

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

**MINUTES**

**Thursday, June 5, 2014**

**Members in attendance:** Lauren Agoratus, Dr. Tracy Amerman, Mary Ann Comparetto, Beth Kelley, Melanie McGackin, Michael Nevin, Dr. Dorothy Van Horn

**Members not in attendance:** Myriam Alizo, Bonni Rubin-Sugarman, Dr. Tekelah Sherrod

**Resource Representatives in attendance:** Susan Avny, Tracy Nowlin, Robert Paige

**Resource Representatives not in attendance:** Nancy Mimm

**Guests and members of the public:** Patty Arizzo, Vincent Arizzo, Lauren Bennett, Bob Haugh, Sol Heckelman, Sandy Peth, Leslie Rubinstein

## **I. ACCEPTANCE OF MAY MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 9:57 a.m.

The minutes were reviewed. All were in favor.

Dr. McDonald presented plaques to three Council members who are retiring from the State Special Education Advisory Council this month. Dr. Tracy Amerman and Michael Nevin each served for six year and Bonnie Rubin-Sugarman served for two. She thanked them for their dedicated service and commitment to the students of New Jersey.

## **II. DIRECTORS UPDATE**

Dr. McDonald shared with the Council an update on the SWIFT project. She also informed the Council about a training session to be conducted by the department on Universal Design for Living (UDL) in July. There will also be a summer "Boot Camp" for teachers.

## **III. PRESENTATION**

Bob Haugh, Transition Coordinator, in the Office of Special Education Programs gave a brief presentation to the Council on the recently completed Dare to Dream Conferences.

Vincent Arizzo, a student, shared his Dare to Dream video with the Council.

Sandy Peth, Grant Coordinator in the Office of Special Education Programs presented on the 21st Century grant program which supports after school and summer programs.

#### **IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Sol Heckelman shared his belief that school psychologists should be more involved in general education and transition.

Leslie Rubinstein commended Vincent on his presentation.

#### **V. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:57 p.m. The next meeting of the Council is scheduled for Thursday, September 18, 2014 at the Holiday Inn in East Windsor. It will be a training session for the Council and will be closed to the public.

#### **VI. LUNCH**