

**GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL
EDUCATION**

Education Committee

LOCATION

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

Meeting Date

**Thursday, June 26, 2014
1:30 p.m.**

Attendees:

Taylor Gregg – Chair
Don Enoch
Angie Fraize
Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus
Terese Kashi

Community Members:

Sam Jones
Jim Kreatschman
Amy Westfall
Cassidy Jones
Julie Broyles
Starr Marsett

Staff:

Christie Reinhardt

Prepared by:
Sheila Garrant, Peninsula Reporting

CALL TO ORDER – 1:30 p.m.
ROLL CALL

Welcome from the Chair

A quorum was present, and Taylor Gregg welcomed the committee members to the meeting.

Announcements and Good News

Christie Reinhardt announced that Carrie Predeger has left the Council to take a position at the Trust. Carrie had worked at the Council for over ten years, and she will be greatly missed.

Starr Marsett announced that she has filed her letter of intent to run for school board in 2015.

Terese Kashi announced that she attended a three-day workshop on FASD in Portland, Oregon.

Sam Jordan shared that his daughter celebrated her 1st birthday.

Approval of the Agenda and Past Meeting Minutes

Terese Kashi **MOVED** to approve the agenda. Hearing no objections, the motion **PASSED**.

Terese Kashi **MOVED** to approve the minutes from the May 15th, 2014 meeting as written. Hearing no objections, the motion **PASSED**.

Correspondence

Christie Reinhardt reported that she received an e-mail from Representative Millett's office verifying that the restraint and seclusion legislation has not yet been signed by the Governor.

Introduction of New Committee Members

Cassidy Jones introduced herself as a program manager at the State of Alaska. Her background includes working as a special education teacher at a private school in Eagle River.

Reports

Chair's Report

Taylor Gregg reported that she attended the Executive Committee meeting on June 25th and thought the meeting went well and they accomplished quite a bit of work. Christie Reinhardt added that the Executive Committee reviewed the amendments to the five-year State Plan, which were needed because of the changed work plan goals that were voted on and approved by the full Council at the spring meeting. The proposed amendments to the State Plan must be put out for a 45-day public comment period.

SESA Report

There was no SESA report available for this meeting.

EED Report

Don Enoch reported that the monitoring schedule for next year has been posted to their website. He noted that along with the monitoring schedule, they will be doing technical assistance at some of the sites.

Don Enoch reported that a new FASD Committee was formed at the last SESA meeting.

Don Enoch reported that the Department received their OSEP determination letter, and Alaska is in the category of needs assistance, which was expected. This is primarily due to the gap in progress between 4th and 8th grade students.

Don Enoch reported that they are finalizing the plans for the director's training this year. Don noted that although there are many people who have offered to present at the training, the Department will be focusing on

their own training as this is their only chance to work with the special education directors and prepare them for the upcoming year.

Don Enoch reported that regarding staffing, they have hired an office manager and a program manager, and there is still one vacant position available. Don noted that they are getting ready for their trip to D.C. for their OSEP reporting.

State Board of Education (SBOE)

Christie Reinhardt reported that she attended the SBOE meeting held June 5th and 6th, 2014. The subjects covered at the meeting were related to the Governor's education omnibus bill, the statewide assessment system, funding for increasing Internet access, and challenging courses. There was a concentrated discussion relating to the requirements of the education administrator's type B license.

Alaska FASD Work Group Update

Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus reported that she is now on the I/DD work group to work on DD eligibility for people with an FASD. She noted that they have begun work on a viable screening tool to be used for people with FASD issues.

Christie Reinhardt reported that she had a discussion with Leigh Ann Davis from the National Arc, who pledged her assistance to establish a SAFA chapter in Alaska. They were placed in contact with two self-supporting chapters in other states, who have sent resource materials and PowerPoints on how to set up a SAFA chapter.

Old Business

Review of 2014-2015 Work Plan

Christie Reinhardt led the committee members through the final review of the 2014-2015 work plan before it is posted for public comment. The committee members had very few questions, and there was one minor change made to the work plan: Goal 7.1.6(9), remove David Tarcy's name and replace with EED.

New Business

Discussion and Recommendations for Comment on Regulations

Christie Reinhardt stated that there is an opportunity for public comment related to the Statewide Assessment System regarding the repeal of the HSGQE and the regulations on the IEP team's determination on whether a student will take an assessment based on their IEP. The link to the regulation is <https://education.alaksa.gov/regs/comment.cfm>, and the regulation is 4 AAC 06.710. She encouraged committee members to review the regulation and make comments.

Christie Reinhardt stated that the other opportunity for public comment relates to challenging courses, which would require school districts to provide secondary students with an opportunity to test out of basic core courses and develop standards related to what that mastery needed to be. The link to the regulation is <https://education.alaksa.gov/regs/comment.cfm>, and the regulation is 4 AAC 06.065. She encouraged committee members to review the regulation and make comments.

Upcoming Meetings and Conferences

Stone Soup's Annual Picnic is scheduled for August 1st at Kincaid Park in Anchorage. Christie Reinhardt noted that is Stone Soup's event where they present their Soupy Awards, one for parent involvement, one recognizing an agency, and one that recognizes a specific service provider. Nomination can be made on the Stone Soup's website.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Education Committee is scheduled for August 21st, 2014 from 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Taylor Gregg adjourned the meeting at 2:55 p.m.