

Consortium Minutes

November 1, 2002

Welcome: **Helen Post** welcomed everyone and said she was appreciative of all that the CSPD consortium people have done for children with disabilities. Parents appreciate those who work with their children. A thank you given out.

Jerry Christensen did the folder browse-by. **Terri Mitchell** mentioned that the preschool conference was a big success and that there was a huge range of attendees and presenters. There were 1100 participants. **Pat Beckman** did an overall view of area 3, curriculum and instruction. There will be a couple of trainings provided. **Sharon Neyme** talked about category 1 funding. The amount has been increased for most districts. Grant applications were included in the folder and December 2, 2002 is the application deadline.

Cheryl Hostetter highlighted this month's issue of *The Utah Special Educator*, focusing on Paraprofessionals. **Michael Herbert** promoted the English Language Learners (ELL) and the future trainings for ELL. There will be a monograph issue of *The Utah Special Educator* in March on ELL. There is an ELL-Statewide Assistance Team process that will help with assessment in districts. There will also be a statewide interpreter training and registry to provide help with various languages. Plus, they are trying to provide technical assistance where necessary. There will be trainings available on different levels. Level 1 – issues and solutions. Level 2 – advanced assessment and trainings (those who attended training last year). "Diversity – it's an attitude!"

Leadership report: **Karl Wilson** facilitated along with **Nan Gray**. A survey will be coming in the mail. It is a satisfaction survey about how USOE is serving each district (coming from USU). USOE is urging educators to communicate with parents where the medication bill is concerned. **Jocelyn Taylor** reported on the TBI conference. She announced the upcoming autism trainings. There is grant money available for work in the area of autism. Contact Jocelyn for those forms. There are preschool grants available – contact Terri Mitchell. **Susan Loving** mentioned the transition roundtables. Three regional transition trainings are coming up. **Hollie Pettersson** said that "Behavior Rules!" October was behavior model site training month and those trainings were excellent. January 8, 2003 is second behavior institute at S.L Airport Hilton with Tim Lewis as keynote. They are working on getting a behavior expert listserv. She asked members to email her anyone who needs to be on this list. **Pat Beckman** talked about Aims Trainer of Trainers. (flyer) She also passed out the CD and the hard copy of Standardized IEPs. **Nan** said a committee will be revisiting the Utah Agenda.

Presentation: **Karl Wilson** – Karl explained the new requirements for paraeducators as outlined in "No Child Left Behind."

Presentation: **Susan Ord and Kim Morris** from Baby Watch gave a "snapshot" of how they use paraprofessionals in the Baby Watch program. Part C is part of IDEA – birth through age 3. They help parents to meet the needs of children at risk or with disabilities. They provide services in the home, with teams of professionals, paraprofessionals, parents, etc. Kim Morris told of her experiences with the process as a parent. Her first contact was with a paraprofessional. Baby Watch requires all their paraprofessionals to earn a "credential" to work with very young children.

Presentation: **Marilyn Likins**, Utah Paraeducator infrastructure development. There are state standards in place already (May 1995) for special education paraeducators. There is a state paraeducator conference – this conference was developed to help train

paraeducators. There is a career development aspect – para to teacher pilot for paras to become teachers. There is training available through SLCC and articulates with USU. The other universities are also providing training. The UPDC provides training as well as some districts. There is also networking opportunities for paras. There are web sites: www.utahpara.org or www.nrcpara.org There is a newsletter (PARAgraph). There is also a Utah Paraeducator consortium that includes many areas of representation. They have been meeting for the last two years.

Presentation: Jill Morgan, USU. Jill publishes the PARAgraph. This is distributed three times per year. Electronic copies available at www.utahpara.org It is intended for training and getting information out to paras. There is also a Hispanic paraeducator initiative called Latinos in Action that works with high school students (see article in November issue of *The Utah Special Educator* for details).

Presentation: Jan Pace, paraeducator. Jan talked about the training that is available (18 credits) to help paraeducators progress toward becoming teachers. The districts have helped with the cost.

Presentation: Deanna Avis – Valuing Paraeducators. We all agree that training is needed. Deanna works with Project Impact. Classes are taught via internet and this training is expanding. Deanna is a monitor on the internet training and responds to 15-25 messages per day.
Meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon.

Minutes prepared by Cheryl Smith

Those who attended meeting:

DiAnne Adams
Vicki Ahlstrom
Gail Albrecht
Joyce Barnes
Pat Beckman
Tom Burchett
Wendy Carver
Dawnne Casey
Jerry Christensen
Cheralyn Creer
Jim Curtice
Sally Dyches
Ginny Eggen
Monica Ferguson
Darla Fowers
Peggy Fratto
Janet Freston
Jane Golightly
Nan Gray
Deb Griffin
Michael Herbert
Mike Hicks
Randy Honaker
Cheryl Hostetter
Peter Ingle
Diane Johnson

Paula Kashiwaeda
Karen Kowalski
Julie Landeen
Anna LeFevre
Susan Loving
Pat Matthews
Karen Medlin
Ann Miller
Peggy Milligan
Terri Mitchell
Dan Morgan
Kim Morris
Mike Murray
Calvin Newbold
Sharon Neyme
Linda Nicholes
Connie Nink
Steve Noyce
Deanna Nyman
Susan Ord
Linda Otte
James Payant
Hollie Pettersson
Doelene Pitt
Helen Post
Jack Rudio

Cheryl Smith
Nicole Suchey
Dave Taylor
Jocelyn Taylor
Mary Vaughan
Jan Whimpey
Laraine Whitear
Karl Wilson
Cheryl Winston
Richard Young