

Consortium Minutes

April 2, 2004

Welcome: **Ann Miller** welcomed the Consortium to St. George. She expressed appreciation for the UDPC staff; **Jim Curtice, Ginny Eggen, Julie Mootz**, mentioned specifically. She applauded the UPDC's breadth and depth of expertise and willingness to do anything to help school districts. She also thanked **Hollie Pettersson** for her efforts with UBI, **Suraj Syal** for Goalview and thanked **Jim Curtice** for his leadership with the UMTA.

Jerry Christensen did the folder browse-by. **Nan Gray** described the **Annette Greenberg Memorial Fund**. Jerry called attention to the Preschool Conference on Oct. 14-15, 2004 Provo Marriott. On-line registration will be available this summer. **Pat Beckman** shared more information on the Reading Academy. Scholarships are available for schools that did not get Reading First funds. Funds are also available for Special Education teachers. **Jim Curtice** discussed the Utah Mentor Academy. Applications are due May 14, 2004. Every school district can send 1 person per year plus 3 alternates. There is a possibility of having a total of 4 mentors from a single district. **Michael Herbert** overviewed the April 2004 issue of the Utah Special Educator. Last call for nominations or volunteers to write an article for next issue, which will focus on celebrating exceptional programs. Jerry reviewed the leadership report given by Karl Wilson yesterday.

Presentation: Dennis Cox & Larry Barnes, Beaver School District - "We Can See Hear Clearly Now." They discussed the use of infrared sound systems in the classrooms. Otitis- media/ ear infections impact on students' ability to hear and impact on school. Two different vendors were tried and one selected. An experiential test was given to the audience to replicate degrees of hearing loss. Reports of the success of using the system were provided. The system helps students with hearing loss, attention problems, language impairments, etc. Every first grade in their district was outfitted with the audio-system. Audio Enhancement was the vendor. This company is a state approved vendor and a state contract for \$850.00 per classroom exists.

Presentation: Patti Willis & Becky Wadsworth, Cache District - "Children Want Hope: Building Literacy and Cultural Bridges." They gave highlights of the work of USU faculty with the Cibecue Community School in Arizona. Poverty and illiteracy were huge problems. Up to 30% of student population was classified as disabled. Prevention was the priority, progress of every student was monitored weekly, data immediately informed instruction, and aides were trained as instructors. Community involvement was a large part of the efforts. Over time, building-level coaching would assure long-term maintenance for instructional practices. Information regarding life expectancy, unemployment, substance abuse, and family statistics were provided. Apache and English were spoken at school. Teachers from Cibecue went to Logan to observe how a powerful reading program can work. Modeling and coaching were a big part of the success teachers and aides experienced as the program moved forward. Video of Native American version of training video was shared. Focus was kindergarten and 1st grade.

Rankings on BIA scales went from Cibique being at the bottom of rankings (at 0) then went to the 35th percentile the following year. Special education referrals in K and 1st grade became virtually non-existent. Efforts were delayed when forest fires broke out. Summer school was thwarted, but efforts started again in the fall. Reading gains were incredible, despite the break in instruction due to the summer.

Presentation: Cody Dupass & Leslie Taylor, Peggy Childs - Language! An Effective Literacy Intervention. They gave a demonstration of the Language! program with accompanying hand signals, phoneme segmentation, phoneme blending drills, phoneme deletion, and others. Washington District is providing training and slots are available. Contact Peggy Childs for more information.

Presentation: Michelle Maxwell - Creative Book Club for Kids. Participants were given materials for making a book. Information was provided on how to establish a book club, reference to middle school students. Michelle opts to take off the cover of the book when she introduces each book so that students will learn to listen to the word. Eragon was the first book and was written by a 15 year old author. Thirty-one students were involved in the first book club. Numbers have grown so that two book clubs exist now. Guiding questions and other important information were provided in a handout form. Ideas were shared regarding atmosphere, level of questions and student discussion. Victories and obstacles were reviewed. Book club books are shared with other teachers and the library for check-out after Book Club is over. Titles of books are not given out all at once. Permission slips are sent out for participation. Title of the book is advertised about one week ahead of time. Both social and academic benefits were articulately shared.

Presentation: Hollie Pettersson - Principals' 200 Club. The DVD of the video filmed in 4 schools in Utah was shown. Teacher, staff, and students were interviewed. This video is available on-line at www.updc.org. Step by step directions to implement the Principal's 200 Club are given and modeled.

The meeting concluded at 12:00 noon.

Those in attendance:

DiAnne Adams	Echo Cunningham	Chris Kupfer	Doelene Pitt
Vicki Ahlstrom	Jim Curtice	Julie Landeen	Tony Powell
Gail Albrecht	Tony Done	Lorna Larsen	Linda Rutledge
Richard Albrecht	Sally Dyches	Anna LeFevre	Randy Schelble
Carol Anderson	Ginny Eggen	Susan Loving	Valerie Scherbinske
Morgan Anderson	Bruce Farrer	Launa Macomber	Bruce Schroeder
John Ballard	Monica Ferguson	Kathryn McCarrie	Doreen Snyder
Laurel Bain	Pat Frandsen	Ann Miller	Amy Spencer
Larry Barnes	Jane Golightly	Peggy Milligan	Ellen Stantus
Pat Beckman	Cindy Grace	Dan Morgan	Vonnie Steele
Carma Biendley	Nan Gray	Mike Murray	David Taylor
Glaucia Brown	Deb Griffin	Tom Nedrebreg	Jocelyn Taylor
Tom Burchett	Patti Haning	Calvin Newbold	Vickie Todd
Julie Buckingham	Michael Herbert	Connie Nink	Beth Usui
Dawnne Casey	Mike Hicks	Pam Norton	Tom Van Gorder
Jerry Christensen	Cheryl Hunt	Deanna Nyman	Tom Walker
Kay Clark	Diane Johnson	Sharon Neyme	Laraine Whitear
Cheralyn Creer	Nancy Jones	Lowell Oswald	Rex Wilcox
Cheri Cornaby	Taryn Kay	Linda Otte	
Dennis Cox	Karen Kowalski	A. J. Pease	

Minutes taken by Diane Johnson

