

**STATE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL
National Conference Center at the Holiday Inn
399 Monmouth Street
East Windsor, NJ 08520**

MINUTES

Thursday, June 11, 2008

Members in attendance: Dr. Sharon Maricle, Dr. Howard Lerner, William Sellar, Kathy Roberson, Kathleen Mullery and Scott Elliott

Members not in attendance: Debra Fernandez, Blanche Stetler, Philip Gartlan, Carolyn Hayer and Angela Durso

Resource Representatives in attendance: Donna Brown and Gordon Reibman

Resource Representatives not in attendance: Debbie Stewart and Betsy Collins

Guests and members of the public: Lauren Agoratus, Sharon Learn, Vance Zalepka, Jeff Zalepka, Mike Marotta, Dan Baker, Sandy Stout, Kim Antinoro, Kay Knoblock, Blasia Antinoro, James Johnson, Wendy Southern, Andy Southern, Lisa DeGiulio, Ben DeGiulio, Joseph DeGiulio, Jasmin Duncanson, Asia Lawrence, Pamela Lawrence, Heather Ilconic, Jamie Patchel, Gail White, Adelina Giannetti, Diana McNeil, Louise Sullivan, Sharon Romaglia, Debra Nevin, Clement Bramley, JoAnne Goldberg, John Capasso, Mike Spreitzer, Mike Mattle, Rebecca Pruitt, Michael Smalls, Joseph Hathaway, Ron Rosenberg, Mr. Hathaway, Mrs. Hathaway, Susan Rogers, Ann Marie Mathews, Angela Joyce, Carol DiDonato, Quinton Schwartz, Michelle Johnson, Angela Birmingham, Dani Zalepka, Olga Ortiz Carol Perduni, Kevin Holland, Carmen Ortiz, Jamila Lawrence, Diane McNeil, Joey Clawson, Mrs. Perdon, Renee Pfaff, Jo-Ann Goldberg, Bill Freeman, Bob Haugh and Melanie O’Dea.

I. ACCEPTANCE OF MAY MINUTES

The meeting was officially called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chairperson Sharon Maricle. The May minutes were approved and seconded. **All in favor.** Dr. Maricle reviewed the day’s agenda.

II. STUDENT PRESENTATIONS:

- **Community Based Instruction (CBI)** – A Mainland Regional High School student shared his personal community based experiences. Dr. Dan Baker, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Elizabeth M. Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities spoke about Community Based Instruction and stressed that CBI is more than field trips, rather it includes sustained instructional activities in natural community environments that facilitate job and social skill development and generalization.
- **Center for Independent Living** - A recent graduate from Ewing High School, elaborated on his experiences and expressed how his involvement with the Center for Independent Living was a

positive factor in his transition from high school life. Additionally, Scott Elliott and Pam Vernon spoke on behalf of the Centers for Independent Living.

- **Assistive Technology** – Two students from Holmdel Public Schools spoke on their Assistive Technology experiences. Additionally, Ms. Melanie O’Dea, Learning Resource Center Central, Special Education Consultant, addressed the impact of assistive technology within New Jersey school districts
- **Capacity Building LRE** – A sophomore student from Bordentown High School shared numerous examples of her personal experiences and growth from being in the least restrictive environment. Louise Sullivan, Director of Special Services at Bordentown also elaborated on her experiences over several years in increasing district capacity to educate students with disabilities within general education settings.
- **Positive Behavior Supports (PBS)** – Two sisters, currently students at Helen Forte Middle School, discussed the Positive Behavior Support program and its positive influence in their lives as students and at home.
- **Structured Learning** – Four students from Monmouth Regional High School spoke about their job shadowing experiences. All students expressed special thanks to the staff of Seabrook, the facility where they completed their work experience.
- **Dare to Dream** – One student from Barnegat School District and another from Palmyra High School, shared highlights from their Dare to Dream presentations.

III. PRESENTATION OF STUDENT RECOGNITIONS

All student presenters received an award from the SSEAC Council and special thanks from Dr. Roberta Wohle, Director, Office of Special Education Programs.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m. The next full meeting of the Council is scheduled for Thursday, September 18, 2008 at the Holiday Inn in East Windsor. The Transition Committee will meet during the month of July.

V. LUNCH