# Utah Special Education Advisory Panel

## Minutes

## September 29, 2009

**Present:** Joy Jansen, Lloyd Pendleton, Kris Rice, Aubrey Goodell Shepardson, Shari Lee, Nancy Morrill, Neesha Rutledge, Karla Stoker, Melanie Hatch, Jean Mecham, Mark Thompson, Leslie Buchanan, Natalie Williams, Kay Clark, Rick Stoker, Lisa Wade, Taryn Nicksic-Springer, Roz Welch, Rebecca Turley, Susan Loving, Nan Gray, Rebecca Donovan

**Welcome and Introductions:** Taryn Nicksic-Springer welcomed everyone.

**Minutes of Summer Workshop:** The minutes of July 14, 2009, were reviewed by members present and minor corrections made.
**Motion:** Natalie Williams – Move the minutes of the Summer Workshop be approved with corrections.
**Second:** Karla Stoker
Motion Passed

**Minutes of Special Session:** The minutes of September 2, 2009, were reviewed by members present.
**Motion:** Shari Lee – Move the minutes of the special session be approved.
**Second:** Melanie Hatch
Motion Passed

**USEAP Possibilities:** Taryn Nicksic-Springer discussed the possibility of USEAP implementing a mentor program for new panel members.

**Motion:** Natalie Williams – Move USEAP establish a mentor program.
**Second:** Leslie Buchanan
Motion Passed

Suggestions for mentors:

| **Mentor** | **New Panel Member** |
|---|---|
| Mark Thompson | Leonard Dunn |
| Michelle Griner | Caralee Earl |
| Kris Rice | Joy Jansen |
| Connie Crosby | Lloyd Pendleton |
| Leslie Buchanan | Neesha Rutledge |
| Nancy Morrill | Karla Stoker |
| Aubrey Goodell Shepardson | Eric Stoker |

**Discussion Items:** The possibility of changing the framework of the summer workshop was discussed.

*There was a consensus that having the orientation session in the afternoon would work better for returning panel members.

*Knowing the date of the summer workshop sooner would be helpful to all.

*Receiving the minutes of previous meetings one or two weeks in advance would be helpful.

*It will help panel members to have thank you letters sent to their administration/supervisor thanking them for their support in allowing the panel member to participate on USEAP.

**Utah Futures:** Mark Thompson introduced the panel members to a very useful tool on the internet. Utah Futures is a career information survey that can be taken on line and will give results that are helpful in helping students plan for their future. Mark connected to the internet and went through the survey and members present were able to see the possibilities for this tool and how useful it might be in planning for life after school.

**MECA (Microcomputer Evaluation of Careers and Academics):** Susan Loving – reported on this new software designed to help with transition planning. This program is not directed towards higher education, but more to the trades which might lead to other education in the future. Susan demonstrated the software and members were able to see the possibilities of this tool.

**USOE Updates:**

- **APR -** Nan Gray reported that for Indicator 15 (correction of non-compliance) we are at 99% for this year. Indicator 8 (parent involvement) data is not in yet.
  - *Follow up item – Indicator 14 data sorted by disability category.

- **Amended State Special Education Rules –** Nan reported that the Amended State Special Education Rules have gone through the State Board for the 1st and 2nd readings and will go for the 3rd reading in October.
  - The staff will continue to look at alternatives for legal representation and continue to aim for early resolution.

- **ARRA Update and Discussion:** Nan reported that the USOE has a process in place for approving an LEA's request for use of ARRA funds. Districts that have submitted plans are making good use of ARRA funds.

**Other Business:** Melanie Hatch reminded everyone that the Critical Issues Conference will be October 13th.

**Meeting Adjourned**

**Next Meeting November 5, 2009**