

Parent Mentor Council Meeting
June 8, 2011 Phone Conference
10:30am
Draft Minutes

The phone conference was called to order by Cathy Douglas at 10:35am. Roll call was taken by Lauri Kaplan.

In Attendance:

Chair - Cathy Douglas

Co-Chair - Teresa Karsnak

NE - Raychelle Fair, Jayma Provance

NW - Niki Herold

EC - Kathy Pavlik, Patty Joseph

SE - Pam Thornburg, Alison Hively

C - Lauri Kaplan, Elaine Hamilton

ME - Jeanne Schmidlin, Melissa Jarvis

SW - Julie Dunford, Susan DeBrosse

NC - Sarah Baldwin

OEC - Carolynn Head

OCECD - Lee Ann Derugen, Barbara Rice

Review of Minutes: Minutes from April 7, 2011 were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Kathy Pavlik, seconded by Teresa Karsnak. April 7, 2011 minutes were approved.

OEC - Carolynn Head reported to Council that:

- At OEC there will be some changes. Lee Ann and Barb have been sent information from Stan Heffner, interim Superintendent which includes a draft proposal of possible restructuring of ODE. Nothing has been approved yet by the state board.
- Special Education vouchers are still in the budget bill and these may look very similar to the Autism scholarship. Carolynn feels there is a very strong likelihood that these vouchers may be approved this time.

OCECD - Lee Ann reported that:

- Parent Mentor money is still in the budget proposal and an updated analysis is on the OCECD website. No change is foreseen, until the budget passes.

Regional Reports:

- **Northeast** –Jayma reports they finished with spring awards brunch sponsored by the SST/ESC. Awards were given to people who work in special education, students, outstanding parents, providers, etc. Berea is working on parent engagement and empowering parents. A parenting class will be provided by Insight Wellness Center – Dynamic parenting. (managing stress, nutrition) This region said goodbye to Donna Boss who was presented with an Outstanding Parent award. Cleveland welcomes Eric Gordon, new CEO.
- **Northwest** – Niki reports last meeting was in April. Tina Parrish and Niki will have a transition event for a four-county area coming up in June. At least one new District Rep will be on board next fall.
- **North Central** – Sarah Baldwin reports last meeting was in May. Transition Fair was held this spring with a great turnout and they will present this again next year. They have been hosting Parent Network meetings (in response to survey). They are looking at doing some school day trainings for parents – perhaps Wrightslaw. Sarah will be stepping down and Vicki Deel-Leazon will return to council.
- **Southeast** – Alison Hively reports that they did a short regional meeting during the Parent Mentor conference in April. New council member, Todd Tinker from Ross County will replace Alison. Rick Lavoie will be in Athens September 13th. They are having a transition fair on September 23rd at Rio Grande College.
- **Mideast** – Melissa Jarvis reports meeting on May 4th, Leslie White will be the new council representative replacing Melissa. They set their next years’ regional meeting dates. November 2nd will be Rick LaVoie – Motivation Breakthrough.
- **Central** – Lauri reports that they met in May for an end of the year brunch, and to say goodbye to mentor, Eva Marino. Elaine says Columbus mentors spoke recently with Special education staff and will be doing in services and moving forward with support groups. Jacqueline Howley will come on Council to replace Lauri Kaplan next fall.
- **Southwest** – Susan reports that they last met on March 10th, and their first meeting of the 2011-12 school year will be on September 15th. Nancy Holt will be taking Julie Dunford’s place on Council.
- **East Central** – Kathy reports that they met on April 11th and minutes are posted online. Cherri McCullough will replace Patty Joseph on Council, and they will meet September 23rd and hope to have Rick LaVoie present next fall.

Committees: -

- **Archive** – They haven’t met since fall 2010. They will meet in the early fall to archive the materials and prepare for conference.

- **Mentor Support** – Barb Rice says next meeting will be for new parent mentor orientation and they are still looking at possible dates. Because of the scheduling of the breakout sessions, there will be no team-building event at fall conference.
- **PR** – They last met on May 12th. They are looking at the Parent Mentor portion of the website and are looking for a search function (which isn't available). They are gathering ideas for public relations to create tips for parent mentoring to share at a later date.Carolynn is working on revamping the brochure with PR committee – met with consultant from communications department. They will change the brochure with current website information, picture on the front, color, etc. Cathy Douglas would like to see more information about our qualifications/training. Carolynn will be working with Kathe Shelby and leadership and will bring it to Council prior to printing.
- **Skills & Knowledge** – Had a phone conference on May 25th to tighten up the Fall conference and determine the title. . . *Transition Compliance for Quality Services for Students*. Transition has been done several times throughout the years, but now we will be focusing on Compliance with breakout sessions, etc. There is no date set for the spring conference yet.

Old Business –

Spring Conference – in 2012, they are talking about having a single speaker, and Cherri McCullough is working on seeing who is available.

Action Plan Review – Guidelines were updated last year, so that portion should be complete.

- At the next regional meeting, please make sure to review the plan of action, and bring potential changes or corrections to the fall conference. (where a plan of Action for 2012-2017 will be formulated.

New Business –

Fall Conference –Keynote presentation and breakout sessions. It is hoped that Lawrence Dennis will take the lead for OEC, so Carolynn has sent him an initial e-mail about presenting at our fall conference.

Discuss Mid and End year performance reports – Barb Rice has sent out the end of year reminder. Carolynn is looking at revising the survey information, but not the data collection piece. What is the relevance of the questions being asked? Are there things that OEC should be asking, that they are not? Carolynn hopes to have the updated survey information for next year available when mentors come back in the fall. She wants feedback by e-mail from Council and the mentors across the state about the survey so that it involves a more complete picture of what mentors are doing.

Roles of Parent Mentors and SST Family Consultants – Please take this information back to regions, each parent mentor has a District Rep they report to, NOT to the SST family consultants. If there are any concerns with SST consultants, address that with them, and ask Carolynn or Lee Ann if further issues arise. Open communication should be between the SST family consultants and parent mentors, but confidentiality is still paramount. It is NOT a competition, be a resource for each other.

Regional meeting attendance -Carolynn would like to be able to attend some of these meetings. Each region should e-mail their 2011-12 regional meeting schedules to Carolynn and Lee Ann. They will hope to attend at least one meeting from each region per year. As a reminder, regions are required to hold three meetings per year and one of those should be a regional training**Please send regional dates to Lee Ann ASAP** so that she may update the website.

New regional reps coming onto Council Fall 2011 -

Cheri McCullough - EC

Todd Tinker - SE

Jacqueline Howley- Central

Lesley White - ME

Nancy Holt - SW

Vicki Deel Leazon - NC

NW and NE have no new mentor coming on. Rachele Fair is scheduled to go off council, but they don't have a replacement council member as of today.

PDP approval for upcoming year - Lee Ann has some ideas for making approval more smooth. . . can Skills and Knowledge help out with that? Perhaps a S&K meeting could be scheduled prior to the spring meeting, and that committee could preview the PDP's before being sent to Lee Ann for final approval. Ideas? Please send to Lee Ann soon! Perhaps Council Members can help with that. Remember, that Goal #'s should be marked on the certificates as they are submitted with the PDP in the spring.

Appointment of new secretary to begin fall 2011 - Pam Thornburg graciously agreed to become the next recording secretary and will begin her two year term at the Fall Conference.

The next Council meeting date will be October 7, 2011 at 10am. A motion to adjourn was made by Susan Debrosse, and seconded by Pam Thornburg. The motion was approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:04pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lauri Kaplan