

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

Early Intervention Committee

LOCATION

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

Meeting Date

**Wednesday, November 12, 2014
10:00 a.m.**

Attendees:

Amy Simpson
Mandy Cleveland
Mallory Hamilton
Angie Fraize

Community Members:

Wendy Barrett
Cassidy Jones
Beth Kaplan
Erin Kinavey
Laurie Thomas
Kathleen Yarr
Meghan Johnson
Carrie Truett

Staff:

Christie Reinhardt
Brittney Howell

Prepared by: Sheila Garrant, Peninsula Reporting

CALL TO ORDER – 10:00 a.m.
ROLL CALL

Welcome from the Chair

Announcements and Good News

Amy Simpson related the good news that PIC hired a billing person, and Amy is incredibly happy to not have that task to do in addition to her other tasks.

Approval of Agenda and Approval of Past Minutes

Approval of the Agenda

Mallory Hamilton **MOVED** to approve the agenda. Hearing no objections, the motion **PASSED**.

Approval of Minutes – 10/22/2014

Mallory Hamilton **MOVED** to approve the minutes from 10/22/2014 as presented. Hearing no objections, the motion **PASSED**.

Correspondence

Christie Reinhardt reported that they received a request from a group that is conducting a survey of both parents and healthcare providers with children age 3 to 5 with an FASD and an eating disorder. Christie will forward that request to committee members.

Reports

Chair's Report

There was no chair report available for the meeting.

E/ILP

Laurie Thomas reported that they are now fully staffed. They welcomed Kim Mix to their staff in October. Kim comes with decades of

provider/coordinator experience.

Laurie Thomas reported that they have been working on their State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP). Laurie noted that they garnered some very meaningful information at the stakeholder's meeting that they will be able to use as they move forward with the federal requirements.

AILPA

Amy Simpson reported that AILPA has turned over the reins to the new chair, Jill Lush. Amy asked Christie Reinhardt to reach out to Jill to ask if she would like to participate in the EIC meetings.

Amy Simpson stated that AILPA also participated in the SSIP conversations with the stakeholders.

EED

Cassidy Jones reported that in addition to the Special Education Directors Training that was conducted October 15th and 16th, 2014, they held a hearing officers training for special education disputes on October 13th, 2014, and a complaint investigator training for department administrative complaints related to special education on October 14th, 2014.

Cassidy Jones reported that they are in the middle of the compliance monitoring. The monitoring status is as follows:

- Technical assistance completed:
 - Kodiak Island
 - Alaska Gateway
 - Southwest Region

- Monitoring completed:
 - Aleutians East
 - Annette Island
 - Pribilof
 - Yukon/Koyukuk
 - Delta-Greeley
 - Lake & Peninsula
 - Lower Kuskokwim
 - Kuspuk
 - Ketchikan

- Pending:
 - Chatham
 - Wrangell
 - Anchorage
 - Mat-Su
 - Fairbanks
 - Nenana (TA)
 - Bristol Bay
- Rescheduled:
 - Dillingham

Cassidy Jones reported the following activities:

- The intensive reviews are in progress, and the total count will be available in early November.
- The 6B/619 district grants have been processed and posted in the grants management system
- Special education handbook is awaiting revisions due to regulatory issues.
- APR processing is going on with stakeholder involvement.
- They have a MOA with Part B, and the Part B transitions services are completed and are awaiting final review and signature.
- Planning for stakeholder meeting in Anchorage in December.
- Completed website review and update, awaiting upload.
- Organizing next year's director training.
- Anthony Buckner has joined the staff.

EDHI/WCFH

Beth Kaplan stated that there was no news to report from EDHI/WCFH. Christie Reinhardt reported that she participated in the Deaf Education Board (DEB) meeting, and the DEB is interested in outreach to the Early Intervention Committee either by having a member or regular reports. Christie noted that if anyone is interested in being part of the DEB, to please email her.

FASD SUBCOMMITTEE

Christie Reinhardt reported the FASD Subcommittee's current focus is on looking at the definition of "other health impairments" and what high-quality medical evaluations look like in the state of Alaska and have that reflected in the regulations.

OLD BUSINESS

CONTINUED DISCUSSION ON SURVEY OF ILP PROVIDERS

Brittney Howell directed the committee member's attention to the survey summary, page 5, No. 8, referencing a summarizing document or visual aids for parents related to parental rights and procedural safeguards. Laurie Thomas commented that the documentation given to parents is required to be the full legal language document, but they are working on additional documents that will serve to train providers.

Brittney Howell reviewed page 6, No. 2, referencing the best practices of how to address parents and possibly a training video that models a variety of family interactions. It was also suggested that roundtable discussions or role playing exercises be held at the ILP Conference, which would be helpful to providers to feel more comfortable with parent interactions.

Brittney Howell reviewed page 6, No. 3, referencing a training module for staff so they understand the importance of the parental rights and procedural safeguards. This would include the history, past abuses, and reasons why the rights and safeguards are so important.

Brittney Howell highlighted page 6, referencing that providers would like more information on how to interact with parents that have intellectual or developmental disabilities.

Brittney Howell noted that providers are recommending finding ways to get AILPA involved with implementing recommendations and possibly assisting with the training materials.

Committee members' comments included how parents are less likely to complain because of the fear of retaliation and the possibility of affecting their child's opportunity for services, coordinators' and staff's perception that parents don't really care about the details of the rights and safeguards, concern about cultural differences, and concerns related to language barriers.

Christie Reinhardt stated the next step for the EIC in their advisory role is to prioritize the recommendations and compose a letter of recommendations

eligibility within the state and the barriers to doing that. Laurie Thomas commented that it is primarily a financial issue, because children at risk can be served in the state, and programs that aren't serving them are not serving them because they don't have the financial resources to do so.

VOTING MEMBERS DISCUSSION

Christie Reinhardt reported that even though the committee primarily works on a consensus basis, the committee would like to offer the opportunity for active community members to be designated as voting members on the committee. She asked anyone who was interested in becoming a voting member to contact her.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/CONFERENCES

Governor's Council Meeting
January 20 – 22, 2015
Juneau

TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 10th, 2014 from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. Beth Kaplan asked that meeting notices be sent to her through Outlook.

GOOD OF THE ORDER/ADJOURNMENT

Mallory Hamilton **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting. Hearing no objections, the motion **PASSED**, at the meeting adjourned at 11:29 a.m.