Utah Special Education Advisory Panel
Minutes
December 1, 2011

Present: Jessica Kerr, Cindy Nigbur, Rebecca Turley, Tyler Jolley, Connie Crosby, Amy Weyrich, Celeste Forman, Shelly Hendricksen, Heather Read, Elizabeth Banner, Christine Evans, Neesha Rutledge, Leslie Buchanan, Tanya Albornoz, Karla Stoker, Susan McDonald, Linda Stalliviere, Roz Welch, Gordon Swensen, Echo Cunningham, Glenna Gallo, Rebecca Donovan

Guests: Robert Hendricksen, Chris Timothy, Sandy Rice, Gregory Leavitt

Welcome and Introductions: Glenna Gallo, welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming.

Utah Parent Center Update: The Parent Center has redesigned their website and is still experiencing a few technical difficulties. With money received from a grant they have produced a DVD on 504 and an Autism Training video. Next year they are planning a video on Early Intervention. Marie Wiscomb has been appointed the parent consultant in the Alpine School District.

Peer Tutoring: Chris Timothy gave an informative presentation on Peer Tutoring, including examples of what some schools/districts are doing. The benefits of peer tutoring varied and help both the peer tutor and the student they tutor. Peer tutoring can help students without disabilities learn more about the various disabilities and their challenges, it can also help with self-esteem for the student doing the tutoring. Peer tutoring, for the student with a disability, can help them to gain access to the general curriculum and to the activities of a typical student. Improvement in grades can also be a benefit for both students in the peer tutor relationship. Chris also gave examples of programs that have been successful. Showing a need for a well thought out program with training, structure, and goals.

Tyler Jolley also presented on Peer Tutoring from the implementation view point. Tyler pointed out that there is a definite need for the support of school administration to have/implement a successful peer tutor program. You also need to create a culture of acceptance. When planning a peer tutor program you need to determine what you want to do or accomplish with the program. Promote the program and build advocacy and support within the school. Develop a curriculum and provide training for the peer tutors. Provide adult monitoring and support with feedback.

After these presentations the panel discussion raised some questions/suggestions:
Question: Not all schools have peer tutor programs. What is the reluctance?

- Lack of knowledge
- Adaptive curriculum disrupts the flow (this is an attitude not based on anything)
- No training/No resources

Suggestions:

- Administrative support is needed
- Identify roles of the players (what is expected of them)
- Objectives
- Benefits
- Start at the top (USOE provide guidelines)
- Training for Teachers (State Office provided)
- TA Manual to train educato9rs

- TA manual to train peer tutors

USEAP recommends all schools have a peer tutor program. (This was part of the discussion and not a formal recommendation.)

Approval of Minutes of September 22, 2011. The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed.
Motion: Roz Welch – Made a motion to approve the minutes of September 22, 2011 as presented.
Second: Christine Earl
Motion Passed.

Year In Review: The year in review for 2009 – 2010 was created by the USOE (that year's chair being unavailable) based on minutes and activities for that year. USEAP was asked to review the document and direct the USOE to create an annual report based on the document.
Motion: Tyler Jolley – Made a motion to approve the Year in Review for 2009 – 2010 and have the USOE create an annual report based on the document.
Second: Echo Cunningham
Motion Passed.

USOE Update: *Glenna Gallo*

- **Determinations** – OSEP asked for additional information twice since our initial response to their determination. After our last submission of information our determination has changed. We are now at "Meets Requirements".
- **APR Progress** – The report is due February 1, 2012 and everything looks good except transition.
- **Draft State Technology Standards** – Glenna presented a draft copy of Utah Public Education Technology Standards. They have been revised since the last meeting and removed from the Utah State Board of Education agenda for December. They will be on the January 2012 agenda.

Motion to Adjourn: Karla asked for a motion to adjourn.
Motion: Christine Earl – Made a motion to adjourn.

Meeting Adjourned

Next Regular Meeting: February 2, 2012
USOE – 250 E 500 S, Salt Lake City, UT