

**GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL
EDUCATION
Education Committee Meeting**

**LOCATION
Governor's Council Conference Room
3601 C Street
Anchorage, Alaska
Teleconference**

**Meeting Date
October 7, 2010**

Attendees:

Julie Broyles, Chair
Anna Attla
Taylor Gregg
Sharon Miranda
Fred Villa
Tonja Updike

Community Members/Guests:

Geri Benshoof
Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus
Hettie Hume
Debbie Kitelinger
Dean Konopasek

Staff:

Teresa Holt
Heidi Frost

Prepared by: Paula DiPaolo
Peninsula Reporting

CALL TO ORDER – 2:00 p.m.
ROLL CALL

Welcome from the Chair

Announcements and Good News

Teresa Holt announced that Jennifer Card is being transferred to Colorado and will no longer be on the Council.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Teresa Holt corrected the minutes from September 15, 2010 on page 2 by noting that the conference was a Special Education Data Equity Conference in Fairbanks. On page 4 she noted that Cyndy Curran's name was incorrectly spelled Cindy.

Anna Attla **MOVED** to accept the minutes from the September 15, 2010 meeting. The motion **PASSED**.

Correspondence

Update on ASSEC

Teresa Holt stated that the proposals for the Alaska Statewide Special Education Conference were due last week. She stated that they are going to be doing a presentation on both federal and state activities around restraint and seclusion in schools.

Update on Data Equity Conference

Teresa Holt stated that she attended the Special Education Data Equity Conference at UAF. She stated that national experts explained that overall in Alaska, Alaska Natives are twice as likely to be in special education as Caucasian children. They also noted that Asian children are underrepresented.

Teresa stated that she proposed that the Council could help the Department by convening a stakeholder meeting to look at disproportionality. She also

suggested that Art Arnold or the Commissioner could do a presentation to the State Board of Education on the issue as well as presentations about disproportionality at the Special Education Directors Conference.

Julie Broyles, Anna Attla, and Heidi Frost volunteered to assist with this issue.

Restraint and Seclusion Senate Bill 3895

Teresa Holt stated that AADD has asked that the Council/Education Committee give their input as to whether or not they support Senate Bill 3895, which is the new Senate Bill on restraint and seclusion in schools. She stated that the main difference between this bill and the old one is that it states that restraint and seclusion can be written into a child's IEP if the following conditions are met:

1. That the use of restraint and seclusion complies with applicable state laws,
2. That there is a documented history for that student that shows a series of behavior in the preceding two years that created an imminent danger of serious bodily injury,
3. That the student has a comprehensive data driven functional behavioral assessment and a behavior intervention plan.

Teresa reviewed other highlights of the bill and a discussion ensued.

Anna Attla **MOVED** that they send a letter to AADD in support Senate Bill 3895 with a caveat that includes: After a certain number of restraints or seclusions, the team is required to review the functional behavioral assessment and the behavioral intervention plan and do something different; that before the restraint, during the debriefing, and in the documentation the school shows at least several attempts to try other de-escalation attempts; and that there be training for parents. The motion **PASSED**.

Review of Indicators 16 and 19

Due to time constraints, the review of indicators was postponed until the next scheduled teleconference.

Review of Draft Work Plan

Goal 1: Support bills to remove the requirement to pass the HSGQE in order to receive a diploma and create accountability solutions to EED.

The committee decided to change the wording to read:

Support bills that remove the requirement to pass the HSGQE in order to receive a diploma and that identify alternatives which provide accountability.

Goal 2: Advocate with an Alaskan university to create a four-year program (including distance education) for special education.

Teresa Holt noted that University of Alaska Southeast is already on the road to accomplishing this, and it will start in the fall of 2011 or 2012.

Goal 3: Ensure SESA has adequate, permanent funding and removal of sunset provision.

Goal 4: Advocate for training for regular education teachers on special education and 504.

Goal 5: Restraint and seclusion – update on federal bill.

The committee decided to change the wording to read:

Support restraint and seclusion statutes or regulations at the federal and/or the state level.

Report from the State Board of Education

There was no report from the State Board of Education available for this meeting.

Report from SESA

There was no report from SESA available for this meeting.

Report from DEED

There was no report from DEED available for this meeting.

Report from the Special Education Directors Conference

Teresa Holt highlighted the following from the conference:

- Art Cernosia presented on legal cases relating to special education.
- Updates on restraint and seclusion at the federal level.
- Elementary and Secondary Education Act will probably not pass this session. Reauthorizations waiting behind this act are IDEA and then the DD Act.
- Presentation on Response to Intervention.
- Presentation on Family Education Rights and Privacy Act relating to electronic records and privacy.
- FASD Educating the Educators presentation.

Julie Broyles commented that she enjoyed the presentation about Project SEARCH.

Teresa Holt added that the Council presented an award to Sharon Fishel for her long service in the area of special education.

Important Future Meetings/Conferences/Trainings

Council Meeting – October 13 – 15, 2010, Anchorage.

Education Committee Face-to-Face Meeting, November 3 – 5, 2010, Barrow, Alaska. Teresa Holt reviewed the accommodations and restaurants with committee members.

Time and Date of Next Meeting

The next scheduled teleconference for the Education Committee is December 9, 2010 at 2:00 p.m.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.