

State Superintendent's Advisory Council- Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Tuesday October 15, 2013

Wisconsin School for the Deaf, Firebird Center in the Dormitory

Delavan , WI

Call to order 9:10 am

Members present: David Collins, Margaret James, Kory Koneazny, Robin Barnes, Paula Minix, Andrew Konkell, Beth Larimer Cookie Roang

DPI representatives: Marcy Dicker, Dr. Constance Gartner

Interpreters: Sara Miller, Nicole Keeler

Note taker: Rita Dietzel

Welcome

Housekeeping - update phone/emails on council membership list

Approval of agenda – one adjustment, meeting will adjourn at 3 pm

Review/approval April minutes – Robin made the motion to approve the minutes, Andrew seconded the motion. All approved.

2013-14 Council

New members welcome and introduction - Margaret James is the new representative for the interpreter preparation program. She is from MATC (Milwaukee) Round table: Tell something fun you have done since our last meeting.

Review of membership positions still unfilled-plan for filling. Teacher for D/HH and Educational Interpreter are up in Madison waiting for Dr. Evers appointment. Once the appointments are made Rita will notify the Council and Beth will send them emails welcoming them.

Letter of support draft to send to Dr. Evers - Discussion on school districts allowing staffs time off to attend these meetings. For Paula & Robin, the appointment letters were sufficient. Members not in school districts do have the support of their employers to attend the meetings.

DPI Reports

Marcy Dicker WESPDHH Outreach Report

WESP-DHH Long Range Planning

Focus groups have been held for WSD and Outreach. For Outreach, focus groups that have occurred or have been scheduled include:

- Outreach Staff

- Outreach Specialty Staff (Deaf Mentors and Parent Guides)
- Administrators (in Northwestern region)
- Parents (in Northwestern region)
- Educational Staff (in Northwestern region)

Last Year in Review - Data from 2012-13

- **Consultations**
 - 30 school age students served (28 LEAs served)
 - 21 in B-3 served (14 counties served)
- **GBYS**
 - 62 families served
 - 53 of those families in Birth to 3 range
- **iHELP**
 - 5 mentors
 - 5 families served
- **Deaf Mentor Program**
 - 12 families in Birth – 3
 - 34 families with children ages 3-6
 - 6 deaf-blind students (through WDBTAP)
- **WISHES**
 - 19 children served
- **TGW**
 - 44 students attended
- **Distant Pals**
 - 150 students involved
- **College and Transition Fair**
 - Held at Wisconsin Lions Camp on two Fridays (pick up days for D/HH camp sessions)
 - 60 total attended
- **Family Conference**
 - 95 families in attendance
 - 376 individuals (187 parents and 189 children)
- **Professional Conference**
 - 149 attended
 - 27 exhibitors at both conferences
- **Summer Institute** – offered in Wausau for the first time, through a collaboration with NTC – was a great location, well received, and many new attendees!
 - Assessing and Teaching ASL: Using Research Based Tools and Digital Tools (Melissa Herzig) – 11
 - Inservice to Literacy – Strategies for Interpreting in the Classroom (Doug Bowen Bailey) – 15
 - Sensory Processing in Children with Hearing Loss: Optimizing Communication Development (Linda Daniels) - 19
 - Sensory Processing Skill Development for Young Children who are Deaf-Blind and Deaf with Additional Disabilities - WDBTAP Tips and Tools: (Kathy Pangor & Margarita Sweet) - 28

Current 2013-14 Initiatives

- **Staffing**
 - Technology Coordinator
We have three candidates. Interviews scheduled for 10/11/13

- Medical Leaves
 - Bev Teeter and Stacie Heckendorf
- **GBYS**
 - 13 New Parent Guides hired
 - 2 are Spanish speaking!
 - 28 total Parent Guides
- **DMP**
 - 2 new Deaf Mentors Hired
 - 29 total Deaf Mentors
- **Employment Policies**
 - We now must pay LTEs door-to-door and mileage. This will have significant budget impact. As a result, there is greater justification to incorporate technology into our programming
- **Referrals**
 - Any student being referred for services in any of our programs (not conferences and workshops) now needs a “Release of Information/Waiver” – three different forms were developed specifically for our use
 - Internal Waiver (internal program sharing)
 - External Waiver – LEAs and Birth to 3 Programs
 - External Waiver – generic form when needed for “other” programs and individuals (e.g. WCBVI; audiologists, etc)
- **Integrating Technology**
 - Changes to Programming (see handout)
 - DMP – DMP First Steps and DMP
 - GBYS
 - iHELP
 - WISHES – ipads and other technologies purchased
 - Website
 - Videoclips (signed, voiced and captioned) will now introduce all of our activities – see TGW promotional on our website!
- **Collaborations with WSD**
 - ASL Storyhour – Outreach to develop educational materials to support these monthly signed stories
 - ASL Assessment Development
- **Professional/Family Conference**
 - Will be held at the Olympia Resort in Oconomowoc
 - March 6-7, 2014 and March 7-9, 2014
 - Keynote presenters: Tina Childress and Melinda Eccharius
 - This year, Stacie Heckendorf has taken over coordinating Professional Conference
- **Eligibility Guidelines**
 - Additional guidance for deaf-blindness
- **WDBTAP**
 - Previous 5-year grant ends on 9/30/13
 - Reapplication for another five years of funding submitted in mid-August.
 - We were just notified on 9/27 that we have received another 5 years of funding (\$175,000 per year)!
 - Goal is to fully integrate WDBTAP programming into WESP-DHH Outreach initiatives
- **DPI Initiatives** – with Carol’s retirement, the Outreach team has attempted to “fill in the gap” as a “deaf/hard of hearing” presence on the Special Education team, related to the following initiatives:
 - PALS Guidance

- PST Collaborative Leadership Meetings
- Common Core State Standards
- Educator Effectiveness Initiative
- Guidance regarding TDHH providing evaluations for eligibility on children who have other suspected disabilities

If the candidate for the vacant IT position does not accept the offer, the plan is to rewrite the PD for a teacher, with a strong emphasis on IT skills. Reason being is to help with all the additional tasks Outreach was asked to do since Carol Schweitzer left DPI. Right now the Outreach staff are just not able to update all the policies etc. that Stephanie has asked to have done.

Connie explained that WSD has been working with Sherry Kimball on accommodations for required testing for pre-k through second grade. There is a pre and post test, administered in fall & again in spring. WSD students had some growth on that test.

WSD Report – Connie Gartner: WSD student count is 99 to date, with 4 more perspective students. Three new teachers have been hired.

Dr Evers initiative “every child graduate” – WSD has a 100% graduate rate, in part due to the special education factor. WSD has adopted the common core standards. Teachers work during the summer to update curriculum. We have initiated the star program – after students have received academic credit, they can return for college readiness.

WSD is involved with the online tests for replacing portions of the WCKE - smarter balance online - WCKE paper will still be used for science and social studies.

MAP measures educator effectiveness - student performance piece needs definition. The math, language, and reading fall tests administered.

We are collecting informal data from labs etc. in classroom. What does growth mean for our students? What does it mean to be a good d/hh teacher?

Some of WSD's online resources: Wikis and blogs and ASL story hour are on WSD's wiki site: <https://wiki.wsd.k12.wi.us>. Facebook - if there is something in your district you would like us to share on our Facebook page let Connie know, she will be happy to share it. WSD also has several videos on You Tube – search for Wisconsin School for the Deaf.

Is the WSD library connected to Overdrive? Connie is not familiar with that. Paula explained you can use online with your library card. Connie said that is the next step they are looking at.

Andrew would like to see the data for the graduation follow up from WSD at the next meeting.

Review and Discuss work on Goal 6: Professional Development Plan

Flow chart and summation of project so far (Andrew): Planned to create a compilation of resources for administrators online to be broke down in the flow and could click where needed.

The need to redirect our effort (Marcy)

Stephanie had asked Marcy why she was doing "homework" for the council? It should not be a product orientated group. It is a policy, advisory group. No one should be having homework. The focus of the council should be on policy and initiatives.

Marcy spoke with Stephanie and she understands where the council is headed, so she agrees that the council could complete work on the "basics" section of the professional development plan.

The Council would like to invite Stephanie here to explain why the Council felt this is important and to clarify what is expected of the Council. Why is this is now just coming up? David believes this not to be a "product" but a policy guide to get from point "a" to "b".

When the invitation is extended to Stephanie it needs to be specific about the time you need her at the meeting and the specific topics to discuss.

Tour Chesboro Hall

Lunch

"Basics" PowerPoint: Reviewed the slides. Some of the statistics and dates are old (1994 & 1992) but still valid. It was suggested to pre-empt it with the statement "some information does not become out dated".

Make some reference to what 65dBA is equal too (such as lawn mower etc.) on slide 14

*Barriers to access slide - statement at bottom too general. – rephrase it to say "Based on individualized auditory and/or visual access."

Change last sentence to "It is important to support a child's visual access to learning."

*Add a slide with examples of visual supports:

captioning

notes

visual curs

props

grahic organizer

media presentations

smart boards

sign language

interpreters

lighting

*Slide 1: Administrators and (add) Pupil Services Personnel

*Slides without references - can use Hands & Voices - they have almost all this referenced on their website.

*Early intervention slide - move towards the beginning of the slides. Take off first 2 quotes and find one that reflects the fact that kids don't need services because they are behind BUT need to show that supports are needed BEFORE they fall behind. Find the stats and quote them on the cost of educating students that have fallen behind.

Marcy will look at quotes to emphasize the early intervention.

Hearing loss with other disabilities - ties in with the cost of early intervention and early intervention of students with more than one disability. Point needs to indicate the need to look at all the issues with the child not just one disability or the other. A primary and secondary should be identified, so both are addressed.

Keep first line - get rid of bullet points add students with hearing impairment as a primary still need support with areas expertise in the secondary disability & deaf as a secondary disability still need support for the hearing loss and not just the primary.

*Emphasis is needed on the varying degrees of a hearing impairment. Children with hearing loss may still appear to respond to sound. There is an impact even if only a mild loss. Degree of hearing loss does not directly result in the same degree of educational loss.

Link to the Outreach site for the simulator hearing loss.

*Providing access slide - make the last line stand out!

*Summary - change D/HH students to students who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

*Insert the 4 slides from Brian to this PowerPoint. (continuation of services - state "not in order of severity of needs")

Beth will update the PP and send to council

Where do we go from here : see if we can invite Stephanie. Beth will send an email to Stephanie & cc Alex and invite her to attend. (1/2 hour of time) and ask for guidance on where to go & historical

background of the Council (will also include Stephanie's clerical assistant, Kirsten Guell in the email, as she often handles Stephanie's calendar)

New Business

Set next meeting dates: check calendar/email Stephanie and do google poll for early Dec. in Madison.

Adjourn 3:00 p.m.: Motion made by Paula and seconded by Robin. All in favor.