

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

Friday January 23, 2015

GEF III Room P41

Notes

Present: Kory Koneazny, Cookie Roang, Michelle Pandian, Beth Larimer, Kip Jackson, Beth Hall, Debra Anken-Dyer, David Collins, Robin Barnes, Paula Minix

Non voting members: Dr. Barbara Van Haren, Dr. Constance Gartner, Alex Slappey, Marcy Dicker

Guests: Carol Schweitzer, Dan Houlihan, Brice Christianson, Laurie Nelson, Sherry Kimball

Interpreters: Maria Rivera, Tim Mumm

Notetaker: Rita Dietzel

Review/acceptance of October minutes. Motion to approve by Kory. Second by Michelle. Minutes accepted.

DPI Reports

Marcy Dicker WESP-DHH Outreach Report:

NEW POSITIONS - In December and January, we hired two new positions on the WES-DHH Outreach Team – Welcome!

- Administrative Assistant/Event Planner – **Marianne Jodie Grote**
- Staff Interpreter/Adult Role Model Program Coordinator – **Brice Christianson**

Marcy's Roles, Responsibilities and Schedule: Thanks to the addition of two new staff, there are a few changes ahead –

- I will be taking a Leave of Absence during the month of February, to be in Connecticut with my husband who moved there last Fall. I will be working from CT for about 8-12 hours per week, so I will not be losing touch with the day-to-day program oversight.
- I will be stepping back from the detail-oriented planning (event-related paperwork, follow up on paperwork in the Madison, Delavan and Janesville offices).
- I will be less involved in the day-to-day planning of events, but will continue to provide “big picture” oversight for all events and will be able to spend more time in the day-to-day program and staff and team supervision.
- What else will I do with my time??
 - I will be heavily involved in helping to establish our newest program, the Adult Role Model Program.
 - I will be participating and pushing forward our new LRP.
 - I'll be involved in the establishment of a database
 - I'll oversee the connect between DPI Special Education Team and the Outreach Program and will be spending more time connecting with DPI staff related to Madison DPI Special Education Team initiatives.
 - Maybe I'll have time to write for some more grant funding and start some new programs???

PAST EVENTS

- **Teen Getaway Weekend Jr** – WI Lions Camp, Nov 7-9, 2014 – 40 students and 30 volunteers/staff attended this successful event! Almost all volunteers / staff were hard of hearing or deaf, providing excellent role modeling for the students!

- **Presentation at RSN on Deafblindness** - on 11/20 (by Marcy Dicker and Heidi Hollenberger) regarding identifying students who are deaf-blind (new document developed for IEP teams “Checklist to Consider WDBTAP Supports and Services”: (<http://sped.dpi.wi.gov/files/sped/pdf/db-wdbtap-001.pdf>) with the goal of being invited to the CESA RSN meetings around the state. The presentation was very well received. We are currently scheduled to present in every CESA before the end of the 2014-15 school year.

CURRENT ACTIVITIES/PROJECTS

- **Adult Role Model Program** – Brice is currently laying the groundwork (establishing the need, researching other states, surveying stakeholders, and defining the program) to establish a Adult Role Model Program. We are excited to get this program established, and hope to have it in place by Fall 2015.
- **The Visual Communication and Sign Language Checklist and the Deaf Mentor Program:** One of the first standardized checklists for the development of ASL has been developed by the VL2 Center at Gallaudet. The Deaf Mentor Program is in the process of incorporating this tool into ongoing assessment of program efficacy. Dan Houlihan is working with Bonnie to ensure that Deaf Mentors are being trained to use the tool with the families being served in DMP. In addition, items from this checklist can serve as the foundation for informative reports from Deaf Mentors for Birth to 3 Programs and School Districts during IFSP/IEP development.
- **Database** – We have received approval to obtain a cost estimate from the company who has developed a database for WDBTAP. This is the first step towards establishing a comprehensive database for Outreach; and it will interface with WDBTAP! This is a project that has been in the works for nearly a decade!
- **Birth to Six Services** – Sherry Kimball, Early Childhood: Deaf/Hard of Hearing Consultant has been hard at work organizing the many program we have serving our youngest children who are deaf, hard of hearing and deaf-blind. This team (Sherry and GBYS, DMP, WDBTAP, PiL Programs) have been meeting monthly to ensure similarity in referral forms, process and good communication internally, as well as with external programs as they evolve (CARES position). In addition, many documents have come out of this work (see chart attached). There is a need, at this young age, for services that specialize / focus on the needs of students with hearing loss. In general, we “fill in” with many specialized, more direct-service programs for these students, because of the lack of specialization at the Birth to 3 and sometimes Early Childhood level.
- **Deaf Mentor Program Services for Early Childhood Professionals** – Through the preschool discretionary grant monies, for families that are enrolled in DMP First Step, we are now providing sign language training to the child’s educational team (Early Childhood Professionals /Day Care Providers). We are currently providing this service for 14 professionals!
- **DPI Initiatives**
 - **Expanded Core Curriculum**
Expanded Core Curriculum guidance has been developed (discussed this project at last meeting) and a DRAFT document has now been given to several teachers in the field for review. Once reviewed and edited, we will submit to DPI for approval to disseminate and share. It will be one of the topics during our Spring PST meetings for TDHH.
 - **Ed Aud Bulletin FAQs** – completed, approved and on the revised DPI webpage.
 - **Assessment Accommodations** – there are concerns from the field regarding the accommodations being provided (ASL interpreter pop-up only) for students on the Smarter Balance Assessment. We have brought these concerns to DPI; we are currently assessing the

number of students this might impact (in collaboration with issues for B/VI students) via a survey being sent to Special Education Directors, via Barb Van Haren's email list.

- **Collaborations**

- **Office for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing** – will be developing a “Summit” (modeled after our Summit events) to determine the need for more services for individuals who are deaf-blind. Marcy will be assisting as they develop the plans for this Summit.
- **UWM** - We will be working with the Teacher Training Program to ensure that those students can attend our Partners in Listening training, providing a student rate so pre-service professionals can be in attendance. Also, we are assisting the ASL department in finding students who use sign language to connect with their ASL 6 students for Service Learning projects.
- **UW-Madison** – We are working with their pre-service professionals (Audiology and/or Communicative Disorders Programs) to provide volunteers to work with children and learn, during our Partners in Listening Training.
- **Deaf Olympics Day** – Outreach will partner with Michelle Pandian to provide support (manpower, financial and planning) for the Deaf Olympics Day this spring; we hope to expand the event to ensure that students, statewide, are able to attend this great event **on May 7, 2015!**
- **WisRID** – We are participating in the Educational Interpreter Sub-Committee and may again collaboratively plan our Summer Institute for Ed. Interpreters to coincide with their Educational Interpreter Summit.

FUTURE EVENTS

- **Partners in Listening Program** - The first training will be held **March 12-14, 2015**. This collaborative training is for professionals and families with children ages birth to six. The training focuses on the development of listening and spoken language skills in children and developing collaboration and partnership between families and professionals, to support these skills. Betsy Moog from the Moog Center for Deaf Education will present, and will provide coaches who will work with families and professionals. Training will occur at the Three Bears Lodge in Warrens, WI. We've had a great response thus far!
- **PST Meetings**
 - **March 17, 2015 (CESA 5) & March 19, 2015 (CESA 8)** – DHH PST Meeting – TOPIC: Expanded Core Curriculum, and possibly Results Driven Accountability, Literacy and Students who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing.
- **Teen Getaway Weekend – May 8-10, 2015 (location TBD)**
- **Spanish Speaking Family Weekend** – This event was so successful that we have decided to make it an annual event – it is a great collaboration between WSD and Outreach. It has been scheduled for **July 17-19, 2015 at WSD**.
- **Annual Statewide Family and Professional Conference – October 22-25, 2015** – Marianne Jodie Grote has jumped into her role and is taking a major part in the organization and planning for this conference. She has introduced a project management system to the team and we are currently determining new roles and responsibilities. The theme for the conferences will be “Transition: Moving Forward.” We have identified two potential keynote speakers, and in the midst of negotiations. In addition, a Call for Proposals has gone out, due February 1, 2015. We hope to get many local presenters! To apply, go to: http://www.wesp-dhh.wi.gov/wesp/out_call_for_proposals.cfm. New this year, we will be having Parent/Child workshops during the morning, before the field trips (fun and informative workshops, around the transition theme) for students ages 12 + and will be encouraging kids to go with parents to these workshops.

Alex Slappey and Connie Gartner WSD Report:

*We have been working on the Long Range Plan (LRP) the past 2 years gathering feedback and developing goals, some of which we are already working on.

*We are in the 4th year of implementing common core

*We working on Smarter Balance to list ASL strategies, computer strategies and reading strategies. WSD implemented "testing Tuesday" where teachers pick a strategy to work on and practice it.

*One of the LRP goals is an online class that began last Tuesday. The class is taught Monday – Thursday for 40 minutes with a teacher in Appleton. One initial piece of feedback is eye strain.

*Working on providing online ASL instruction as a foreign language. We are working with UW Milwaukee Modern Language department on a streamlined process for our teachers to obtain the certification needed to teach to hearing students for credit.

*Connie shared information on all the social media sites WSD is on.

EIPA presentation- Carol Schweitzer, Dan Houlihan

* Carol explained her role and that she is responsible for setting up the dates and proctoring the test. The people taking the test have the option of sharing their score with DPI or not. Most do share with DPI.

*Alex asked about a phase in period for proposed changes and to identify those in need and provide support.

*Carol explained the process involved to get the proposed change to the Legislation.

*In discussions about pay, the council wondered if they could make recommendations for classifications in the school districts to meet a higher minimum rate.

*Develop a proposal to forward to Barb Van Haren re: EIPA licensure scores

*Set up a subcommittee to draft the proposal for EIPA licensure to identify the minimal score increase to 3.5 and identify the plan to achieve that goal. Link it to state and federal initiatives. Include recommendations for classifications that the school district pay educational interpreters.

Subcommittee appointed to provide recommended proposal at next meeting if possible:

Debra

Kory

David

Margaret

Brian

Carol Schweitzer

Marcy will provide support via Outreach

Guests from WI Sound Beginnings

Dr. Elizabeth Seeliger, Program Director

Discussed some of the findings in the annual report:

<http://www.improveehdi.org/wi/library/files/2013%20Annual%20Report%20Final.pdf>

Dr. Christi Hess, Wisconsin Sound Beginnings CARE Specialist reported on her role with Sound Beginnings.

Items for next meeting:

Identify "Chairperson in training"

Discuss any council vacancies

Next meeting dates/locations – Rita will conduct a Doodle Poll to determine the next meeting date.

3:30 p.m. Adjourn