

UTAH SCHOOLS FOR THE DEAF AND THE BLIND

Advisory Council Minutes

Division of Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired
250 North 1950 West, Suite B
Salt Lake City, Utah

Training Rooms 218 & 219

Date: May 26, 2011

6:00 - General Session

Attending: Bill Gibson, Chair & Voting Member
Leslie Castle, Non-voting Member
Cheralyn Creer, Voting Member
Scot Ferre, Voting Member
Heather Frost, Voting Member
Von Hortin, Non-voting Member
Scott McAward, Voting Member
Kathryn McCarrie, Voting Member
Marla Palmer, Voting Member
Jeff Pollock, Voting Member
Michelle Tanner, Non-voting Member
Cordie Weed, Voting Member

Also Attending:
Steve Noyce, Superintendent
Betty Hall, Executive Assistant

Interpreters: Crystal Cutler
Julie Loder
April Wallace
Elizabeth Kocherhans

Administrative Staff Present:
Melanie Austin, Program Director of Blind, Region II
Leslie Buchanan, Program Director of Deafblind Services
Tamera Gear, Director of Related Services
Carolyn Lasater, Program Director of Blind, Region I
Barbara Petersen, Program Director of Blind PIP
Jill Radford, Program Director of JMS
Trena Roueche', Program Director of Deaf North Region
Michael Sears, Finance Director
Betsy Sutherland, Program Director of Deaf Central Region

Others Attending:

Joel Coleman, USBE
Tami Pyfer, USBE
Christine Timothy, USOE
David Rodemack, USOE/DHRM
Brian Gough, USOE/DHRM
John Schmidt
Kim Saul, USB
Lee Robinson, Public
Anne Harvey
Julie Ledford, Parent
Teresa Owino, USDB
Denise Warner, USDB
Shellie Norton, USDB
Pat Renfranz
Kenneth Kinner, Grandparent
Jodi Kinner, Parent
Leanna Gale, USDB/JMS
Sarah Leathers, USDB
Shannon Parker
Aimee Breinholt, USDB
Crystal Hess
Julio Diaz
Mindi Allen, USDB Deaf PIP
Page Worrells, USDB
Christine Wood, USDB Audiology
Hector Pereyra, Esq.
Carrie B. Pereyra, USDB/JMS
Janis Dyer, USDB
Gloria Hearn, USDB Blind Region II
Susan Patten
Christine Reese, USDB Audiology
Nancy Whiting, USDB
Shelli Rosbach
Cliff Rosbach
Nancy M. Kelly, USDB
Heather Gourley
Lorri Finch, USDB
Carol Evans, USDB
Karen Borg, USDB PIP-BVI

1. Welcome and Pledge of Allegiance
Chair Bill Gibson welcomed everyone in attendance. Mrs. Heather Frost led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Public Comments
 - A. Mr. John Schmidt expressed pleasure with the public hearing. He complimented that USDB is doing a great job. He noted that they have

professionals on staff that are nationally recognized. The Schools also have outstanding programs that are equally well known throughout the country; people visit USDB to learn and take information back for their own schools. JMS is doing well and does get good support.

- B. Mr. Devon Holley, student at Skyline High School, noted that mainstreaming is a very personalized decision and must be made on a personalized basis after looking at all aspects of a student's life. To him it only makes sense to mainstream. It helps students to advance and then graduate with higher reading and comprehension levels. It does not make sense to be put in just a deaf world. If students are isolated in a deaf school they are not being prepared for real life. Mr. Holley doesn't see himself as having a disability; it is just a different way of living.

3. Consent Calendar Approval

Corrections to the Advisory Council Minutes of the April 28, 2011 meeting are as follows: Page 3, second paragraph under #4, correct spelling of Mrs. Trina.[Trena] Roueche' s name, page 4 #8a. Medicare- changed to [Medicaid], #8 b. correct Mrs. Glenna Gallow to [Gallo], and Mrs. Holly Hyatt to [Hyte].

Ms. Cordie Weed made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected, the Personnel Actions for April 2011, and the Donated Account Summary for April 2011. Mrs. Frost seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Von Hortin made a motion to move the following agenda items to a future meeting:

4. Develop an Advisory Council Mission Statement – Postpone to a future agenda after the results from the Task Force which might change anything we would develop at this time.
7. Speech Language Pathology Services at JMS
9. Update on National Deaf Agenda

Dr. Katherine McCarrie made a friendly motion to hear Item #7 at this meeting because it is time sensitive. Mr. Hortin accepted that amendment. Ms. Weed seconded. Motion carried.

4. Develop an Advisory Council Mission Statement - Carry over to a future agenda per motion above.

INFORMATION

5. Budget

Mr. Michael Sears reviewed the report for the State Board of Education. The information is better reflected on the Cost Data Sheet for Period 9. It showed \$414K to the positive. He had a meeting with Mr. Todd Hauber today to review his function for the FY 2012 Budget and also where we are this year on revenue and expenses to date.

USDB has realized the expected savings from two pay periods to date that included school-wide furloughs and transportation costs. There are things will not affect our budget this year. It could be \$100,000 or more. If that is the case, that money would be considered permanent land grant money. We would drop that to the fund balance and identify it for programming at a future date. Advisory Council could make recommendations during the August retreat or later. We will know better as we approach the end of the year. Final results will be ready by August.

6. FY 2012 Budget Presentation

Mr. Sears reviewed and discussed next year's budget line by line. He noted that Advisory Council advises the Superintendent and the Board of Education on the budget by reviewing projected expenditures and that should be in May. In June and July, the State Board adopts our budget as well as their own. Mr. Sears had already loaded the figures shown. They are taking a very conservative approach so we will have money to drop into and not go to zero like we did this year.

Mr. Sears explained the discussions and process that Administrative Staff took in making their decisions on staffing. Of 45 total positions, 28 will be vacated; some will not be coming back due to retirement, etc. He welcomed suggestions from Advisory Council.

Mr. Sears, Mr. Hortin, Dr. McCarrie, and Mrs. Tanner had met earlier and discussed positions being considered. Mrs. Tanner explained that the RIF was presented to them. Mrs. McCarrie explained that they discussed caseloads and it appeared from that information, it would not hurt our students. She would appreciate more information at the next meeting. Superintendent said he would provide it but they are still meeting with directors and working on details. Mrs. Palmer would like to take a look at 4.5 teachers and determine how these affect IEP's, etc.

Mrs. Castle asked if Advisory Council should have been in on discussions at the front end. This is exactly the kind of things what we should be discussing. Chair Gibson indicated Council's role has changed. It would be much better if they got information earlier, e.g., announcement of furloughs. It would have been better to discuss rather than be asked for support. We need to evaluate what purpose Advisory Council serves. Mrs. Creer noted it is not just the information but we can take the heat off of administration. We should be making decisions together not just Superintendent Noyce.

Superintendent explained the circumstances and that timing was of the essence. We could not wait for another month for a Council meeting. Superintendent said he needs latitude in those circumstances. Chair Gibson noted emergency meetings can be called within 24 hours and, for those not able to attend personally, conference calls can be set up. Council is only as good as the information shared with us; we can give better support if we have information.

7. Speech Language Pathology Services at JMS

Mrs. Carrie Pereya, SLP at JMS, used a PowerPoint to illustrate the SLP program at JMS. She covered oracy, roles of SLP's, their scope of practice, educational/clinical training, research proposals and methodology, and literature review. Amounts of auditory therapy were given. Mrs. Pereya also shared JMS statistics and numerous charts by chronological age.

There were questions and a discussion. Superintendent said this information validated that JMS is getting services equal to Deaf Central. He also emphasized that Mrs. Jill Radford's teachers have gone through Caerber training.

Mr. Scot Ferre' recommended this information be published in the PIP packet and shared with families.

8. Report on Region II Blind Programs

Mrs. Melanie Austin will report at the next meeting.

9. Update on National Deaf Agenda - Carry over to next agenda per motion above.

10. Update from Committees

Budget & Finance

Mrs. Tanner noted that the committee information was covered in Mr. Sears report above. She asked about having a meeting on the budget. Mr. Sears noted it is too late to have any input before the Board reviews the budget but agreed a review for Advisory Council would be helpful. It was decided that Council will meet at 2:00 p.m. prior to its regular meeting on Thursday, June 23, 2011 for that purpose.

Legislative & State Board of Education Awareness

Mrs. Frost reported the committee was unable to meet. They hope to have a report next month.

Development & Community Relations

Mrs. Palmer reported on:

- Advisory Council's donated game basket for USB's dinner and auction for the Blind Olympics. They appreciated Council's support.
- Mrs. Kim Pierce is following up with the complaint process. She is working on a website template.
- Graduation on May 12, 2011 went well; there were 13 graduates. Mr. Brian Mullahey was the speaker.

11. Superintendent's Report

- Superintendent advised that Granite School District will no longer be able to accommodate USDB deaf preschool and infant and toddler classrooms at Upland Terrace. We are looking for other options.
- USDB needs an early childhood center in Salt Lake to serve blind and visually impaired students.

12. Other

- Mrs. Palmer inquired about the status of Advisory Council's recommendations to the Board for new members to fill vacancies. Mrs. Castle reported that no action has been taken at this time.
- Mr. Ferre' suggested making a recommendation to the Task Force about Advisory Council becoming USDB's governing board. Mr. Hortin reminded everyone that the Task Force would take input through Tuesday, May 31, 2011 and suggested we forward that suggestion to them.
- Chair Gibson praised the USDB brailist's work on the charts presented this evening; they are excellent. Mrs. Hall will pass on that information.

Dr. McCarrie moved to adjourn at 8:15 p.m.

DRAFT