

Washington State Special Education Advisory Council

October 27, 2011

Members Present: Shari Cotes, Cheryl Fernandez, Anne Golden, Ramsey Graham, Ron Hoxie, Mary Alice Heuschel, Rebecca Lockhart, Steve Nourse, Nancy Pack, Amy Patterson, Anne Shureen Smith, and Ann Waybright

Excused Absences: Lou Oma Durand and Heather Hebdon

OSPI Staff: Doug Gill and Kim Bahrenburg

Note Taker: Kim Bahrenburg

Guest Speakers: Val Arnold and Sandy Grummick

Guest: Andres Acquirre

| Topic | Discussion | Action | Who/When | Completed |
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| Called to Order | Ann Golden, Executive Committee Member, called the meeting to order at 8:36 am. Anne introduced Nancy Pack to the group as another Executive Committee Member. Ann then had everyone introduce themselves. We met our four new members: Shari Cotes, Ramsey Graham, Ron Hoxie and Rebecca Lockhart. | | | |
| Approval of June's Meeting Minutes | Mary Alice Heuschel proposed for the minutes to be approved as is. Nancy Pack seconded the motion. | | | |
| Review of Agenda | The agenda was reviewed and accepted as written. | | | |
| New Member Orientation | Ann started out the orientation with what the meaning of SEAC is and what SEAC does. She reviewed our current SEAC brochure. Nancy gave examples of the work we did in the past towards our goals | | | |

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| | <p>of the group. SEAC's impact on the Alternate Assessment process was mentioned. SEAC worked tirelessly to obtain an appropriate assessment for the significantly cognitively challenged population that would align with the IEP goals of the student. Nancy also encouraged members to visit the OSPI website to see the variety of information that is available for review on SEAC.</p> <p>Doug explained how important the SEAC members are and the opportunity SEAC has to help with setting policy and agency positions regarding Special Education. He also explained the SEAC meeting in February which incorporates the meeting with visits with legislators. Doug then reviewed the four work teams in our Special Education Section and how they operate.</p> | | | |
| Election of SEAC Chair | <p>Ballots were passed out and secret votes were counted by Ann Golden and Kim Bahrenburg.</p> <p>The new SEAC Chair for 2011-12 will be: Ann Waybright</p> | | | |
| State APR Plan: Presented by Val Arnold and Sandy Grummick-- both OSPI staff. | <p>Sandy Grummick and Valerie Arnold provided a comprehensive overview of data trends and status of improvement strategies for all 20 performance indicators in preparation for the upcoming FFY 2010 Annual Performance Report. Sandy provided information about the historical context of the State Performance Plan including indicator measures, trend data, and movement towards required targets. She also described the difference between compliance indicators and results indicators with an emphasis on current results for each indicator. Members had the opportunity to ask questions and provide input on improvement activities throughout the discussion. Valerie described the current planning framework for the ongoing development, implementation, and reporting of the 20 performance indicators and highlighted web-based state technical assistance resources available for school personnel, community providers, parents, and students. The presentation closed with a brief discussion of pertinent federal updates including proposed indicator revisions/consolidations for the FFY 2011 Annual Performance Report (due February 2013) that are open for public comment until December 16, 2011.</p> | | | |
| LUNCH and Alternative | <p>SEAC was instrumental in the changes made to WAAS Portfolio process. The deepening of the extensions for all age levels and relating</p> | | | |

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| Assessment Update | the IEPs to the portfolio approach to alternate assessment was a huge milestone for Special Education. A performance based task approach to the alternate assessment test will be piloted in 2014. WEA has been a major sponsor of the WAAS training process for this year. WEA will be training over 600 teachers in this new process and will also do a webinar for school administrators on the training available to the teachers. | | | |
| Director's Update | <p>Doug went over the October Monthly updates. These updates can be found on the OSPI website at: http://www.k12.wa.us/SpecialEd/monthlyupdates/Oct_2011_updates.pdf</p> <p>It is important for members to stay up-to-date on the current issues affecting special education. These monthly updates are a good mechanism for SEAC to stay connected to the issues and information in Washington State.</p> | | | |
| RTI White Paper Discussion | SEAC members again reviewed the White Paper on RTI submitted to Superintendent Dorn. There was much discussion regarding RTI and its role as a general education initiative. Members also discussed what will happen with RTI once the SPDG grant ends in August of 2012. It was the consensus of the group that unspent funds should be available to support professional learning communities to continue the professional development of staff currently providing RTI to their districts and that RTI should move from special education to general education. | | | |
| Legislative Update | Doug presented the “just” released information on the proposed Governor’s Budget Proposal for the special session that will be starting November 28 th . After listing the proposed cuts to the educational system SEAC discussed how many of these “cuts” are actually just shifts of financial burden to other resources. This discussion brought up the question of responsibility for funding our k-12 education system. We need to get the information out to the public explaining that these cuts will be affecting all the children and that this isn’t just a cry for more money for a specific group “special education” students. All children are our future and we need not sacrifice them because of our current economic woes. Several strong comments were made that Superintendent Dorn needs to stand firm to his platform with SEAC supporting him on this issue. He needs to go to the legislature with alternate solutions rather than cutting our education system again. It was decided that a white paper would be written representing the thoughts of | A White Paper will be written and approved by the SEAC members. This White Paper will be send to Mr. Dorn and also be available for members to take with them to their legislative visits. | Doug Gill and Mary Alice Heuschel | |

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| Finalizing The Meeting | SEAC on these cuts the legislature will be debating in November. Ann Waybright assumed her new role as Executive Chair of SEAC. She summed up the day of the meeting. She reminded the group that the February 9 th meeting in Olympia will be our opportunity to speak with our individual legislators. She also reminded members that the meeting on May 17 th in Vancouver will be the meeting that the Executive Committee works with the SEAC members to come up with the report that is written to Mr. Dorn every year. Members shared their positive thoughts regarding the meeting and commented on what was accomplished. | | | |
| Public Comment | Public Comment was from 4:30 to 5:00 pm. No one showed up to share comments. | | | |
| Adjourned | Meeting was adjourned at 5:01 pm. | | | |