

ESE Advisory
Pinellas County Schools
April 30th, 2009
6:15-8:00 p.m.

Welcome/Call to Order

- Mary Kale called the meeting to order, welcomed participants and provided an overview of the committee
- Participants introduced themselves

In attendance:

Cathy Heverly, District
Cindy Bania-Carter, District
Michele Burt, District
Jenna Wyne, District
Valene Winters, District
Judy Owen, Parent
Sue Kress, District
Mary Kale, District
John King, Parent
Katherine, Diaz, Parent
Sue Sidwell, Parent
John Capelli, Parent
Jeannine Welch, District

Lynne Mowatt, District
Terri Hanley, District
Mary Beth Varner, District
Kerryann Smith, Community
Kari Buxton, Parent
David Zunlke, Parent
Julie Mitchum, Parent
Sue Sidwell, Parent
Vivian Fueyo, Community
Renita Warnick, District
Karri Wright, District
Caroline Conlon, Parent
Ruth Dobkin, District
Julie Clymer, Parent

Review/Approval of Minutes from January 22nd, 2009 meeting

- Minutes were reviewed and approved

Projected Units for 09/10 School Year

- Cindy Bania-Carter discussed the process for projecting units
- Tentative units assigned based on school board decisions
- Mid-March parents received letters with school options
- Cindy addressed parent concerns over moving students
- Unit Adjustments
 - 44 elementary schools getting an extra ESE unit to provide interventions for both ESE and gen ed students
 - High Schools
 - Specialist to work with High Schools on enhancing transition programs
 - Add units to serve parentally placed private school students
 - Committee provided Cindy with input on spending IDEA money

State Self-Assessment

- Lynne Mowatt discussed compliance updates and provided the committee with a handout of topic points
 - Self Assessment
 - Lynne discussed the three levels of correction required by the FLDOE
 - Overall the district self assessment went well
 - Improvement on transition will be addressed
 - Changes to State-Board Rule
 - Districts must provide good core instruction and interventions prior to looking at ESE Eligibility
 - Research based interventions
 - Parent Involvement required
 - Observations
 - One must be performed in the general education environment
 - Lynne discussed those students who might be exempt from intervention procedures
 - Changes in Eligibility
 - Intellectual Disabilities (formally mentally handicapped)
 - Measure of intellectual functioning now needs to be more than two standard deviations
 - 69 or below
 - Adaptive functioning is more than 2 standard deviations below the mean
 - Level of academic or pre-academic performance is consistent with that expected of a student with a comparable intellectual functioning
 - Social Development history identifies factors impacting the students functioning and documents functional skills outside the school environment
 - Specific Learning Disabilities
 - No more discrepancy model as of 7/1/10
 - RtI model will be used to determine eligibility
 - Team will review multiple sources and areas of instruction
 - PEER (Web based IEP)

- Enhanced training will be developed over the summer
 - Support teachers in improving the content of IEP's
- Educational Plan for gifted is expected to be ready by the 09/10 school year

State of ESE

- State Performance Plan
 - Pinellas is district that meets requirements based on the 20 indicators
 - District is still working on reducing the number of African American Students in EBD programs
- IDEA Budget will not be reduced for the 09/10 school year
- Stimulus \$\$
 - Will be used for long term benefits
 - Technology
 - Curriculum
 - Staff support
 - Instructional Coaches to work with both Gen Ed and ESE teachers on intervention strategies
 - Professional Development

Next Years Meeting Dates:

September 24, 2009

6:15-8:00