

SHARING THE COMMITMENT

An Exceptional Student Education Advisory Committee

MEETING MINUTES
January 13, 2009



Members: Dr. Victoria Sartorio, Wilbur Hawke, Karen Stelmacki, Debby Ramassini, Jennifer Smith, Debbie Tihen, Adella Spinella, Barb Southwick, Peg Sullivan, Rosa Martinez

Members Absent: Ken Fairbanks, Dr. Elizabeth McBride, Myra Shapiro, Bob Spano, Dr. Lynn Wilder, Stan Weser

Guests: Sandra Kaiser, Nina D'Agostino, Jenni Muench, Joyce Austin

Agenda and Meeting Minutes – Dr. Victoria Sartorio

A consensus agreement was reached to approve the agenda as presented as well as the meeting minutes from November 11, 2008.

Presentations

Jenny Muench - Parks and Recreation Special Needs Camp

Planning is underway for the Parks and Recreation Special Needs Summer Camp for children, age PK to 17). The cost of the full camp is \$600, however weekly rates and scholarships (based on income level) are available. Potential sites are: Poinciana Elementary and/or Osceola Elementary School. For more information, contact Jenni Muench at 252-4187 or JennyMuench@colliergov.net.

Karen Stelmacki shared that the 2008-09 Collier County School District Summer School Programs will run a 4-day work week, Monday-Thursday.

- The framework for Extended School Year (ESY) is from 8:30 – 11 AM, June 23 - July 30, 2009 (July 3 Holiday). A student's IEP Team determines, on an individual basis, whether ESY services are necessary for the provision of a free appropriate public education (FAPE). A multi-factored determination is used. A key factor in this determination of need is the regression/recoupment analysis (whether a child will experience significant regression in the absence of an educational program and whether the time it will take to re-learn the lost skills is excessive.)

Sandi Kaiser, Consumer Affairs Coordinator - ValueOptions *Putting People First/Outreach Mental Health*

ValueOptions is available to persons who participate in the Medicaid Provider Access System (MediPass), a primary care case management program for Medicaid recipients developed and administered by Florida Medicaid. ValueOptions, an independent behavioral health care company, specializes in management for all behavioral health issues, and mental health and chemical dependency diagnoses for persons accessing mental health services through Medicaid MediPass. Link: <http://www.valueoptions.com/>

Sandi expressed interest in building a professional development program for parents and children in Collier County using the 40 Developmental Assets framework from Search Institute that focuses on a person's external assets (support, empowerment, boundaries and expectations, and constructive use of time) and internal assets (commitment to learning, positive values, social competencies, and positive identity). Link: <http://search-institute.org/>

For more information about setting up a workshop for parents and children, contact Sandi Kaiser at (800) 808-0832 or Sandra.kaiser@valueoptions.com.

Dr. Sartorio suggested that Sandi collaborate with Dr. Katrina Nedley, SEDNET Manager, regarding a workshop for parents and students at schools where we have E/BD special classes. Wilbur requested Sandi to prepare 40 packets of information about this program's services for the current Parent Resource Libraries.

Sandi shared that the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) in conjunction with Treatment Works announces support groups for parents and children, ages 10 and up with a mental health diagnosis. For more information contact Kathyryn Hunter at NAMI at (239) 434-6726 or collierami@aol.com.

Old Business

Sensitivity Awareness Training – *Jennifer Smith*

Sensitivity Awareness Training kits have been ordered. To date, 10 schools have participated in the Sensitivity Awareness Train-The-Trainer. GGE and AVE are on a waiting list for this training.

Parent Library/Workshop Schedule – *Wilbur Hawke & PEER Parents*

Currently, 36 parent libraries are placed. 6,000 STC brochures have been distributed by PEERs to schools. The Spanish/Creole translation of the STC brochure is pending. A library addendum will be sent to schools with libraries (Building the Legacy CD, Value Options Putting People First packets, etc.). Please forward all information packets to Maureen Wuerfel, ESE Secretary to Dr. Sartorio, by *no later than January 31st*.

Boundless Playground Project – *Barb Southwick*

Equipment has been ordered for the Corkscrew Community's Boundless Playground. 80% of the funds have been raised. For more information, or to provide a donation (monetary or services), contact Barb Southwick at barbsouth@comcast.net. Kudos to Barb for all her work and efforts in making this project a reality.

Collaborative Partners Updates

Family Network on Disabilities (FND) – *Wilbur Hawke*

The 3rd Annual Heart and Hope Statewide Family Conference is being held at the University of Central Florida in Orlando from 8 am to 4:30 pm, Saturday, February 7, 2009. For further information, contact Family Network on Disabilities at (800) 825-5736. You may register (free) online at: <http://www.fndfl.org/hearhope.asp>.

Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System (FDLRS) – *Debbie Tihen*

Information about inservices provided and/or scheduled for Collier was shared. Since our last STC meeting, FDLRS conducted five workshops (Behavior, Reading A to Z, Matrix of Services, and Transition). A reunion was held in December 2008 for those parents who participated in

the *More Than Words* workshop. 100% of families reported a change in how they communicate with their child and 100% of families reported communication growth with their children. For further information on FDLRS training opportunities, visit Island Coast FDLRS serving Collier and Lee Counties at <http://leeschools.net/orgs/fdlrs/>.

SW FL Personnel Development Alliance – *Peg Sullivan*

The special Early Childhood Committee Meeting is scheduled for January 15th from 10 am – 2 pm at Florida Gulf Coast University. Rochelle Lentini, USF will be joining the committee to support members in the continuing initiative to build capacity in SW Florida to serve young children with challenging behaviors and their families. All Positive Beginnings Trainers in the region were invited to participate.

Upcoming Event: Promising Pathways conference on April 25, 2009.

For more information about upcoming events or programs sponsored by the SW FL Personnel Development Alliance (formerly known as Personnel Development Partnership – PDP), visit <http://pdp.fgcu.edu/> or contact Peg at (239) 590-7748.

Collier's Partners in Transition (PIT) – *Wilbur Hawke*

Collier's PIT, in collaboration with Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD), is planning a workshop on Wills, Trusts and Guardianships at Naples High School for parents and students. To learn more information about transition services, visit, <http://www.collierstc.com/Tactics%20Page.html>.

Redlands Christian Migrant Association (RCMA) – *Rosa Martinez*

Developmental screenings are currently underway and Baby Basis conducts monthly support meetings with families, as well as, provides Pampers for babies. RCMA is preparing to celebrate the *Dia del Nino* event on Saturday, April 4, 2009.

New Business

New Administrative Rules – *Karen Stelmacki*

Several ESE administrative rules approved by the State Board of Education on June 17, 2008, were submitted to the Department of State for adoption and became effective on December 22, 2008. Additionally, Rule 6A-6.03011, FAC, Exceptional Student Education for Students with Intellectual Disabilities, was revised, effective January 4, 2009.

Link: <https://www.flrules.org/default.asp>. Karen provided a brief overview of the following new rules:

- 6A-6.03028, FAC *Provision of Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) and Development of Individual Educational Plans for Students with Disabilities*
- 6A-6.0331, FAC *General Education Intervention Procedures, Identification, Evaluation, Reevaluation and the Initial Provision of Exceptional Education*
- 6A-6.03311, FAC *Procedural Safeguards and Due Process Procedures for Parents and Students with Disabilities*
- 6A-6.03312, FAC *Discipline Procedures for Students with Disabilities*
- 6A-6.0333, FAC *Surrogate Parents*
- 6A-6.03411, FAC *Definitions, ESE Policies and Procedures, and ESE Administrators*
- 6A-6.030281, FAC *Provision of Equitable Services to Parentally-Placed Private School Students with Disabilities*

- 6A-6.0334, FAC *Individual Educational Plans (IEPs) and Educational Plans (EPs) for Transferring Exceptional Students*
- Rule 6A-6.03011, FAC *Exceptional Student Education for Students with Intellectual Disabilities*

On December 5, 2008 we received notice that the final regulations were published on December 1, 2008, in the Federal Register. These regulations went into effect on December 31st and address parental *revocation of consent after consent to the initial provision of services* has been provided. Link: <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2008/E8-28175.htm>

Open

- Karen shared that Collier has begun including preschool children with disabilities in Florida's child outcomes measurement system by reporting results of the Battelle Developmental Inventory (BDI-2) to the Department of Education. Exit data will be reported for all preschool children who have been evaluated, determined eligible for special education, enroll in school, and have an individual educational plan (IEP) for six months. Exit is defined as the date of dismissal from special education or May 31st prior to kindergarten entry (whichever comes first). Collier began reporting entry data for all preschool children in Jan. 2008.
- Joyce reported that the Educational Tool Kit for Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) was ordered. One kit will be sent to each public school.

2008-2009 Meeting Schedule

10 AM – 12 PM

March 10, 2009 at Redlands Christian Migrant Association
402 West Main Street, Immokalee, FL
(239) 658-3560

May 12, 2009 at Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Administration Center, Room 4-167