Special Education Advisory committee.**

Chairperson Hermann read the Certificate of Closed Session

**CERTIFICATE OF CLOSED SESSION**

**WHEREAS**, the Special Education Advisory Committee has convened a closed session on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by this Committee that such closed session was conducted in conformity with Virginia Law;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Special Education Advisory Committee hereby certifies that, to the best of each member’s knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia Law were discussed in the closed session to which this certification applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the Motion convening the closed session were heard, discussed, or considered.

**Motion for closed session:** Carol Brubaker

**Seconded:** Melissa Barnett

Aye: 9

Nay: 0

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Sandy Hermann, Chairperson  
Special Education Advisory Committee

Committee reconvened into open session at 9:50 AM.

**Introductions:** Individual introduction was made around the room.

**Public Comment**

There were two public comments made:

1. Sherry Tiaba: requested to withdrawn her letter for membership to the SEAC committee.
2. Valerie Sutton: expressed concerns about the inadequate supply of therapy providers and subsequent reduction in related therapy services to her child.

<b><u>Announcements</u></b>	There were no announcements.
<b><u>Correspondence</u></b>	Various correspondence in relation to Disability History and Awareness Month and Regional Resource Fair.

**Reports**

<b>Dr. Daisy Wood / Allison Jordan OPEC</b>	The Office of Programs for Exceptional Children is currently working on December One Count.
<b>Melissa Barnett VBDHS</b>	No report or activity reported.
<b>Cheryl Ward Endeppendence Center</b>	Dr. Judy Douglas has retired from the Virginia Department of Education after 30 years of service. Dr. Douglas was the head of the Office of Dispute Resolution; no announcement has been made on her replacement. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ECI’s participant party is scheduled for Thursday, December 13, 2012 from 12:00-4:00 p.m. at the Ascension Community Center</li> <li>▪ A reminder about the 211 service - Virginia Easy Access is for seniors and adults with disabilities and the providers that support them through a public private partnership with the Commonwealth of Virginia, Senior Navigator, and 2-1-1</li> </ul>

	Virginia.
<b>Dept. Parks &amp; Rec. Carolyn Stark</b>	Celebrating the opening of the new Williams Farm Recreation Center. For a picture of the center go to <a href="http://www.vbgov.parks">www.vbgov.parks</a> . Registration for Spring Swim and Around Town program is scheduled for January 5, 2013 and summer CAMP registration is scheduled for March 9, 2013. Both registrations are at the Kempsville location. A Sweet Night for a Dinner and Dance is scheduled for January 18, 2013 at Kempsville Recreation Center. (see flyer) for more information. Parks and recreation guides can be obtained at all centers.
<b>Parent Support and Information Center Brenda Lenhart</b>	Due to the absence of Brenda Lenhart, Allison Jordan read the report to the committee. She reiterated the smart goal was beneficial to participants and attendees.
<b>SECEP Joint Board Meeting Rusty Fairheart</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Dr. Patty Hawkins has announced she will be retiring, effective June 30<sup>th</sup> 2013.</li> <li>▪ Next SECEP Board meeting is scheduled for January 30, 2013.</li> </ul>
<b>Membership Subcommittee Chair: Reyna Amoreno</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A letter for membership from Ms. Sherry Tiaba was reviewed at the last meeting. However, due to Ms. Tiaba's request to withdraw her membership request letter today, no further business in relationship to her request is required by the committee.</li> </ul>

**SEAC Standing Subcommittees**

<b>Policy Review Subcommittee Chair: Sandy Hermann</b>	No activity reported.
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**SEAC Ad Hoc Subcommittees:**

<b>SEAC Effectiveness Chair: JoAnna Bryant</b>	No report or activity reported. However, a meeting is scheduled following January SEAC meeting.
<b>Disability Awareness Subcommittee Cherese Jenks</b>	<p>Names of semi-finalist will be announced by their principal and will also be provided to the School Board for recognition:</p> <p><b>PreK-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade</b> "Celebrate Differences" by 1st grader Rachel Rincavage, Teacher/Spirelis; Strawbridge Elem.</p> <p><b>3rd-5<sup>th</sup> Grade</b> TIE between Cearia Williams, 5th grade, Teacher/Chester, Rosemont Elem, "Same but Different" AND Rhiley Jenks, 4th grade, Teacher/Hoyle, Arrowhead Elem, "A Human Being is a Human Being" Since their messages were similar, Kathie Snow combined them into ONE bookmark and gave credit to both students.</p> <p><b>6th-8<sup>th</sup> Grade</b> TIE - because their messages were different, Kathie Snow DID a bookmark for each: B J Camano, 8th grade, Teacher/Foshay, Kemps Landing Magnet</p>

<b>Disability Awareness Subcommittee</b> <b>Cherese Jenks</b>	<p>School, "Talk to Me, Not About Me;" AND Amy Liao, grade 7, Teacher/Futrell, Kemps Landing, "Celebrate People First, Stop the Prejudice."  <b>9th-12<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>          Jessica Camano, 11th grade, Teacher/Letts, Ocean Lakes HS, "Don't Define Me."           Sandy Hermann announced at the State SEAC meeting about the Book-mark contest done in our school division. Yolanda Jones-Howell is working closely with SEAC to help publicize the winners.</p>
<b>Bylaws subcommittee</b> <b>Cheryl Ward</b>	<p>SEAC Bylaws are currently with the School Attorney for review.</p>
<b>Annual Report Subcommittee</b>	<p>No report/activity reported. Rayna Amoreno requested to withdraw her name as Chair for the subcommittee and encouraged someone to replace her. Sandy Hermann informed the committee that any members wishing to view the recent State SEAC Annual Report may view it in its entirety on the VDOE website. She shared the three recommendations from the report.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bullying and Harassment (Sandy read a paragraph from the state report)</li> <li>2. Diplomas and Assessment (students should be involved with this process) and</li> <li>3. Inclusion and Accessibility (All students with disabilities should be involved in safety training.</li> </ol>
<b>Transportation Subcommittee</b> <b>Carolyn Stark</b>	<p>No report/activity reported. A meeting is attempting to be scheduled for this month.</p>
<b>Inclusion Subcommittee</b> <b>Rayna Amoreno</b>	<p>No report/activity reported. Upcoming meeting will be announced.</p>

**SEAC Representatives**

<b>VBCPS Transition Advisory Committee Meeting (JoAnna Bryant/Kara Russell)</b>	<p>No report/activity reported.</p>
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**SECEP Joint Board Meeting**

<b>School Board Representative Ping Camano</b>	<p>The Superintendent's report covered the numerous activities done by staff and students across the division in observance of Veteran's day, such as: displaying of written thank you letter to service men and veterans.          Dr. Merrill reported that the DHAM was celebrated across the division in October by numerous activities inclusive of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The NJHS students of Lynnhaven Middle school project were reading 2x a week to student with Intellectual Disabilities.</li> <li>a. Many schools posted announcements on their marquis and picture shown was at Landstown HS.</li> <li>b. Regional Community Resource Fair at Landstown HS sponsored by SEAC and OPEC featured more than 100 vendors showcasing products and services available to children with disabilities.</li> </ol>
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**OLD Business** None

**New Business**

Disability and Awareness month recap – Chereese provided extensive recap of disability history and awareness activities done in Virginia Beach and summarized during Superintendent’s monthly report at recent School Board meeting.

Meet and Greet recap – None provided.

Community Resource Fair recap – Chereese verbally provided overall summary and agreed to provide written report to SEAC for further review.

SEAC Membership Vote – No vote required

**Other Business** - None

**Review of Public Months Comment**

- a. To address Ms. Tiaba and Mrs. Kumpf’s concerns from October, Allison Jordan reiterated that the surveys/questionnaires were made by the teachers to develop the PLOP.
- b. Today’s comments: Because Mrs. Tiaba withdrew her request for membership, no further action was required.
- c. Sandy Hermann recommended that Jane DeBord and/or a member of her staff provide a presentation to SEAC regarding IEP related services and their meanings. SEAC concurred. Allison Jordan was to meet with Ms. Sutton immediately after the meeting today to discuss her individual concerns.

**Reading and Approval of Minutes**

November minutes will be reviewed at next month’s meeting.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business before the committee, the meeting was adjourned by Sandy Hermann at 11:20 AM.

Next SEAC Meeting: January 14, 2013 ■ 9:00 a.m. at the Special Education Annex, Room 25