

COUNCIL ON EDUCATIONAL SERVICES FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN

June 11, 2014
Meeting Minutes

Members Present

Chad	Barefoot
Melvin	Diggs
William	Hussey
Mary	Jarrett
Mary	LaCorte
Rob	McQuat
Jill	Scercy
Vicki	Simmons
Judy	Williams
Teresa	Mebane
Daphine	Peacock
O.Martin	Pharr
Carol Ann	Hudgens
Ricky	Smith

Visitors

Leanna	George
Katrina	Hayes
Gerri	Smith

Members Absent

Katherine	Allison
Stephen	Brechbiel
Tish	Bynum
Mark	Ezzell
Melanie	Hester
Tammy	Holland
Bryan	Holloway
Susan	Humbert
Nicole	Jimerson
Cathy	Kea
Carla	McNeill
Patricia	Naylor
Lisa	Phillips

Welcome, Review Agenda, Review March Meeting Minutes

Jill Scercy, Chairperson, opened the meeting with welcoming members and visitors. Members and visitors made self-introductions. The Council reviewed the agenda and March meeting minutes.

There was not a quorum to approve the March meeting minutes. Also, without a quorum, voting for a chairperson and vice-chairperson cannot occur as scheduled on the agenda. Jill suggested the Council proceed with reviewing the State Board of Education (SBE) presentation even though no SBE member has responded to the Council's invitation to attend this meeting. Afterwards, the Council could move into committee work.

SBE Presentation Practice

The Council reviewed the presentation and made edits for conciseness and consistency. In general, the presentation should be informative and inviting. Once the edits are incorporated in the presentation, it will be sent to Council for final review.

End of Year Report

Carol Ann Hudgens, Consultant for Dispute Resolution, asked the Council for any additional input for the End of Year Report. The report will include 2013 – 2014 facilitation,

mediation and state complaints; the Council's response on public comment items; input on the State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report; and its invitation to SBE members. Carol Ann will provide the Council a draft of the report and set timeline for input. The report is due September 1.

Membership Updates

The Council has several vacancies due to term expirations and other reasons. The vacancies went to the SBE for recommendations.

The EC Division has sent letters to the Governor's office regarding the legislative appointments.

Agency Updates

Exceptional Children Division Director Bill Hussey provided the Council updates on the following:

PRTF – DPI is working with the legislature to pass a bill that funds teacher positions within PRTFs. The funding basically equates to one teacher per eight children. The PRTF would be responsible for FAPE and federal/state accountability. The EC Division would be responsible for monitoring. DHHS would be responsible for licensing PRTFs. Stakeholder language was included in the legislation.

Read to Achieve – Legislation signed by Governor yesterday. Bill has not seen the final signed law. Summer camps are optional. Good cause exemptions have expanded to include a two-year delay in educational performance and intensive reading intervention. The two-year delay includes math, reading and/or social and emotional development. There will be a memo forthcoming to provide guidance with assessment tool examples - math/reading assessments are fairly basic; social-emotionally assessments are more formal assessments.

Funding - LEAs should receive an increase next year due to 17 million more in federal allocation. The EC Division only retains 1.7% for administration. The remainder is allocated to LEAs.

IEP Review Committee - Subcommittee Workgroup – the subcommittee is looking at the legalities of IEP federal requirements. The committee is working to simplify the IEP forms and the paperwork process as a whole. The committee is considering combining DEC 1, 2, 6, and 7. The subcommittee will review what is required of the SEA to maintain compliance. It has been suggested that a narrative page be created for the present level of performance that reflects the whole child. The IEP needs to be a functional document for each child with EC personnel working with data teams as well as general education personnel.

Statewide EC Data System – EC Division is moving forward with the RFP on a statewide EC data system. Hopefully, there will be a decision by December with LEAs transferring over to the new system by next December 2015. The IEP changes will be included in the new system.

Specific Learning Disability Eligibility – a workgroup is developing a white paper. Decision analysis will be used to determine the path of the SLD position paper. Public comment should

be around Feb. 2015 with hopes of a final going to SBE in May/June with a five-year transition implementation plan with benchmarks. The white paper will be shared with Council for input prior to public comment.

Residential Schools – The EC Division has been assisting each school in creating their strategic plan. Governor Morehead School has completed their plan and Eastern NC School for the Deaf is finalizing theirs. Residential schools are investigating other funding opportunities because they are acquiring more children with multiple disabilities.

EC Division – The EC Division is considering a new section for Charter Schools/PRTFs. The present level of staff cannot adequately support Charter Schools/PRTFs at the level needed. By September, there will be 190+ Charter Schools. The EC Division and Office of Charter Schools are working collaboratively to address the increase and future support. EC Division will have soon have Special Programs & Data as a separate section. Interviews for Section Chief positions (Policy, Monitoring & Audit; Special Programs & Data; and Sensory Support and Assistive Technology) should be completed soon.