

Kansas Special Education Advisory Council July 23 '03 Wichita Airport Hilton Hotel, Consulate Room #2 **MINUTES**

Attendees: **Absentees: Bob Goodwin**

Shirley Armentrout Tom Skrtic Doug Bowman Sue Stacev Matthew Cook Janice Suddath Ken Hund Danny Thornton Josie Torrez Barb McGrath Karen Untereker Bert Moore Patricia Schremmer ZoAnn Torrey

Guests:

Chriss Walther-Thomas

Kerry Ottlinger

Jeannie Kleinhammer-Tramill

Dave Lindeman

Bob Maile

Jim Wheeler

Agenda Items Action Taken

Introductions & Leadership Conference overview

Shirley Armentrout, co-chair, welcomed new member Matthew Cook

and returning members introduced themselves.

On Sue Stacey's motion and Bert Moore's second, the agenda was Approval of agenda

approved as written

Approval of April '03

minutes

On Doug Bowman's motion and Karen Untereker's second, the April

'03 minutes were approved with revision.

SIG updates from IHEs Kerry Ottlinger and Dave Lindeman provided a Powerpoint overview

> of the State Improvement Grant (SIG) goal #5 Personnel Supply & Demand activities. Kansas SIG began in 1999 and ends in January 2004. SIG's overall purpose is to align educational systems to support the needs of students with disabilities to achieve high state standards (QPA) and positive adult outcomes. The future of SIG grants will be determined through IDEA reauthorization. Indications are activities will need to align with the No Child Left Behind

> legislation and must provide professional development opportunities.

The SEAC requested information about the other SIG goals.

Supporting Schools on Improvement

ZoAnn Torrey distributed a regionalized map that breaks the state into 8 regions for the purpose of aligning teams of KSDE staff to provide technical assistance/focus monitoring to schools on improvement. A list of schools going on improvement will be

released August 12 '03.

IDEA Reauthorization

ZoAnn Torrey and Doug Bowman led discussion of current bills being worked on by both the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate, which reauthorizes IDEA. The Senate version of Highly Qualified professional standards removes Special Education paraeducators, except those in Title I schoolwide schools. The Senate bill also proposes the state advisory panel must include parents of children with disabilities ages birth through 26 (instead of birth through 21).

Public Comment

Shirley Armentrout shared with members a letter she received from Boyd Koehn, Kansas State Transition Council, requesting to work with SEAC as secondary transitions are discussed.

Student Support Services (SSS) Report

ZoAnn Torrey announced two additional para assessments were recently approved for endorsements. SSS has hired two new education program consultant staff – Christy Skelton and Patty Gray. The 2003-04 Continuous Improvement Monitoring (CIM) monitoring schedule was distributed to members. ZoAnn briefed members on changes made to the Guide to Reimbursement for Categorical Aid.

Survey – where do we go from here

KSDE is developing a general education survey that will be distributed statewide in the 2003-04 school year. ZoAnn Torrey will keep special education interests involved with the development.

OSEP Improvement Plan

ZoAnn Torrey announced the Improvement Plan that was sent to Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) is now with the Office of General Council. KSDE has one year to provide proof of compliance.

Council Member Reports

Shirley Armentrout updated members of her experiences at the OSEP Annual Conference that she attended in Baltimore, July 17-18 '03. She distributed copies of free teacher & parent reading materials which are available at no cost from Education Publications www.ed.gov/pubs/edpubs.html.

Doug Bowman informed members that a report will be presented to the State Board of Education in October from the Governor's Team on Education.

2003-04 Action Plan / Goals / 2002-03 Annual Report

Members were asked to review the annual report and e-mail any changes/additions to Deb Burns dburns@ksde.org by August 10th. The report will be presented to the State Board of Education in September.

The Action Plan will be revisited at the September meeting.

Special Education Funding Formula

To be revisited at the September meeting

KU OSEP Leadership Grant

Tom Skrtic and Jeannie Kleinhammer-Tramill provided background information about the Leadership Preparation Grant that KU received from the U.S. Department of Education for the purpose of preparing a cadre of 24 elementary, middle, and secondary principals in special education administration and advocacy in their schools, communities and districts.

Member appointment to complete vacated term – related services

A replacement member has not been identified. Members are asked to notify ZoAnn Torrey with names of individuals who might be interested in serving on SEAC, and qualify to represent related services and meet the majority of parent of or individual with a disability.

Next scheduled meeting: September 9 '03 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

KSDE – Satellite meeting room



Kansas Special Education Advisory Council September 9 '03 Topeka – KSDE Satellite Meeting Room MINUTES

Attendees:

Shirley Armentrout

Doug Bowman

Matthew Cook

Bob Goodwin

Bob Maile

Barb McGrath

Bert Moore

Sue Stacey

Danny Thornton

ZoAnn Torrey

Josie Torrez

Karen Untereker

Jim Wheeler

Absentees:

Ken Hund
Patricia Schremmer
Tom Skrtic
Janice Suddath

Agenda Items

Action Taken

Introductions & Leadership Conference overview

Dan Thornton, chair, opened the meeting with introductions to new member Matt Cook. Impressions of the KSDE SSS Leadership Conference included positive comments for the keynote presentation. Overall positive evaluations were received by conferees.

Approval of agenda

On Jim Wheeler's motion and Bob Maile's second, the agenda was approved as written.

Approval of April '03 minutes

On Doug Bowman's motion and Barb McGrath's second, the July '03 minutes were approved with one revision.

Study Time:

New Freedom Initiative Mental Health Report Members divided into discussion groups (Jigsaw), after which whole group sharing took place.

Families Together report on Education Advocates

Darla Nelson-Metzger presented an overview of the Education Advocate project that is managed by Families Together through KSDE funding. Families Together currently has 1,141 trained advocates and serves 788 students. Advocates serve as parent in overseeing the educational rights of a special education student, in the absence of the natural parent. The phone number for information concerning Education Advocates is 785-233-4777.

Implementation of KS Improvement Plan

Wendy Blaauw updated council members on the work being done to address the transition issues sited in the KS Self-Assessment document. An internal workgroup has been formed to develop draft assessments. Transitions Outcome Project Training, through Mountain Plains Regional Resource Center, is scheduled in October for those districts identified as most in need of training.

Public Comment None received

Student Support Services (SSS) Report

Zo shared with council members: para educator cut scores for Master Teacher's and Work Keys assessments will be available soon; Modified Writing Standards are being developed; CIM file review training for those districts being monitored this school year will begin this month; SSS was awarded additional General Supervision Enhancement grant funds – the goal of the grant is to redesign the MIS and personnel reporting systems; an application for the continuation of the Deaf/Blind Project Grant was submitted -SSS has been awarded the grant for the past 20 years; Kansas districts' participation in a National Assistive Technology study will be coodinated by SSS staff member Patty Gray; no news on IDEA reauthorization to date; Kansas CEC conference brochures were distributed to council members inviting attendance; SEAC will provide a Poster session at the CEC conference, as done in past years; SSS co-director Kerry Ottlinger was recently presented KSDE's Star Performer award – Congratulations, Kerry!

Council Member Reports

Member Josie Torrez announced that ZoAnn Torrey was honored with a distinguished service award at the recent Kansas Disability Caucus meeting.

Results of 2002-03 On-Site File Reviews

Ed Stewart provided an overview of the CIM review process and data collected from this past year's reviews. Review findings that exceed 10% must be addressed by districts. Ed noted that some of the findings are the result of deficiencies in documentation, not negligence. The new review process requires 66 indicators to be reviewed, 44 of which are requirements of OSEP.

Special Education Funding Formula

ZoAnn Torrey provided a special education transportation expenditures report that details costs to districts, 80% of which are federally funded. Members briefly discussed the State Board's adopted position supporting a census-based funding formula. The Kansas State Board of Education has considered a pilot project which braids regular education & special education funds. The details of the pilot have not been determined.

Governor's Education Policy Team Report

Regional public forums have been scheduled across the state and the Governor is expected to address the issues in her January 2004 State of the State Address.

SEAC Action Plan update

Members reviewed the current Action Plan and provided input in design of 2004-2005 Action Plan. Deb Burns will update changes and provide copies to members.

Next scheduled meeting: November 18 '03 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

KSDE – 2nd floor conference room



Kansas Special Education Advisory Council November 18 '03 Topeka – KSDE 2nd floor conference room **MINUTES**

Attendees:

Shirley Armentrout Patricia Schremmer Matthew Cook Sue Stacev Bob Goodwin Danny Thornton Ken Hund ZoAnn Torrey Josie Torrez **Bob Maile** Barb McGrath Karen Untereker

Absentees: Doug Bowman

Tom Skrtic Janice Suddath Jim Wheeler

Bert Moore

Visitors:

Boyd Koehn, Chairperson of Kansas State Transition Council Allison Werner, WU student and parent of a child with giftedness Alexa Pochowski, KSDE Assistant Commissioner Becky Gassman, SRS Chief of Foster Care Ruth Santner, SRS Foster Care Program manager Kerry Ottlinger, KSDE SSS Assistant State Director

Action Taken Agenda Items

Dan Thornton, chair, opened the meeting. Members introduced Introductions

themselves to visitors

Approval of agenda On Bob Maile's motion and Karen Untereker's second, members

approved the agenda as written.

Approval of September '03

minutes

On Bob Maile's motion and Bert Moore's second, members

approved the September '03 minutes as written.

Action Plan On Bert Moore's motion and Sue Stacey's second, members

approved the final draft of the 2003-04 Action Plan.

Recommendation for vacant SEAC position

ZoAnn Torrey announced that at their December '03 meeting the State Board of Education will act on a proposed replacement for Margery Oaklief's vacated SEAC position: Georgia Masterson, parent of a child with a disability and representative of other state agencies involved in the financing or delivery of related services.

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DRAFT

Vocational-Technical Special Needs Certificate clarification

ZoAnn Torrey provided an overview and draft document describing the requirements for vocational special needs certificates for special education professionals in the same areas available in general education vocational-technical education. A final version will be provided to SEAC members.

SEAC input: Kansas Transition work

Wenda Blaauw updated members on the work being done by the Transition workgroup to create a document that will assist districts with transition planning for special education students from age 14 through 21. Members were asked to review the draft document and provide feedback to Wenda by the end of December '03 at wblaauw@ksde.org.

Committee member reports

Josie Torrez updated members on her involvement with a series of statewide IDEA Reauthorization forums for parents and other interested persons. Josie also provided an overview of the Governor's statewide listening tour.

Foster Care database update

Alexa Pochowski, Becky Gassman, and Ruth Santner lead a discussion on the purpose of this collaborative effort which is designed to provide pertinent information to schools prior to, or at the time of enrollment of a youth who has been placed in the custody of SRS or JJA and placed out of home. The students EEIF (Education Enrollment Identification Form) is submitted electronically by SRS. SRS secures Parental Consent for Release of Information. Schools' MIS clerks provide IEP data to the system. Information about the number of students in the database, number with IEPs, and number with IEP data were provided. A high percent of students in the database that have IEPs do not have IEP data from the school system entered.

Public Comment

None received

Big Tent Coalition

Josie Torrez provided background information on this grass-roots coalition that's mission is to advocate for the legislature to restore state funds for services to vulnerable populations such as poor, disabled, elderly and sick. Website www.bigtentcoalition.org

Special Education Funding

 including transportation info. from Josie Torrez Josie Torrez provided members an update on the Governor's funding formula for Special Education, indicating a proposed census-based weighted formula. ZoAnn Torrey provided members information on comparative transportation costs from 1998 – 2003, indicating an increase of 28% for transportation and 14% for categorical aid, noting that transportation cannot be a reason students no able to receive special education services.

AYP data for schools with sub-group students with disabilities

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Racial/Ethnic
Representation in Special
Education: strategies to
improve disproportionality

The Kansas Improvement Plan indicates race/ethnicity disproportionality in special education is an area to be studied. ZoAnn shared information from a national conference attended by KSDE staff. Kansas data and an article about practices impacting disproportional representation in special education were shared.

Student Support Services (SSS) Report

ZoAnn Torrey shared with council members: KSDE directors are conducting collaborative visits to all service centers to update administrators on current issues. IST (Integrated Services Team) continues their work with schools on improvement. OSEP has asked to utilize the Kansas Self-Assessment data to assist other states with annual performance reporting.

Kerry Ottlinger shared with council members: Kansas has been awarded the Federal Deaf/Blind grant once again, this year adding Project SPARKLE. As a new replication site we will eventually be able to provide information and resources for some parents of children who are deaf-blind via the web and DVD. Two states were not awarded grants, and nine states were conditionally awarded. Also, KU applied for and received a Deaf-Blind research grant to look at validating the use of non-symbolic communication systems for preschool age children. Participation in the Educational Interpreter Training through ITV continue to increase with more of a variety of participants including teachers, nurses and parents. The Family/School Partnership trainings continue, DVD/CD rom supports are being considered and a partnership with NCLB parent center PIRC which Nancy Kraft directs, has been established.

Senate Bill 1248

Web access to the Senate Bill 1248 was shared with the Council. The third version is the most recent.

Paraeducator Staff Development/RBSD

SEAC members received a guidance document addressing the changes made to special education paraprofessional staff development requirements. A concern from some administrators in the field is that the changes will place an undue burden on supervising teachers. ZoAnn clarified that auditors may ask to see a teacher signature verifying that application and impact hours were provided. Auditors will not ask for further documentation.

Next scheduled meeting:

January 13 9:00 am - 4:00 pm @ KSDE satellite meeting room January 14 7:30 am - 12:00 pm @ KSDE 2nd floor conference room



Kansas Special Education Advisory Council January 13-14 '04 Topeka – KSDE Satellite & 2nd floor conference rooms MINUTES

January 13 '04

Attendees:
Shirley Armentrout
Sue Stacey
Ken Hund

Shirley Armentrout
Doug Bowman
Matthew Cook
Bob Goodwin
Bob Maile
Barb McGrath
Sue Stacey
Janice Suddath
Danny Thornton
ZoAnn Torrey
Josie Torrez
Karen Untereker

Bert Moore Jim Wheeler

Tom Skrtic

Visitors:

Tim Berens, NE KS Education Service Center
Wenda Blaauw, KSDE SSS consultant
John Copenhaver, Mountain Plains Regional Resource Center (MPRRC)
Barb Crooks, KS State Transition Council
Stacie Martin, State Director of Transition Services @ SRS/Vocational Rehabilitation
Kerry Ottlinger, Co-Director SSS
Mark Ward, KSDE SSS consultant

Agenda Items Action Taken

Introductions Dan Thornton, chair, opened the meeting.

Approval of agenda On Bert Moore's motion and Jim Wheeler's second, members

approved the agenda as written.

Approval of September '03

minutes

On Bob Maile's motion and Karen Untereker's second, members

Patricia Schremmer

approved the November '03 meeting minutes as written.

Foster Care database

demo

Tim Berens presented an historical overview and interactive demonstration of the Foster Care database that included how the Education Enrollment Identification Form (EEIF) works into the database. This system of information management was developed in response to the needs of local school districts in order to provide schools with basic information upon enrollment for students in state custody. School district Management Information System (MIS) clerks were trained in 2003 to upload student IEPs and EEIF data onto this database. JJA and SRS staff have been trained also.

Changes at Vocational Rehabilitation

Stacie Martin provided information on the function of transition services provided to Kansans with disabilities to meet their goals to work independently in their community. The program focuses on customized services designed to meet each person's unique needs, skills, interests and abilities, which includes vocational assessment, counseling and guidance. These services are available to persons with physical or mental disabilities who have completed an application no earlier than 18 months prior to high school graduation. Currently only applicants with multiple disabilities are eligible to receive services due to staffing cut-backs. Members expressed concern that a Vocational Rehabilitation counselor is no longer available to work with those not eligible for these services (i.e. sheltered workshop clients, etc.) and that many students w/disabilities are not aware that these services are available.

Update on Transitions workshop

Wenda Blaauw distributed draft documents that are being considered for packets to educators associated with the transition IEP process in order to ensure that students obtain successful post-school outcomes related to employment and independent living.

Wenda also invited members to attend the 4th Annual KansTrans Conference in Wichita on March 30-31 '04.

Public Comment

None received

2002-03 formal Complaints & Due Process review

Mark Ward summarized the outcomes of all formal complaints and due process hearings for the past 6 months.

Student Support Services Report

Kerry Ottlinger announced that applications are being accepted by USDOE for renewal of the State Improvement Grants, with 3 year awards to qualified states. These funds are designed to help state departments implement education, early intervention and transition services to improve results for persons with disabilities.

ZoAnn Torrey announced that the Education Interpreter Guideline is now available on-line at www.kansped.org, and a new round of interpreter trainings begins January '04. The trainings will change to a video format rather than the previous ITV method. Zo discussed the 1% cap rule announced by the federal government, an increase from the proposed .5%.

IDEA reauthorization

IDEA is on the March '04 Senate calendar. There are many speculations about the timing of IDEA reauthorization.

Study time: Stages of Concern

ZoAnn Torrey led a discussion concerning how change affects a person, and understanding the stages involved.

Legislative Issues

The Governor's special education funding proposal was discussed briefly.

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Member reports

Josie Torrez provided an overview of special education Kansas statistics taken from a recent Education Weekly survey.

Tom Skrtic updated members on work being accomplished with the KU Leadership grant, designed to train building administrators.

January 14 '04

Get-acquainted breakfast for State Board of Education members

State board members were welcomed and visited with SEAC members on current concerns and issues pertaining to special education.

Advisory council's Roles & Responsibilities work session

John Copenhaver, MPRRC, provided an overview and resource guides designed to assist members with the implementation of effective and efficient participation while serving on the advisory panel. John defined the role of panel members as key stakeholders in efforts to improve educational opportunities for children with disabilities while assisting in the monitoring and continuous improvement process.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm.

Next scheduled meeting:

February 10 '04 9:00 am – 4:00 pm Kansas School for the Deaf



Kansas Special Education Advisory Council February 10 '04 Kansas School for the Deaf - Olathe <u>MINUTES</u>

Attendees:
Shirley Armentrout
Sue Stacey

Matthew Cook
Bob Goodwin
Ken Hund
Bob Mailo
Bo

Bob Maile Josie Torrez

Bert Moore ZoAnn Torrey

Patricia Schremmer Karen Untereker

Visitors:

Wenda Blaauw, KSDE SSS consultant Kerry Ottlinger, KSDE SSS co-director

Cindy Coker, Interpreter Peter Syler, KSD Director

Boyd Koehn, State Transition Council Lynnett Wright, KSDE SSS consultant Sandra Kelly, KSD Outreach Facilitator

Agenda Items Action Taken

Introductions Dan Thornton, chair, opened the meeting. It was announced that

Barb McGrath was absent due to being hospitalized because of a

Absentees:

Tom Skrtic

Jim Wheeler

Doug Bowman

Barb McGrath

car accident.

School for the Deaf facility

information

Peter Syler provided an historical overview of the Kansas School for

the Deaf, founded in 1861 which currently serves 244 students, and

led members on a tour of the campus.

Approval of agenda On Karen Untereker's motion and Sue Stacey's second, members

approved the agenda as written.

Approval of January '04

minutes

On Bert Moore's motion and Bob Goodwin's second, members

approved the January '04 meeting minutes as written.

Legislative Issues Zo updated members on information concerning Governor Sebelius'

special education funding proposal, and the federal legislation for

reauthorizing IDEA.

State Assessments

Lynnett Wright provided a Power Point presentation and handout information detailing the results of the Kansas 2003 Assessments for students with disabilities. Of the students with disabilities taking the tests: 73.8% took the general assessment; 18.5% took the modified assessment; 3.7% took the alternate assessment; 44% received accommodations; 39.27% scored proficient or above.

Assessments are now being given to students via computer. Janice Suddath expressed the desire to invite a limited number of special education students to a future council meeting to report their experience taking the latest round of assessments, answering the question "What has made taking the tests better/worse?"

Public Comment

None received

Council member reports

None received

Student Support Services Report

Kerry Ottlinger distributed a brochure announcing a federal grant awarded to the KU Life Span Institute designed to promote communication outcomes for children with vision and hearing loss. Kerry reported that the Early Childhood Higher Ed. Consortium group has identified common coursework for teachers seeking a unified licensure of Birth – 8 years. Members complimented Kerry on her assistance getting the IHEs working together.

Zo spoke to members about the planning processes occurring around reorganization of KSDE's Learning Services Division.

Transition workgroup update

Wenda Blaauw distributed the committee's latest draft document that will be part of packets to educators associated with the transition IEP process. The document will be presented to participants of the KASEA Spring Business Meeting on March 3 '04 and throughout the state this spring.

New State Improvement Grant Application

Kerry Ottlinger distributed a draft of the application to be submitted by KSDE for the next 3 year cycle of the State Improvement Grant. The grant will be designed to focus on reforming and improving our systems for providing educational, early intervention, and transitional services, including our systems for professional development, technical assistance, and dissemination of knowledge about best practices, to improve results for children with disabilities. Every state has an allocation which to apply for, minimum being \$900,000 per year. Members were given a set of review questions and worked in groups to critique the application and verify the grant's alignment with priorities established through the improvement planning process.

Annual Performance Report

ZoAnn informed members that the report is due at OSEP March 31 '04. A draft of the document will be e-mailed to members for their input prior to the submission date.

Review member appointment dates

ZoAnn distributed a list of membership expirations effective June '04. Representative positions needing to be reappointed include: Private

schools; State Agency/Service Delivery; State Official;

Representative of other state agencies involved in the financing or delivery of related services to exceptional children;

Vocational/Commerce or Business concerned with Transition; Parent of a child with disability. The Council reviewed member attendance

records to date.

Nominate 2004-05 Executive Panel

Members discussed possible nominations for the representative positions of: vice-chair; secretary, and two additional members appointed from the panel membership (the position of panel chair will be automatically fulfilled by the incoming Council Vice Chair). At least one member of the executive panel will be a parent of a child with a disability or a person with a disability. The present Executive Panel will bring a slate of nominations to the April '04 meeting for member vote.

Review draft meeting dates for 2004-05

Members approved the proposed 2004-05 meeting dates.

Next scheduled meeting: April 13 '04 9:00 am – 4:00 pm KSDE satellite meeting room



Kansas Special Education Advisory Council April 13 '04 **KSDE Satellite meeting room MINUTES**

Attendees:

Shirley Armentrout Tom Skrtic Doug Bowman Sue Stacev Matthew Cook Janice Suddath Danny Thornton Bob Goodwin Ken Hund ZoAnn Torrev Bob Maile Josie Torrez Bert Moore ZoAnn Torrey Patricia Schremmer Karen Untereker Absentees:

Barb McGrath Jim Wheeler

Visitors:

Marnie Campbell, KSDE SSS consultant Martha Gage, KSDE Director of TEAL Linda Geier, KSDE SSS consultant Dawn Miller, SIT Team Training Kerry Ottlinger. KSDE SSS Assistant Director

Agenda Items **Action Taken**

Introductions Dan Thornton, chair, opened the meeting.

Members approved the agenda with the addition of Committee Approval of agenda

Reports.

Approval of January '04

minutes

On Matt Cook's motion and Bob Goodwin's second, members

approved the February '04 meeting minutes with one change to

spelling.

Marnie Campbell provided handouts for an overview of the early **EC LRE committee update**

> childhood placement of preschool children statewide. The KSDE Student Support Service's Improvement Plan submitted to the

USDOE's Office of Special Education Program (OSEP) identified the need to improve practices to support more preschool children being educated in settings for typically developing children. KSDE will target technical assistance to districts/coops with the lowest percent of preschool children participating in typical Early Childhood settings. The Early Childhood Guidelines will be revised during the upcoming

school year.

PBS Update Linda Geier provided an overview of efforts to weave Positive

Behavior Supports (PBS) efforts into school systems across the state without burdensome effort to those districts. PBS is funded through the National PBS Council, Mountain Plains Regional

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Resource Centers (MPRRC), and Safe & Drug Free Schools grants. Members agreed to develop a formal endorsement for the state initiative on PBS with a position statement to be drafted by members Janice, Matt, Shirley, and consultant Linda Geier.

Update on teacher training programs' response to new standard in special education

Martha Gage provided copies of The Kansas Performance Assessments of Teacher Education and Licensure and other handouts which provided an overview of the stages of teacher licensing and the new teacher staff development system in Kansas.

Committee Reports

Janice Suddath reported on her participation in training sponsored by Keys for Networking.

Tom Skrtic updated members on KU's grant to train building administrators & principals which will result in 30 superintendents & principals being trained as special education directors. Members discussed the need for universities to continue to develop supports for teachers and administrators to receive Special Education Administrator endorsements in order to get thru the transition period from the old certification endorsement standards to the new standards for licensure.

Vocational Special Needs Certificate

ZoAnn Torrey led discussion regarding the need for regulations concerning qualifications and professional development credit hours of Vocational Special Needs instructors. These instructors are professionals with no training in special education, who provide Vocational Special Needs services for special education students to gain job skills. Some persons with this certification serve as transition coordinators and/or teaching core studies classes.

IDEA Reauthorization

Committee members discussed issues of concern in the IDEA bills. A subgroup plans to draft a letter to the State Board about IDEA reauthorization.

Legislative Issues

Legislative issues were discussed briefly since there has been no action on school funding.

ZoAnn reported that the Annual Performance Report was submitted to OSEP in March.

Review of KSDE Annual Performance Report Public Comment

Planned improvements were discussed.

None received

Preview of Student Intervention Team (SIT) training

Dawn Miller provided an overview of the accomplishments of the SIT training project since it's inception in 1997, having now trained 500 unduplicated teams in schools across Kansas.

Audit Update

Mike Murphy, KSDE's Director of Fiscal Auditing, provided information on common audit exceptions to Special Education Categorical Aid to reimbursement requests.

Medicaid Update

Brenda Kuder, SRS School-based Medicaid Services, provided information on distribution of Medicaid reimbursement funds to schools for services to students with disabilities. Reimbursement

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funds are disbursed at a bundled rate.

Election of 2004-05 Executive Committee & Vice-Chair

Members elected the following to serve on the 2004-05 Executive Committee: Shirley Armentrout, Josie Torrez, Doug Bowman, Bert Moore & Dan Thornton. Bert Moore was elected to serve as the 2004-05 Vice-Chairperson.

Next scheduled meeting: July 28 '04 4:00 – 8:00 pm Wichita Airport Hilton