

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL
MINUTES
FEBRUARY 10, 2011

5:30-7:00

Members Present: Kathy Dykes, Rachel Gott, Sheldia Sparks, Rachel Baker, Kim Grasso, Lillian Sundy, Leisa Pickering, Stella Smith, Karen Guettler-James, Alva Clark,

Presentation: None

- I. Call to Order Ms. Dykes called to order
- II. Introductions were made
- III. Approval of Agenda Agenda was approved, motion by Karen and seconded by Stella
- IV. Approval of Consent Items
 - a. Review minutes—approve or amend. The minutes were approved as written, motion by Stella and seconded by Sheldia.
- V. Old Business
 - a. Update from Ad-hoc committees
 - Education:** Sheldia discussed the recommendations from the committee. One of the ideas concerns the mentorship from retired teachers for first and second year teachers. The mentors would go through volunteer status and then be matched with a first or second year teacher. Stella and Sheldia were on the radio this morning promoting the parent resource center and opportunities in FCPS.
 - Communication:** Stella discussed the new posting for the sign language classes. Stella discussed the lunchshops. On March 8th, PRC is partnering with the PTA for a lunchshop on multi sensory reading strategies. The session will be hands on with one at lunch time and a repeat in the evening. The AKA institute will be on March 12 at Northeast Christian Church. The ARC of Kentucky is on April 15-16 in Louisville. The focus is best practices for people with Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities. On Feb 18th, IHDI is offering a meeting about the universal applications of Iphones and I pads for persons with Communication and Developmental Disabilities, March 4th on Transition and April 8th Re-creating Ourselves through Recreation.
 - Vocational/Post Secondary:** Committee has not had a chance to meet. On March 17th, University of Kentucky is offering a transition fair for high school students.
 - Placement/Service:** Committee hasn't met but Karen shared that she will continue sharing seminars and offerings from IHDI.
 - b. **Nominating Committee-recommended names** Ms. Dykes described the process for taking nominations and and elections for new members.
- VI. New Business
 - a. Review items in folder (by-law, contact information, discuss Ad-Hoc Committee): The committee came about in 2007 as a result of a group of parents working with the director to develop by-laws and application process to begin establishing a committee. The sessions run from October to February. The terms and other guiding principles are contained in the

by-laws which were distributed to all current and new members. A schedule of meetings and ad hoc committees was distributed to all members. Current ad hoc committees and members were reviewed. A handout showing terms of office and when terms end as well as members and their ad hoc membership. Possible revision to run the terms from August to August to match the academic year. All members seemed positive about this revision at this time. Lisa made a motion to change the bylaws to read-- terms would be from August to August (academic year). A discussion was about how will that effect current members finishing or members just elected. Mrs. Dykes will return at the meeting in April with a proposal to look at member terms. Member information was passed around to be updated for publication on website. No phone numbers will be included on the website.

- b. Q & A with the new members: Mrs. Grasso asked about maybe having an announcement of her membership on the committee to assist in parents being able to contact her. The committee thinks any exposure and contact to get parents to have their voice heard through the members is great for all. Mrs. Grasso asked about how lunchshop information gets out. Some ways include: Stella's distribution list, school facilitators, special ed teachers, para educators, all special education staff. One mass mailing a year to all families for general information. Karen discussed the importance of community outreach for representing support programs. Stella discussed how materials are distributed, there has been an increase in surveys and phone calls. Lillian asked about the brochure being posted on the website. Some discussion about the Parent Resource Center website and possible Facebook.

Discussion about which ad hoc committees the new members would like to be on. Ms. Dykes updated the committee membership.

Some members discussed what would they like to see in presenters for the future meetings. Mrs. Grasso discussed possibly Mrs. Flood a state representative that had spoken at the Autism Society to be a possible guest speaker. Mrs. Sundry mentioned possibly s speaker concerning the highly structured programs in FCPS. One suggestion is an overview of all the programs in the district for kids. .Another suggestion was speakers concerning speech language and hearing.

VII. Open Chair (15 minutes)

- a. Public Comments
- b. Individual comments from council

VIII. Adjournment of meeting A motion was made to adjourn by Leisa and seconded by Karen.

IX. Ad-Hoc Committees (if needed)