SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY PANEL MEETING

October 18th, 2010
Trump Conference Rm
Black Hills State University
Spearfish, SD

Chairperson
Mark Krogstrand

Vice Chairperson
Sarah Carda

Panel Functions

- Advise the SEA of unmet needs within the State in the education of children with disabilities
- Comment publicly on any rules or regulations proposed by the state regarding the education of children with disabilities
- Advise the SEA in developing evaluations and reporting on data to the Secretary under section 618 of the Act
- Advise the SEA in developing corrective action plans to address findings identified in Federal monitoring reports under Part B of the Act
- Advise the SEA in developing and implementing policies relating to the coordination of services for children with disabilities
- Review and comment on final due process hearing findings and decisions
- Advise on eligible students with disabilities in adult prisons- The advisory panel also shall advise on the education of eligible students with disabilities who have been convicted as adults and incarcerated in adult prisons

Panel Priorities

- State Performance Plan
- Child Find
- Ensuring quality service providers are available to children with disabilities

Minutes

October 18th, 2010

Members Present	Members Absent
Lisa Heckenlaible	Heather Stettnichs
Todd Christensen	Michelle Greseth
Bernie Grimme	Lori Dennison
Greg Riley	Kerry Larson
Greg Cooch	Nora Svatos
Mark Krogstrand	Judy Hoscheid
Gail Eichstadt	
Jim Dunston	
Laura Johnson-Frame	
Elaine Roberts	
Roger Bowie	
Sarah Carda	
Sara Hoogheem	
Marie Ivers	
Jolie Tostenson	
Shelly Shaw	

Guests	
Micky Wienk	TIE, Rapid City
Colby Christensen	TIE, Rapid City
Chris Davis, NHTC staff	Northern Hills Training Center, Spearfish, SD
Mike McNeil	BHSU, Disability Service
Dr. Nancy Hall	BHSU, College of Education
Sue McGrath	BHSU, TLC

Department of Education	
Angie Boddicker (phone)	Special Education Programs
Alicia Schoenhard	Special Education Programs
Merle Doolittle	Special Education Programs

Public	
Dr. Lee Pearce	Julie Popham

Acronyms used:
SPP: State Performance Plan
APR: Annual Performance Report
SEP: State Education Program
OSEP: Office of Special Education Programs
SD DOE: South Dakota Department of Education
TSLP: Transition Services Liaison Project

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Opening Remarks
Mark Krostrand, Chairperson, began by welcoming members, and reviewing the agenda and minutes with the panel. Elaine requested a few minutes to discuss "Children's Mental Health".

Approval of the Agenda	
Action Item - Members to accept agenda, with addition from Elaine and time change of the campus tour and General Supervision presentation from Angela, for the **October 18th, 2010** Meeting.	
Motion to accept:	**Gail Eichstadt**
Second motion to accept:	**Jim Dunston**
Panel Vote:	
Yes	**All Members**
No	**None**
Abstain	**None**
Approval of Minutes	
Action Item - Members to accept the **June 24th, 2009** Minutes. Changes will be made to page 4, Transition Updates concerning "All YLF staff" and "Don Meyer", page 4 "Anna" to "Ann".	
Motion to accept:	**Bernie Grimme**
Second motion to accept:	**Greg Riley**
Panel Vote:	
Yes	**All Members**
No	**None**
Abstain	**None**
Public Comment	
There was no comment from the public.	

Minutes Approved (As Read) (As Amended)

Chairperson_____
Signature

Date

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Due Process, Mediation, and Complaints

Presented by

Angela Boddicker, SDDOE Special Education Programs

Angela reviewed the logs for the 2009-2010 school year concerning due process, mediation, and complaints. Most complaints are coming in from parents, possibly from SD Advocacy services for the parents. Angie explained that when parents call with concerns, she will refer them to SD Parent Connections, and Elaine Roberts, SD Parent Connections, indicated they have seen an increase in Navigator meetings. Parent Connections works on building relationships and the lower levels and using problem-solving in order to keep parents and districts out of the complaint process. Gail Eichstadt, SD Advocacy, stated that advocacy services are free of charge for parents, with the exception of instances when attorney fees can be collected. Complaints that are filed with the DOE indicate whether or not the parents have utilized and are working with SD Advocacy, however, each complaint goes through the same process, no matter whether or not SD Advocacy is involved. This does not effect the process or the outcome. Angie also noted that the complaint forms, along with the manuals are now available on the new DOE website. SD has 5 mediators, 4 in-state, the fifth from Utah, all contracted through TAESE. Discussion occurred concerning common issues and where they were being addressed; IEP workshops, 504 training, monthly SPED director calls, etc. Angie keeps an Issue Log year to year to ensure these issues are addressed through some means of resource for the districts. Elaine stated that Parent Connections also keeps a log of the issues that come into their office. Todd commented that not all issues can be addressed through trainings, some issues may not be due to lack of knowledge or information, but rather how/if the parents agree with what the district is doing. Elaine suggests that parents take a look at the Technical Assistance manuals. SEP brought in John Copenhaver to present "How to keep your district out of legal trouble…" in Pierre, and was open to sped directors. Marie suggested SEP invite John back to speak at a session at the CEC conference. Angie will be meeting with John, the mediators, and the hearing officers next month, and will review the panel's discussion and suggestions.

Children's Mental Health

Presented by

Elaine Roberts, South Dakota Parent Connections

The Division of Mental Health wants to make sure parents have supports to keep children out of corrections. The Division of Mental Health is working with Parent Connections to provide support and training to families. The goal is to have families help shape the Systems of Care in local areas. Elaine was seeking recommendations from the panel as what might be out there to assist SDPC in this process of working with these families whol children may be in the corrections system, day placements or out of state residential placements. One of the goals of Systems of Care is for all systems to work together to support kids with emotional, behavior and mental health issues and families in their communities.

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Recess for Campus Tour and Group Photo

State Initiatives

Presented by

Micky Wienk and Colby Christensen, TIE

Colby and Micky presented on the results of the Year 3 Data Report for Response to Intervention (RtI) and Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) pilot projects. Overall response rates for both projects was high, where 85% of superintendents responded on the PBIS survey and 62% teachers responded. 6% of the state's enrollment participated in the PBIS initiative and 9% in RtI across K-8. Micky requested the panel provide recommendations to the state directors of each project for moving forward, these were the panel's comments:

- PD and retraining more difficult, needs to be embedded in teacher ed. Programs
- Needs to be sold to administrators; have successful districts present their findings and stories
- Needs to be hammered as a regular ed initiative vs. special ed
- Possibly add Rapid City to the survey and data collection
- Even though districts may have indicated that there is administrative support, are they aware of what is going on with implementation in their schools? Is it being done with fidelity?
- Suggest pilot schools implementing to have teacher practicum/student teachers
- Stories of success need to be shared statewide!
- $$, attach to implementing the initiatives (Title???), must include in app and following state guidelines or holding until completed
- use IHE to help in the collection of effectiveness

Lunch

Northern Hills Training Center

Presented by

Chris Davis, Fred Romkema, Kris Dower, Carl Edwards, NHTC, Spearfish, SD

Northern Hills Training Center is an accredited school, and services most of the Northern Hills area. Districts may call as early as age 14 for support with transitioning into adulthood. NHTC is responsible for developing Individual Support Plans for the individuals they work with. They follow the process of person-centered thinking and plans are built around what the person wants for themselves. In an ISP, the focus shifts from academics to what the person wants and needs in adulthood. They are working hard at finding ways to work with districts to mesh together IEPs and ISPs. They also provide day services to students who may be 18+ years of age, working during the day. They are spending a great deal of time educating the parents as well, and asking them for their involvement, as some parents may have varying expectations than they did many years ago.

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Post-Secondary Disability Services

Presented by
Mike McNeil, BHSU

Mike may meet with students as early as new student registration and fair and the beginning of the year, or he may be in contact with them during their junior/senior year of high school and make appointments to visit about what services are available. Mike reminded the group that no work is modified, but some accommodations may be made. He will also meet with parents, but encourages students to be self-advocates. Students must provide documentation of their disability, therefore, districts should not forego evaluations at the end of the student's high school career, as the college will require this information. The cost of these evaluations will be at the student's expense if not completed by the district prior to attending. Many national testing companies, such as ETS, will require this information as well for testing accommodations. Mike stated that he works with approximately 100 students per semester in writing accommodations. These accommodations may include replacing chairs/desks, extended time and alternative locations for testing, readers, such as Kurzweil and Dragonn Naturally Speaking, preferential seating, note taking, electronic texts, etc. Students may also access tutors through Students Support Services in the Writing and Math Centers on campus. Mike has presented at TSLP events such as Catch the Wave in Rapid City. He also presents to faculty about service that are available. Referrals for services may come from professors, parents, the admissions office, etc. He highly encourages students to utilize the tools that are available at the high school level, so they come in already knowing what services area available.

BHSU Teacher Preparation

Presented by
Dr. Nancy Hall, BHSU

Dr. Hall reviewed the Impact Survey for BHSU College of Education outlining BHSU's five year strategic plan for implementing key strategies to ensure the quality of its graduates. BHSU's enrollment in the teacher education program has increased by 13% since 2005, with an increase in degrees granted growing 37% since 2005. Professional Development schools have been established in Rapid City, Gillette, Lead-Deadwood and Belle Fourche. Dr. Hall informed the panel about the online Special Education endorsement offered at BHSU.

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Teacher Learning Center
Presented by **Sue McGrath, BHSU, West Elementary** The panel had the opportunity to view the observation classrooms, while Sue described the research and theory incorporated into the development of the classrooms. The observation rooms are utilized by parents, teachers, BHSU students, etc.

Special Education Program Updates
Presented by **Alicia Schoenhard, SDDOE** Alicia updated the panel on the upcoming IEP workshops across the state, the new regression chart, updated Parent Handbook, and Eligibility Guide. She also reviewed the changes to Preschool LRE data collection, and covered the standards-based IEP training, HS Sped Transition survey results, and the Dropout Prevention Training with the National Dropout Prevention Center. Alicia reminded the panel about the monthly SPED director calls, and the Summer Conference and first statewide RtI Conference, both taking place during the summer of 2011. The panel also held discussion concerning the redesign of the SDDOE website.

Schedule Upcoming Meeting
The panel tentatively agreed to hold the January meeting in Pierre on the 6th - 7th, and the April meeting in Brookings on the 18th -19th. Gail is going to send Alicia contact information for a presenter in Pierre concerning TBI. Marie is going to check on locations for the meeting Brookings. Panel members are encouraged to contact Alicia with agenda items and/or speakers. Pending weather conditions, the January meeting may be held via LiveMeeting webconferencing.

Adjournment	
Motion to Adjourn	
Motion to accept:	**Dr. Gregory Cooch**
Second motion to accept:	**Jim Dunston**
Panel Vote:	
Yes	**All Members**
No	**None**
Abstain	**None**

Reminder

Next Meeting: We will meet at _____ **in Pierre** on **January** 6th and 7th, **2011**

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