

South Dakota Department of Education
Special Education Advisory Panel Meeting
Minutes

Chairperson
Lisa Heckenlaible

Vice Chairperson
Heather Stettinichs

Minutes

April 24th, 2008

<i>Members Present</i>	<i>Members Absent</i>
Lisa Heckenlaible	Michele Cogley
Heather Stettinichs	Nicole Haneke
Judy Hoscheid	Peggy Hargens
Mark Krogstrand	
Laura Johnson-Frame	
Greg Riley	
Karn Barth	
Nora Svatos	
Greg Cooch	
Todd Christensen	
Jim Dunston	
Elaine Roberts	
Gail Eichstadt	
Bernie Grimme	

<i>Guests</i>	
Jennifer Bauer-Fuhr	West Central School District
Jolene Keckler	West Central School District
Merle Horst	Brandon Valley Elementary
Kristi Wallin	Lennox School District
Kari Oyen	Lennox School District
Dave Scherer	Dakota Link
Betty Twiss	Transition Advantage
Judy Struck	Center for Disabilities
Brittany Schmidt	Center for Disabilities
Joey Younie	Center for Disabilities
Rose Moering	Center for Disabilities
Christine Reit	Center for Disabilities

<i>Department of Education</i>	
Ann Larsen	State Special Education Programs Director, SD DOE
Raymond Tracy	Program Specialist, SD DOE
Merle Doolittle	Secretary, SD DOE
Rebecca Cain	Program Specialist, SD DOE

<i>Public</i>	
Melanie Boetel	Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor, Sioux Falls, SD

Opening Remarks

Raymond Tracy, **SD DOE**, began with welcoming members, reviewing the agenda and the minutes with the panel.

Approval of the Agenda

Action Item - Members to accept agenda for the **April 24th and 25th, 2008** Meeting.

Motion to accept: Mark Krogstrand

Second motion to accept: Gail Eichstadt

Panel Vote:

Yes All Members

No None

Abstain None

Approval of Minutes

Action Item - Members to accept the **January 10th and 11th, 2008** Minutes.

Motion to accept: Judy Hoscheid

Second motion to accept: Jim Dunston

Panel Vote:

Yes All Members

No None

Abstain None

Public Comment

There was no comment from the public.

Minutes Approved (As Read) (As Amended)

Chairperson _____

Signature

Date

April 24, 2008

Braille Unit Tour and Presentation

The panel attended a tour of the Braille and Large Print Unit at the State Penitentiary in Sioux Falls. The tour consisted of an overview of the program and the origins of the Braille unit.

Panel Recommendations and Discussion

The panel was pleased to be allowed to visit the prison. The panel received a positive experience and samples of materials provided by the Braille unit. The panel would like future tours of similar facilities that provide services to individual with disabilities. The panel would like to thank Bob Rae, Pheasantland Industries, and the members of the Braille and Large Print Unit who work hard to provide quality materials to students.

Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports

Presented by Rebecca Cain,
Special Education Programs, SD Dept. of Education

The presentation informed the panel of the statewide initiative on positive behavioral interventions and supports (PBIS) which is comprised of a broad range of systemic school-wide, group, and individualized strategies for achieving important social and learning outcomes while preventing problem behavior with all students. PBIS is not a specific "model" but a compilation of effective practices, interventions, and systems change strategies that have been proven to be empirically effective and efficient. Rebecca continued to present on the status of the current pilot sites and the new pilot sites.

Panel Recommendations and Discussion

The panel asked many questions about the data collection process and the outcomes associated with that data. Parent involvement in the process was also a point of discussion. The panel appreciated the presentation and would like further updates in the future on the progress in the pilot schools and the data collected.

Liberty Center Tour and Presentation

The panel attended a tour of the Liberty Center in Sioux Falls. The tour consisted of an overview of the program and the origins of the center.

Panel Recommendations and Discussion

The panel was pleased to be allowed to visit the center. The panel would like future tours of similar facilities that provide services to individuals with disabilities. The panel would like to thank Allison Sanderson and her staff for the tour and the services they provide to children.

State Application for Funds

Presented by Ann Larsen, Director of Special Education Programs, SD DOE. Ann presented the department's application for federal funds to the panel. The application has been posted for public comment on the DOE Website. She also discussed how she presented the information to districts during the SPP/APR Road show in February 2008. Ann discussed the allocations and the justifications for those allocations.

Panel Recommendations and Discussion

The panel asked questions and provided comment on the application. The Department has included that input in this process. The application must be submitted to OSEP on or before May 16, 2008

State Performance Plan (SPP) and Annual Performance Report (APR) Update

Presented by Ann Larsen and Raymond Tracy, SD DOE

Ann updated the panel on the 2008 submission. The 2008 APR was submitted on time to OSEP. Recently, OSEP released its preliminary findings to the State Education Agencies (SEAs.) The state was given one week to make corrections and include data requested by OSEP. Ann also discussed the outcomes of the panel suggestions. The panel suggested an improvement in Parent Involvement (Indicator 8). Further, Ann discussed the final determination letter from OSEP will arrive in June 2008. The Panel will be given a report on those determinations at the June 20th meeting in Pierre, SD.

Panel Recommendations and Discussion

The Panel asked question about specific indicators, corrections and activities. The panel appreciated the report by the Department and look forward to the Determination letter in June.

Annual Report Draft

Raymond Tracy, SD DOE presented the draft annual report due in June. The panel reviewed the document and offered comment on the changes needed. Further input will occur at the June meeting before the final version is publicly reported.

Closing Remarks

The panel gave closing remarks early in order to attend a presentation by the Center for Disabilities and a reception.

The Center for Disabilities

Judy Struck, **Director of the Center for Disabilities** presented on the origins and the departments that make up the Center for Disabilities. Department Directors presented to the panel their department's role in the center and their activities throughout the state.

Panel Recommendations and Discussion

The panel was pleased to be allowed to visit the Center for Disabilities. The panel would like to thank Judy Struck and her staff for the presentation and the services they provide to children.

Adjourn for the Day

Action Item - Meeting to adjourn for the day at **5 PM** and reconvene at **8:30 AM** on **April 25th, 2008**.

Motion to accept: Judy Hoscheid

Second motion to accept: Gail Eichstadt

Panel Vote:

Yes All Members

No None

Abstain None

April 25, 2008

Panel Reconvenes

Response to Intervention: Pilot Sites

Jennifer Bauer-Fuhr West Central School District

Jolene Keckler West Central School District

Merle Horst Brandon Valley Elementary

Kristi Wallin Lennox School District

Kari Oyen Lennox School District

The presenters provided the panel with an update on the activities occurring within their districts as RTI pilot sites. The panel asked many questions about the roles of parents in the process, eligibility, and the effects on child count. The panel greatly appreciates the presentation by the various districts and thanks them for their services to children.

Transition Advantage

Presented by Betty Twiss, Director of Transition Advantage

Betty presented the transition advantage program to the panel. It was started by the East Dakota Education Cooperative with assistance from Brandon Valley, Lennox and West Central school districts. The Transition Advantage Program helps young adults ages 18-21 who require assistance and support while pursuing transition goals. It is a community-based program assisting in employment and independent living skills through the IEP team process. Students may work on jobs and job training, community participation, home living, and education.

Panel Recommendations and Discussion

The panel asked many questions and offer their thanks to the cooperative, the districts and Betty Twiss for their time and creation of this program.

Assistive Technology in South Dakota

Presented by Dave Scherer, Dakota Link

Dave presented to the panel of the assistive technology Dakota Link has provided to individuals with various needs in South Dakota. Through a grant from Special Education Programs, Dakota Link has been able to purchase and update assistive technology which districts, parents, and individuals may borrow to try out assistive devices before purchase. Further, Dave described a lending network that allows individuals to obtain assistive technology.

Panel Recommendations and Discussion

The Panel discussed the many opportunities that Dakota Link offers. The panel wishes to thank Dave and Dakota Link for their services to individuals with special needs.

South Dakota Parent Connection

Presented by Elaine Roberts, South Dakota Parent Connection

Elaine provided the panel with information about Parent Connection. Further, she explained the roles and responsibilities of the Parent Navigator Program. Elaine discussed the grant application to Special Education Programs and the support provided to parents of children with disabilities.

Panel Recommendations and Discussion

The panel was interested in Elaine's presentation and thanks her and Parent Connection for all they do work students with disabilities and their families.

Miscellaneous Topics

• **South Dakota, Part B Newsletter**

The panel was presented the Spring newsletter. The newsletter has updated information for districts and professionals to use.

• **Member Information: Update and Applications**

The panel reviewed their current contact information.

The panel also commented on the need for a Native American Parent to serve as a member on the panel. The panel further suggested using the member application process for interested individuals.

• **Letter to Copenhaver**

The panel reviewed a letter to respond to John Copenhaver's question on Special Education Advisory Panel membership.

Due to adverse weather conditions the Panel recommended ending the meeting early.

Schedule Upcoming Meeting

• **Proposed Agenda Items for Next Time**

The panel decided to meet in **Pierre, SD** next time. The meeting will occur on **June 20th, 2008**.

Propose Guest Speakers/Topics

- The panel would like to have Melody Schopp, DOE and Dan Boyd, SD State Library present next time.

Adjourn

Action Item- Adjourn the meeting until **8 AM June 20th, 2008**

Motion to accept:	Greg Cooch
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Second motion to accept:	Jim Dunston
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Panel Vote:

Yes	All Members
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No	None
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Abstain	None
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