

STATE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL
National Conference Center at the Holiday Inn
399 Monmouth Street
East Windsor, NJ 08520

MINUTES

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Members in attendance: Dr. Sharon Maricle, Dr. Howard Lerner, Carolyn Hayer, Blanche Stetler, Scott Elliott, William Sellar, Kathleen Mullery, Michael Nevin, Philip Gartlan, Angela Durso, Dr. Tracy Amerman

Members not in attendance: Debra Fernandez, Kathy Roberson

Resource Representatives in attendance: Elizabeth Collins, Gordon Reibman

Resource Representatives not in attendance: Robert Paige, Debbie Stewart

Guests and members of the public: Fran Leibner, Sandy Peth, Susan Nardi, Sol Heckelman

I. ACCEPTANCE OF MARCH MINUTES AND NEW BUSINESS

The meeting was officially called to order at 9:53 a.m. by Chairperson Dr. Sharon Maricle. The April minutes were approved and seconded. **All in favor.**

II. DISCUSSION:

Council discussion continued on the Grant to be developed to create new or enhance/expand programs that serve students with significant cognitive disabilities and/or significant behavioral challenges. At Dr. Wohle's request, Council members divided into two groups to brainstorm grant components. After lengthy discussion, the groups provided their suggestions.

III. DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

Dr. Wohle distributed and discussed the memo on the American Recovery and Investment Act (ARRA) funding.

Dr. Wohle updated Council on the memo clarifying the role of Executive County Superintendent in collecting and disseminating placement information.

Dr. Wohle reported that Local District Determinations will be made in May and that the public reports will be posted on the Department of Education web site on June 1st.

By invitation, Dr. Wohle will be a presenter on the Northeast Regional Resource Center's Disproportionality Webinar Series, May 28, 2009, highlighting New Jersey's efforts in this area.

IV. COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Scott Elliott distributed the Spring/Summer 2009 edition of Transition Tribune. He also distributed PATH, the Parent Action Transition Handbook produced by the New Jersey Association of Centers for Independent Living (NJACIL).

Carolyn Hayer inquired about the impact of the “parental right to revoke consent” provision on due process. Dr. Wohle indicated that issues regarding the implementation of this provision have not been brought to her attention.

Bill Sellar inquired about the reported closure of the 18 Department of Children and Family Services schools. Dr. Wohle indicated an update would be provided at the next SSEAC meeting.

Michael Nevin reported on his involvement with awards given to Nutley High School.

V. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were no comments

VI. LUNCH

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m. The next meeting of the Council will be held on June 11, 2009 at the Holiday Inn/National Conference Center in East Windsor.