

SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY PANEL MEETING

June 24th, 2009
SDEA Building, 411 East Capitol, Pierre, SD 57501



Chairperson
Heather Stettinichs

Vice Chairperson
Mark Krogstrand

Panel Functions

- Advise the SEA of unmet needs within the State in the education of children with disabilities
- Comment publicly on any rules or regulations proposed by the state regarding the education of children with disabilities
- Advise the SEA in developing evaluations and reporting on data to the Secretary under section 618 of the Act
- Advise the SEA in developing corrective action plans to address findings identified in Federal monitoring reports under Part B of the Act
- Advise the SEA in developing and implementing policies relating to the coordination of services for children with disabilities
- Review and comment on final due process hearing findings and decisions
- Advise on eligible students with disabilities in adult prisons- The advisory panel also shall advise on the education of eligible students with disabilities who have been convicted as adults and incarcerated in adult prisons

Panel Priorities

- State Performance Plan
- Child Find
- Ensuring quality service providers are available to children with disabilities

Minutes

June 24th, 2009

Members Present	Members Absent
Elaine Roberts	Michelle Greseth
Judy Hoscheid	Nora Svatos
Lisa Heckenlaible	Todd Christensen
Greg Cooch	Gail Eichstadt
Jim Dunston	Laura Johnson-Frame
Greg Riley	Michele Cogley
Mark Krogstrand	Nicole Haneke
Bernie Grimme	Peggy Hargens
Heather Stettnichs	Guests
	Bev Peterson, Transition Liaison Project
	David Scherer, DakotaLink
	Department of Education
	Alicia Schoenhard
	Merle Doolittle
	Angie Boddicker

Acronyms used:

SPP: State Performance Plan
APR: Annual Performance Report
SEP: State Education Program
OSEP: Office of Special Education Programs
SD DOE: South Dakota Department of Education
TSLP: Transition Services Liaison Project

Opening Remarks

Alicia Schoenhard, 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 **June 24th, 2009** meeting.

Motion to accept: Elaine Roberts

Second motion to accept: Judy Hoscheid

Panel Vote

Yes All Members

No None

Abstain None

Approval of the Minutes

Action Item - Members to accept minutes from the **April 23rd, 2009** meeting.

Motion to accept: Bernie Grimme

Second motion to accept: Greg Riley

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

Elections

Election of New Officers for the 2009-2010 School Year

Chairperson: Mark Krogstrand

Vice Chairperson: Nora Svatos

New Memberships

Panel members reviewed the list of applicants and made comments and suggestions for recommendations. From the list of applicants seven parents and one teacher were selected to maintain majority in the panel. Mark made the suggestion that Advisory Panel member applicants be screened and recommended by the SEP staff.

Eligibility Guide

Alicia introduced the changes proposed by the Eligibility work group during the April 30th meeting. Changes were proposed to the following disability categories: Emotional Disturbance, Hearing Loss, Multiple Disabilities, Orthopedic Impairment, Vision Loss, Voice Disorder, Language Disorder, Other Health Impairment, and Developmental Delay. Greg Riley and Greg Cooch also provided comments about the proposed changes, as they have participated in the Eligibility workgroup. The panel discussed changes and effects on districts and individuals. The panel would like clarification on the process these rules changes will go through, and when they will go into effect for the districts to begin using.

Transition

Presented by - Bev Petersen

Transition Liaison

Bev Peterson presented the group with updates from the Transition Liaison Project events for the 2008-2009 school year. Updates included Transition trainings, which take place statewide and involve districts that need assistance gathering data for submission to the SEA, specifically data dealing with transition. Two or three Transition forums were held during the year and included teachers and administrators. Vocational Rehabilitation, DakotaLink, and other outside agencies were on hand to help identify those that are considered "other agencies" when looking to invite them to IEP meetings for those students in need of transition services. Catch the Wave was held this spring in various locations across the state. It is a one day training for students on IEPs that are looking to attend post-secondary education. Parents are invited along with program coordinators. This training provides students with information about what they need to know and work on during high school if they plan on continuing their education after graduation. Specific topics discussed were modification and accommodations, and what these mean and look like when you are in a post-secondary setting. YLF is a five day summer program where delegates from across the state take part in activities centered on socialization, team building, organization, self advocacy, and learning more about their disabilities. This year's theme was "Find Your Music Within". Any young adult on IEP can apply to attend. This year, 40 delegates were selected and represented many of the disability categories. Bev also shared photos from

this year's recent YLF, and spoke about the awards luncheon, where Governor Rounds presented individuals with leadership awards. The Richard Hicks Memorial Award was also presented during this luncheon ceremony.

Special Education Programs Updates

Presented by - Alicia Schoenhard

Special Education Programs, SD Dept. of Education

Alicia presented Special Education updates from Rebecca Cain and Melissa Flor, Program Specialists. These updates covered Positive Behavior Intervention Supports and Special Education Programs Summer Conference registration information. Other topics discussed included Levels of Determination, ESY trainings, and recognition of South Dakota, Part B having met or exceeded standards required by the US Department of Education. Alicia also offered information about Response to Intervention and the Educators Summer Symposium, in which a panel presented in a breakout session to illustrate RtI in South Dakota pilot schools.

SEAP Teleconference

Alicia recently participated in the MPRRC teleconference call with surrounding Advisory Panel delegates. Minutes from this call were shared with the panel to identify activities of the other State Advisory Panels. Other states involved in the call were Arizona, Kansas, Utah, Montana, Nebraska, and Colorado.

Voices for Children

The panel viewed the video provided by Voices for Children of Children's Mental Health, and were provided resources to share with parents.

Due Process, Mediations, and Complaints

Presented by -Angela Boddicker

Special Education Programs, SD Dept. of Education

Angela introduced herself and notified the panel of her duties as a Program Specialist in dealing with due process, mediations, and complaints. She guided them through the DOE website and explained where to find documentation concerning current complaints and corrections. Elaine and Greg Riley recommended that Angela include a definition or description of mediation to the complaint form to help encourage the use of mediation services before going through with a complaint.

Assistive Technology

Presented by - David Scherer

Program Coordinator, DakotaLink

David shared with group the mission of DakotaLink and the services they provide to individuals with disabilities through the state. DakotaLink provides technical assistance, transition assistance, and public awareness. They currently have a website: www.sd.at4all.com, which assists users in searching for available assistive technology items through DakotaLink. David also shared devices and software that are examples of some of the technologies that are available. The panel would like to know if these types of items are allowable assistive technologies during state/district wide assessments. For example, the reading pen, if this is an item a student uses as an every day technology, are they also allowed to use during assessment time? E-books?

Annual Report: DRAFT

The panel reviewed the draft copy of the 2008-2009 Annual Report. Many of John Copenhaver's suggested from the April meeting have been added. Mark provided suggested corrections. The final copy of the annual report will be sent to the panel members.

Miscellaneous Topics

Articles from the Argus Leader and Rapid City Journal were shared with the panel members recognizing SD having met federal requirements for Part B, IDEA. Greg Cooch noted the error in the Rapid City Journal article dated June 15, 2009 stating parental involvement questionnaires are being sent to Black Hills State University to be compiled, when in fact they are sent to Mountain Plains Regional Resource Center (MPRRC).

The panel was also informed that the Office of Accreditation and Teacher Quality is looking for Special Education teacher mentors to participate in the Virtual Mentoring program, and if they had candidates in mind to contact Lanette Johnston. The Teacher Leadership Conference will be held October 4-6, 2009, and the panel was asked to pass along this information as well.

The panel would like to have the following included in the October agenda:

- The Supreme Court ruling involving Forest Grove
- Updates about ARRA funds
- The 18-21 program, Community Campus in Rapid City at Western Dakota.
- Board of Education decision on the Eligibility changes

The panel discussed arranging for a group photo during the next meeting to take place in Custer. Jim will help with arrangements for the next meeting.

Schedule Upcoming Meeting

- The panel decided to meet in **Custer, SD** next time. The meeting will occur on **Monday, October 5th - 6th, 2009**, with an orientation for new members occurring **Sunday night, October 4th, 2009**.

Adjourn

Action Item- Adjourn the meeting at _____ PM until **October 5th - 6th, 2009**

Motion to adjourn: **Mark Krogstrand**

Second motion to adjourn: **Jim Dunston**

Panel Vote

Yes **All Members**

No **None**

Abstain **None**