

**Radisson Hotel Historic Richmond
301 West Franklin St.
Richmond, VA
State Special Education Advisory Committee (SSEAC) Meeting
Thursday, July 15, 2004**

Present:

Stan Boren, Charlene Christopher, Emily Dreyfus, Stacie Ellis, Anne Fischer, Heidi Lawyer, David Martin, Cindy Mills, Fannie Page, Rick Richardson, Kevin Sutherland, Leslie Snyder

Staff:

Pat Abrams, Doug Cox, Judy Hudgins, Scott McMichael, Cathy Pomfrey, Paul Raskopf, Sandra Ruffin, Irene Walker-Bolton

Others:

Marsha Goldberg (PRC), Lissa Power-deFur

8:50 Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions

Presentations & Work sessions

Draft Guidelines for Speech-Language Pathology Services in Schools – Dr. Lissa Power-deFur

Dr. Pat Abrams introduced Dr. Lissa Power-deFur, Chair, Department of Education, Special Education, Social Work and Communication Disorders at Longwood University in Farmville, Virginia.

Dr. Power-deFur presented information on the Speech Language Guidelines that are in the process of being revised for public schools.

Draft Special Education Personnel Licensure Regulations – Dr. Pat Abrams

The presentation was given with two guiding questions to use as a focus:

1. What competencies are needed for improving student results?
2. What should be the role and responsibilities of the special education teacher?

After the presentation and a lengthy discussion, Dr. Abrams asked for representatives from the SSEAC to serve on a taskforce to discuss licensure issues such as changing to non-categorical licenses and separating the licenses into an elementary and secondary licensure.

Motion: Ms. Heidi Lawyer moved and Mr. Stan Boren seconded that State Special Education Advisory Committee representatives would keep the committee informed

of taskforce recommendations and seek additional information as needed. Motion adopted.

The taskforce is scheduled to meet September 14-15, 2004, Dr. Rick Richardson and Ms. Leslie Snyder will serve as representatives from the State Special Education Advisory Committee.

Public Comment

Mrs. Emily Dreyfus read a letter from Mrs. Susan Horton and her comments about the alternate assessment process.

Revision of the Special Education Staffing Standards- Mr. Paul Raskopf, VDOE Office of Special Education Instructional Services

A taskforce will be appointed to recommend revisions to the special education caseload/staffing requirements.

Motion: Ms. Heidi Lawyer moved and Mr. Stan Boren seconded that State Special Education Advisory Committee representatives would keep the committee informed of taskforce recommendations and seek additional information as needed. Motion adopted.

Mrs. Charlene Christopher and Dr. Kevin Sutherland will serve as representatives from the SSEAC.

Draft Guidelines Addressing the Use of Restraint and Seclusion in Public Schools- Ms. Irene Walker-Bolton VDOE Office of Special Education Instructional Services

The draft guidelines were reviewed and discussed at length. Suggestions were made to the subcommittee for refining the document and recommendations will be received after they meet on Friday.

Business Meeting

- Approval of April 2004 Meeting Minutes-Minutes were approved with corrections on Ms. Carmen Sanchez' motion on page 3. The motion should read that the committee supports the revision to increase the hours to 500 hours
- Membership- Mr. Stan Boren reported that the two vacancies are being advertised. (Region 7 and Person with a Disability) Mr. Cox indicated the names of persons nominated would go before the State Board of Education in October. Ms. Stacie Ellis will replace Mr. Stan Boren on the Membership Committee.
- 2004 Annual Report-A draft copy of the Annual Report was distributed for review. The Report will be presented to the State Board of Education in September due to schedule changes of the Board. After reviewing, the document there was a discussion of how to increase timeliness and impact of the State

Special Education Advisory Committee recommendations to the State Board of Education. The result of the discussion was to develop a meeting summary to present to Board after each meeting.

- **Motion: Mr. Rick Richardson moved and Ms. Heidi Lawyer seconded that the SSEAC, at the conclusion of each quarterly meeting, forward a one page summary of a) motions adopted, and b) recommendations for considerations by the Board of Education in a timely fashion.**
- Bylaws-Ms. Anne Fischer presented the draft changes to Bylaws. The Bylaws will be voted on in October. It was suggested that a Committee Operating Procedures List be developed to cover those issues that fall outside the purview of the Bylaws.

Mr. Doug Cox presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Mr. Stan Boren for his years of service on the State Special Education Advisory Committee.

Friday, July 16, 2004

Present

Stan Boren, Charlene Christopher, Stacie Ellis, Anne Fischer, David Martin, Cindy Mills, Fannie Page, Leslie Snyder, Kevin Sutherland

Staff

Pat Abrams, Doug Cox, Cathy Pomfrey, Judy Hudgins, Irene Walker-Bolton

Others

Cheryl Ward – Endependence Center, observer

8:10 call to order

Assistant Superintendent's Report - Mr. Doug Cox – State of the Commonwealth

Mr. Cox gave a PowerPoint presentation and updated members on several issues including:

- Staff Reorganization
- Office of Special Education and Student Services
- Office of Dispute Resolution and Administrative Services
- Office of Student Services
- Office of State Operated Programs

Subcommittee Reports

Membership Ms. Leslie Snyder will serve as vice-chair

Parent Involvement Ms. Anne Fischer reports that a survey to the Local Advisory Committees will be mailed the last week in August with preliminary results to be

presented at the October meeting. There are now 39 teams trained statewide in Creating Collaborative IEPs. There are plans to send another parent newsletter.

Restraint and Seclusion Dr. David Martin reported that a final draft will be presented to the SSEAC in January. Comments from discussion groups, an Introduction to the Guidelines will be developed as well. Technical assistance provided by VDOE to school divisions using the train the trainer model.

Personnel Ms. Leslie Snyder reported further discussions concerning benefits of non-categorical special education licenses.