

Parent Mentor Council Meeting  
 June 8, 2010 OSSB  
**Minutes**

**DRAFT**

The meeting was called to order by Cheri McCullough at 10:00am. Roll call was taken by Lauri Kaplan.

**In Attendance:**

**Chair** - Cheri McCullough

**Co-Chair** - Cathy Douglas

**NE** -Michelle Pallo, Raychelle Fair

**NW** - Jayne Young, Lauri Betscher

**EC** -Kathy Pavlik, Patty Joseph

**SE** -Shelly Leach, Alison Hively

**C** - Lauri Kaplan, Elaine Hamilton

**ME** - Becky Thomas, Melissa Jarvis

**SW** - Julie Dunford, Terri Doerr

**NC** -Rebecca Shaw, Sarah Baldwin

**OEC** - Carolynn Head

**OCECD** - Lee Ann Derugen, Barbara Rice

**Review of Minutes:** Minutes from March 9, 2010 were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes as written was made by Cathy Douglas, and Becky Thomas seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**OEC** - Carolyn Head thanked everyone for their promptness with completing year end reports. This spring, Barb and Carolyn put together a Survey Monkey - electronic and inclusive in one piece to collect parent mentor data. Although there wasn't as much notice as they would have liked, they felt it would be helpful to have just one instrument. If there are questions about the survey, please contact Carolynn and Barb for further clarification.

Grants are beginning to arrive in Carolynn's office, and approval letters will go out via e-mail to district Superintendents and Treasurers, rather than Directors of Special Education.

Amendments are also coming in, and it has been a smooth process. There have been a few for supplies, but this is acceptable due to circumstances (i.e. grant where Parent Mentor didn't start until later in the school year, etc.)

Carolynn has been asked to present at a Medicaid national conference in Virginia. She is currently working with the Ohio Medicaid Schools Program, Autism Scholarship and Parent Mentor Project. She may do a presentation on the Autism scholarship and the Parent Mentors of Ohio.

Discussion followed regarding data, and specifically projects who present combined trainings. Carolynn clarified that tallies should be divided per district and per parent mentor. If they are separate grants, tallies should be kept separate. Michelle Pallo offered that she collects this

information on a sign in sheet at trainings. Larger districts with multiple parent mentors would have to determine which mentor will include the numbers - **data must not be duplicated.**

Lee Ann mentioned that large districts with several mentors should submit separate numbers on the Year End Report. ODE will try to make things more clear as we go throughout the year. If clarification is needed, Cathy Douglas and Cheri McCullough have worked on a data form that can be used (see New Business)

**OCECD** – Lee Ann reported Site visits in Mentor, Galion, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Geauga and Richland County and Knox this year.

The Coalition will be doing another preschool meeting for parents; these parents will take a survey online or in person and the info will be put on the website about Least Restrictive Environment.

OCECD has a new website; please contact Lee Ann with any comments. We briefly discussed the Parent Mentor website, and Michelle Pallo said the new calendar is working well. OCECD and regional trainings may be added to the calendar.

Lee Ann discussed referrals from OCECD to parent mentors and/or Parent advocates. She has heard from parents who don't know that there are parent mentors in their districts. Cathy Douglas requested that mentors be informed when the Coalition is working with a parent. Currently Colleen Miller sends out an e-mail to let the mentor know as per the guidelines. Discussion followed regarding better communication, and how "advertising" may snow a mentor under. Carolyn stated that during site visits, they look for signs in the lobby pointing to the parent mentor office, and materials in the district that mention parent mentors (websites, PTO, PTA, signs, brochures).

It was mentioned that **confidentiality needs to be discussed at the next Council Meeting, and then it could become a conference topic. What information must be shared with a district or parent?**

Please give dates for Regional meetings to OCECD representative, and to Pat for the website.

### **Regional Reports:**

**North Central** - They have Ernestine Hargett from OLRS coming to speak in the fall. They have been introduced to Marcy Beers with OCECD and have chosen four dates for meetings next year. Canda Papa will be their new council representative.

**Southeast** – They have set dates for next year, Sept 1<sup>st</sup> is first meeting. New council representative will be Pam Thornberg who will replace Shelly Leach.

**Mideast** – Met May 5<sup>th</sup> to set their dates for next year; first meeting is September 27<sup>th</sup>. Elected council representative that will replace Becky Thomas is Jeanne Schmidlin. Mideast will be joining with SST 8 to do regional presentations. This will be a cost saver for PM project.

**Central** – Last met on May 6<sup>th</sup> at the Buckeye Yacht Club. They set dates for next year, and the first one will be on September 27<sup>th</sup> at OCALI. This meeting will be sponsored by SST #11 with a speaker to be announced.

**Southwest** – May 6<sup>th</sup> meeting, talked about Transition and 504. Susan Debrosse will be replacing Terri Doerr on council. Set up dates for 2010-11. On September 16<sup>th</sup>, experts will help them figure out the independent living portion of the transition section of the IEP.

**East Central** – Training coming up with SST 12 - October 16<sup>th</sup> in Cambridge. Free conference for parents.

**Northeast** – Will meet in September and January. Zivile Khoury is retiring from Mayfield and they hope her position will be replaced. OCECD sent Parent Mentor guidelines to the district. Jayma Provance will replace Michelle Pallo on Council.

**Northwest** – Last meeting was April 19<sup>th</sup>. Next meeting scheduled for October 13<sup>th</sup>. New council member Wendy Smenner will be replacing Laurie Betscher.

### **Committees:**

**Archive** – Met in March, and will meet in the fall of 2010. The Archive committee would love to have photos of events and regional meetings for the scrapbook. E-mail photos to Tami Vandygriff.

**Mentor Support** – Rebecca Shaw reported that they will meet in early September. Carol Laufersweiler will continue as chair. New Parent Mentor orientation will be September 30<sup>th</sup> at the Marion Chamber of Commerce.

**PR** – Michelle Pallo reported that their last meeting was cancelled and they will reschedule for the fall.

**Skills/Knowledge** – Last met at OSSB in March, and a conference call will be held October 5<sup>th</sup>. Fall conference is scheduled for October 26-27, 2010 at the Crowne Plaza North in Columbus. Barb Rice confirmed the speakers as Jim Stillpepper and Kathe Shelby. Jim spoke to us last fall, and will present the keynote address and an afternoon session. There will be a team building activity at the end of the first day. The second day will feature Ann Guinan, and Stan Haffner from Ohio Core standards. At days end, there will be breakouts in the areas of Urban, Suburban and Rural with “table topics” for networking. Spring conference will be April 12, 2011 at the Embassy Suites in Dublin with speaker Ann Anzalone. Cathy and Tami have put together conference evaluations, and the WOW moment and suggestions will be distributed soon. The committee is looking at possibly having conference evaluations online for future conferences.

### **Old Business –**

**Data Collection Forms** – Everyone should have received this information from Barb, there are new forms available, but not mandatory if mentors have others forms that they are comfortable using.

### **Fall Conference October 26-27, 2010 Crown Plaza North**

**Legislation committee** – Discussion continued from the March 9, 2010 meeting about this potential committee and whether it should be tabled once again. If a committee were to form, it would have to be on a parent mentor’s private time using no parent mentor funds. Carolynn would like to get

further clarification from Jo Hannah Ward; currently ODE isn't interested in "embracing it as a committee". Because it would be formed using a parent mentor's personal time, there could not technically be a Legislative committee within Council. Suggestions were made concerning a subcommittee of the PR committee to look at "communication". Barb Rice says gathering private e-mails might be a good idea, and could possibly be done during the Team Building activity or at the registration table as "private citizen activities".Carolynn Head would like to table this one more time, for further discussion with Jo Hannah Ward. This item was tabled.

### **New Business -**

**Nominations for PM Council Co-Chair** – We will be getting official e-mails and ballots on this two-year position. Cathy Douglas will be the new Council Chair. Specifications for Co-Chair are in the guidelines. Those interested should have conversation with their districts to explain the time commitment and gather approval.

**Capital Partners** – At Margaret Burley's request, Cheri McCullough read a letter from Margaret regarding Capital Partners and its' president, Greg Browning. She writes that Capital Partners reviews public policy in Ohio and has conducted "specific research and reporting out for our Governing Board". Margaret wants Council to have a clear understanding of Capital Partners and Mr. Browning's past and continuing assistance to OCECD.

**District Reps attendance at Conferences** – One district rep per grant may attend the conferences. Cathy Douglas says issues lie with grants split between two different districts. Guidelines talk about having one designated District Rep for each grant. Carolynn will check with Jo Hannah about funding and representation to see if there can or cannot be one representative per Parent Mentor. Information sharing needs to happen regardless. Council Chair says this will need clarification.

The next Council meeting date will be before Fall Conference; we will install new council reps and Chair and Co-Chair persons.

October 7<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 for next meeting. Lauri Kaplan will check with OCALI to reserve room.

Carolynn wants us to know how much OEC appreciates our assistance with families. Thanks for a great year!

A motion to adjourn was made by Carolynn Head. Cathy Douglas seconded the motion.

**The meeting was adjourned at 12:18pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

Lauri Kaplan