

**State Superintendent's Advisory Council Deaf and Hard of Hearing**  
**Tuesday April 26, 2016 9:00am-3:00pm**  
**Department of Public Instruction, Room 349**  
**Notes**

**Voting members present:** Robin Barnes, Andrew Konkel, Margaret James, Cookie Roang, Amy Schuh, Amy Otis-Wilborn, Kory Koneazny, Cookie Roang, Beth Larimer, Lisa Perry-Burkhardt, Kip Jackson, Paula Minix, Deb Anken-Dyer.

**Not present:** Beth Hall and Michelle Pandian

**DPI Staff:** Marcy Dicker, Connie Gartner, Brian Lievens, Marla Walsh, Maria Rivera, Dr. Barbara Van Haren

**Note taker:** Maria Rivera

**Interpreters:** Sara Miller and Sue Gudenkauf

**Guests:** Dan Houlihan, Carol Schweitzer

**I. Introductions**

- a. Call to order- 9:07
- b. Agenda/minutes review
  - i. Minutes approved unanimously.

**II. 9:15 a.m. DPI Reports**

- a. Marla Walsh and Connie Gartner WESP-DHH/WSD Report: See Attachment A
- b. Marcy Dicker WESP-DHH Outreach Report – See Attachment B

**III. 10:45 a.m. WESP-DHH Director recruitment**

- a. Barbara Van Haren: The recruitment is ongoing, with the first round of interviews being done. They are now in the process of setting up the 2nd round of interviews, reference checks and background checks. The second round of interviews will consist of Carolyn Stanford-Taylor, 2 council representatives, and ODHH.
- b. Margaret James requested input from the council on specific priorities that should be considered during the interview process. Some questions arose: Will they be using the same list of questions as last year? The answer was yes. Will the questions include the candidates knowledge and awareness of people of color? The answer was that yes, they are typically asked about their experiences with various groups of students and will make sure to address that. Are there panelists of color? Yes. Can the 50/50 Deaf:Hearing ratio be honored? Not exactly 50/50, but we needed to include representatives from DPI and balance that with the invited panel members. Will the

interview address how well the candidates understand itinerant services? That is part of the questions regarding the continuum of services, Outreach and WSD, etc.

**IV. 11:15 a.m. DSPTS Licensure Task Force Update**

- a. Carol Schweitzer passed out an email that was sent to Pam Conine and members of the Sign Language Interpreter Task Force regarding recommended changes in the guidance of the DSPTS license as it relates to the role of DPI licensed educational interpreters in the k-12 setting during “school or school sponsored events”. Questions were asked such as, what can/can’t a DPI licensed interpreter do? If an interpreter has their DSPTS license and not their DPI license, can they still work in a k12 setting? What is the process for receiving an emergency license? SLITF have created guidelines on what DPI licensed interpreters can do, however it has not been put into law. SLITF/DPI/DSPTS are still deciding on what to do, including the idea of creating a Memorandum of Understanding. This topic will be going to the legislature in January of 2017. There was discussion on whether the council can add to their suggestion an exclusion for school sponsored events, community classes, summer activities, camps, and other kids’ activities.

**V. 12:30 p.m. Update on the DPI License EIPA Score Recommendations**

- a. Barb VanHaren explained that our goal was to increase standards and requirements for interpreters. Mike Thompson, Carolyn Stanford-Taylor, Jennifer (?) provided feedback regarding the suggestions made on raising the score requirements for the EIPA test. Their suggestion was, instead of opening up the law, recommend language in the statute that provides flexibility. For example, “In order to receive an educational interpreter license in the state of Wisconsin, the DPI requires applicants to show competency in interpreting classroom discourse. The test and the recommended passing scores would be approved by the State Superintendent”. This allows us to make recommendations about what instrument to use and what a passing score is for both the initial and the renewal license. Discussion was had on this topic, and it was decided to go ahead with that recommendation. Carolyn Stanford-Taylor and Barb VanHaren will be meeting with the policy analyst, as the next legislative session is in January.
  - i. Motion #1 (Andrew, 2nd by MJ): To approved the concept and language quoted above. Motion carries.
  - ii. Motion #2 (Deb, 2nd by Deb): That the recommendation discussed at the January 14 coucil meeting continue as is, with the goal of being able to make recommendations on the test scores to the State Superintendent, and that this provision be included in the statute. Motion carries.
- b. EIPA chart- #4 Mentorship- Should we allow a person who is participating as a mentor to earn credit?

- c. #5 Oral Interpreting- There was discussion around deleting this question. Is there required coursework in interpreter training programs? A strictly oral interpreter does not have to take the EIPA. Should we require completion of coursework in oral interpreting? It was agreed upon that we support training in oral interpreting and sign supported speech capabilities of interpreters in the interpreter training programs.
- d. #7 Information to Directors

VI. Next meeting: Wednesday October 19, 2016 at CESA 1 in Pewaukee.

VII. Meeting adjourned 3:06pm

## ATTACHMENT A

### **WESP-DHH Director's Report** (Marla Walsh) **Wisconsin School for the Deaf Report** (Constance Gartner) **April 26, 2016**

#### **WESP-DHH Staffing -**

Kathleen Lincoln - Hired as Operations Program Associate - Administrative office duties and secretary for the Council.

WESP-DHH Director - 1st round of interviews held 4/25, three applicants, 2nd round of interviews yet to be scheduled.

Vacancies - School Psychologist, Social Worker, Dorm Behavior Specialist, Dorm Transition Specialist.

**Calendar** - 2016-2017 calendar approved and attached.

**COOP Planning** - (Continuity of Operation Plan) working on revision/development of preparedness plan for emergencies that threaten to interrupt the essential functions of the Wisconsin School for the Deaf.

**Deaf Legislative Day (4/13/16)** - WESP-DHH attendance to support legislation concerning:

1. Language deprivation
2. Mental health services
3. Education - children attaining language benchmarks in school
4. Emergency preparedness
5. Communication access

#### **Upcoming Events -**

WSD Elementary Awards and Graduation - June 9, 2016 at 9:00am

WSD High School Awards Program - June 9, 2016 at 1:00pm

WSD Middle School Awards and Graduation - June 10, 2016 at 9:00am

WSD High School Graduation - June 10, 2016 at 1:00pm

EIPA written test - June 14

**Walworth County Transition Fair Life After High School** - April 19th at WSD -over 75 attendees - huge success

**Graduation Speaker** - Howard Rosenblum (President of the NAD)

**Pre-K Program** - expanded to morning and afternoon programs due to large numbers of PK students.

**Playground** - May 6th, contract will be signed with Gerber Leisure Products. Expect work to begin in early July.

**Instruction:** WSD teachers are wrapping up their third year with **Teachscape** (part of the Educator Effectiveness initiative). Teachers have used the Danielson framework for years, but the online portal has been problematic. We assigned Brian Lievens, MS SS and online teacher, as the EE coach for the year. His responsibility was to assist teachers with the online portal, prompt them on due dates, etc. This spring, he attended CESA 2's training for the new "Teachscape replacement"- called **Frontline**.

We (Marla, myself, and Brian) will be taking further training on the new Frontline software this summer. We are pleased to have a teacher certified in **Driver's Ed**. Hopefully, we will be able to offer this in summer school, 2017.

**DB programming** - started with 4 staff taking the training, left with 2 staff. Starting their next semester of summer work in June.

**Online Classes** - 2015 - 2016 online classes wrapping up. Total of 10 students from around the state. Next year, will be offering XX classes. Currently XX students are signed up. XX is the online tool that we are using as **FUZE** stop service abruptly back in March.

Online and distance instruction for hearing students continues to be a need that we cannot meet. I have fielded at least 3 contacts this semester from individuals who wanted information regarding licensing for these types of positions. The license required to teach ASL to hearing students is **390 "other" World Language**. Currently, we are working in collaboration with **UWM** - which is the only IHE in the state who offers a course map for this license - to see how we can support teachers and terps throughout the state in obtaining training/coursework for this license.

**Assessment:** Completed the **Forward** and **ACT** exams, currently administering the **DLM**, will soon start the **ACTAspire**. Feedback from the **Forward** exam was generally positive (had **VSL** prompts) and we'll be looking forward to seeing how those accommodations impact our scores. We will also have MAP testing for grades 3 - 11 at the end of May. **WSD Librarian**, Nell Fleming, has cataloged our **tests & assessment resources** and has put them onto our online lending library, Destiny. Any teacher with a valid WI library card can check out these materials and have them mailed directly to teachers.

**Technology:** continued updates for the **social media sites** as well as a complete redesign of both the outreach and school websites (due in June/July).

Our **studio** is almost complete - with a total green screen/curved walls, specialized lighting, and streaming capabilities. We will be installing computers this summer. We were able to **stream** our GPSD tournament, and are excited to continue investigating opportunities to stream content online. We are currently investigating **emergency messaging systems (EMS)** to convert our existing technology to newer screens, etc.

**Curriculum:** Teachers use summer hours to update the WSD curriculum. Incorporating **Common Core Standards, WI Model Academic Standards, Next Generation Science Standards**. The **GAFE** transition has been 100% positive. Administrators will be able to delve into **Google Analytics** to analyze patterns in order to improve communication and efficiency.

# ATTACHMENT B

## WESP-DHH Outreach Director's Report April 26, 2016

### OUTREACH STAFF UPDATES

- **Early Childhood: Deaf/Hard of Hearing Specialist:** Jill Severson, TDHH has filled this position! She comes to us with a wealth of experience in a variety of settings. In addition, she has her LSL certification. She was employed with CESA as a TDHH; she is working currently part-time in each position. In mid-June, she will become full time.
- **Literacy Consultant:** We interviewed a couple of impressive candidates. We submitted our recommendations and are waiting on background check and DOA approval, in order to be able to offer the position.

### PAST EVENTS

- **Regional PST (Program Support Teachers) Winter Meetings**  
We had an excellent turnout at CESA 6, with about 25 teachers. CESA 10 turnout was smaller, and primarily comprised of Educational Interpreters. There was excellent discussion at both meetings. A request came for sharing of assessment tools that others are using. This was the topic planned for the **Spring PST Meeting**, which just occurred in CESA 6. The meeting in CESA 10 was cancelled due to low registration.

### CURRENT ACTIVITIES/PROJECTS

- **Consultations**
  - Changes to the Process:
    - Online referral and submission
    - Recommendation Summary and Development of a work plan
    - Ongoing mentoring and follow up, regarding progress on the work plan.
  - This year, thus far, we have done 40 consultations; about the average number of referrals we receive by this time each year.
- **Deaf Mentor Project**
  - Referrals - ten new referrals in the last couple of months!
  - Need to hire new Deaf Mentors
- **National Outreach Conference - Kansas City, MO**
  - Marcy Dicker and Lindsay Raclaw attended and presented
  - Shared Wisconsin as a model program
  - Shared Wisconsin's use of technology as a strategy for increasing resources (staff and money)
- **Wisconsin Parent Guide Program**
  - We have decided to step out of our affiliation with Hands & Voices HQ (the national organization) for the Guide By Your Side Program.
  - The program will be renamed the Wisconsin Parent Guide Program (WI PGP)
  - The program will continue to provide the same parent-to-parent matching and support for families with children who are newly diagnosed with hearing loss.
  - Referrals

- Online referral forms are currently being developed;
  - Outreach efforts to audiologists and other stakeholders are in process, to inform about the program, name change, and (new) referral process
  - We are hopeful that WE-TRAC will allow parent permissions for referring babies to this program, and have reached out to WI Sound Beginnings
  - “Babies & Hearing Loss Notebook,” - this resource/notebook will be revamped to better meet the needs of the (expanded) program.
  - Program Expansion - we are making plans to expand the program to a three-tiered program “Steps to Success”
    - **Phase I: Baby Steps**
      - Supporting families at the time of diagnosis
      - Collaborators: Audiologists
      - Focus: To provide emotional support, information and resources and linkages to Birth-3
    - **Phase II: Early Steps (new)**
      - Supporting families at the time of transition out of Birth-3 into the Early Childhood Placement
      - Collaborators: Wisconsin Statewide Parent Education Initiative (WSPEI), FACETS (?)
      - Focus:
        - To provide information about special education process and school system (similarities and differences from Birth-3)
        - To provide parents with strategies in becoming active IEP team participants (All About Me)
    - **Phase III - Stepping Ahead (new) -**
      - Supports families at the time of transition, ages 14-21
      - Collaborators: Wisconsin Statewide Parent Education Initiative (WSPEI), FACETS (?), Transition Improvement Grant (TIG), Adult Role Models (Walking in your Shoes), ODHHS (?), DVR (?)
      - Focus:
        - To support students in become self-aware regarding their needs and long range plans
        - To increase students’ active participation in their IEP and transition planning process
        - To support families in ensuring that their child has the necessary “soft skills” (independent living, doctor’s appointments, etc) to succeed and live independently
- **Survey of Educational Interpreters and Teachers – Results (see handouts)**
  - **Online Referrals** - In the Fall 2016, our referral process will be online and embedded on the website. In addition, we are working to align all programs that require referral (Consultations, Deaf Mentor Program, WI Parent Guide Program)
  - **Presentation re Educational Interpreters** - Dan Houlihan and Carol Schweitzer will present on the role and training of the Educational Interpreter; to the RSN in May. This is in response to a recommendation from the Advisory Council.

- **Role Model Infusion**
  - Developing a weekend that infuses role models as staff and showing students what can be learned from a role model
  - Working on Deaf Stories during UWM Deaf Awareness Week Wisconsin (Sept 2016)
  - Building a RMI platform where role models can share stories and/or testimonials to inspire students and parents (video)
  
- **Integration of Technology - Zoom Technology and Staff Meetings**

## FUTURE EVENTS

- **D/HH Outreach Day** - Cancelled. The legal department had issues with the contract for the venue and requested that we cancel the event.
  
- **Partners in Listening Seminar - *Building the Brain as a Path to Listening and Language* - May 6 & 7, 2016 - Wausau, WI**
  - Partners in Listening is a “conceptual” program with a mission of empowering parents and professionals with the knowledge and skills needed to **support deaf and hard of hearing children with the development of listening and spoken language skills**.
  - **Participants:** Total of 60 registers (parents and professionals)
  - **Key Presenters: Carol Flexer, PhD** and **Dana Suskind, MD** will present about crucial early exposure, experiences, and strategies to grow a child’s brain as a path to listening, language and literacy. The teachings of Dr. Flexer and Dr. Suskind will be expanded through presentations that will focus on strategies and application presented by other professionals in the field of deaf or hard of hearing. Dana Suskind’s Thirty Million Words presentation will be done via teleconferencing.
  - **Optional Pre-Seminar event** will be offered on the evening of May 5 - Hearing Device Technology Fair: Join WESP-DHH Outreach’s Educational Audiology Consultant and representatives from Cochlear Implant manufacturers for an evening of interactive hands on learning focused on hearing technologies that provide auditory access
  - **Building Leadership in Wisconsin** - Presenters from around the state were selected to provide the sessions that will expand upon the main theme of the seminar. These professionals have either furthered their training to specialize in listening and spoken language.
  - **Opportunities for “teaching by example”** -
    - Providing attendees with notes as an example of an accommodation that can be effective for many deaf and hard of hearing learners that use hearing technology to access auditory information, this allows the learner the opportunity to focus listening to the presenter and engaging in learning and reduces the worry about wondering if they missed any important information.
    - Remote captioning will be provided for a few of the sessions as another example of an accommodation that can be effective for many deaf and hard of hearing learners.
  - **Support from Cochlear Implant Manufacturers** - Three Cochlear Implant manufacturers will sponsor parts of the seminar (four companies will be in attendance). Representatives are collaborating with Outreach to provide presentations and resources that align with the seminar topic.

- o **Exhibitor/Attendee Reception** - Ten exhibitors that will share their resources with attendees in an interactive two hour reception.
- o **Pre-service Professional Participation** -
  - Instructors from UW Milwaukee and UW Madison will be in attendance at the seminar; some of the students from UW Milwaukee who are working toward Deaf/HH Teacher certification will be in attendance; some of the students from UW Madison who are working toward their degrees in Speech and Language Pathology and Audiology will be in attendance on Saturday
- **Summer Institute**
  - o **June 20-23, 2016, NTC, Wausau**
  - o ***Promoting Positive Self-Identity in Students who are Hard of Hearing*** (6/20-6/21)
    - Will focus on the impact of hearing loss on a hard of hearing child's identity and strategies for supporting hard of hearing students
    - Presenters: Janet and Sam Trychin
  - o ***Visual Literacy*** (6/22-6/23)
    - Will focus on making current literacy instruction more visual as well as providing enhanced opportunities for students to develop visual literacy skills.
    - Presenters will include consultants from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction and WESP-DHH Outreach
- **Professional & Family Conference**
  - o **November 11 & 12, 2016 - Radisson Paper Valley Hotel in Appleton** for both professionals and families
  - o Conference was shortened and restructured; parents and professionals will overlap for part of the conference
  - o Theme: ***All About Me*** (self-identity for students; role of parents on the educational team; role of TDHH, Educational Interpreter, etc)
  - o Skill Building workshop/s for Educational Interpreters (previously on Saturday of the conference) will be restructured for several Saturdays throughout the 2016-17 academic year.
  - o College and Transition Fair will be held at WSD on Thursday, November 10 - the day before the conference. We are hoping this will encourage vendors to stay and exhibit at the conference.
  - o **Spanish Speaking Family Weekend**
    - This weekend is specifically for Spanish speaking families; previously scheduled for March was postponed and will be blended into the Family Conference in November, 2016. Although the conference ends on Saturday evening, Spanish speaking families will stay through Sunday for workshops and family activities.
    - Maria Rivera, along with Parent Liaison, Laurie Nelson, are overseeing the event