

School Paraprofessional Advisory Council Meeting
January 27, 2009
Minutes

In Attendance: Marcia Cattanach, AFT Connecticut; Ellen Tyler, Region 18; Jonas Zdanys, Department of Higher Education; Craig Struble, SERC; Stefanie Carbone, SERC; Loyola Welsh, MEUI; Ann Dombroski, ACES, Tricia Silva, CREC; Cheryl Kaiser, Watertown School District; Bill Walkauskas, SEIU; Tony Maida, CES; Annie MacDonald, UE/CILU; Regina Birdsell, CAS; Jennifer Douglas, Education Connection, Cynthia Zingler, CREC, Perri Murdica, CSDE, Iris White, CSDE.

Introductions

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the November meeting were approved.

Special Act 08-5

Jacqueline Kelleher, Consultant, Bureau of Special Education reported on the department's efforts to fulfill Special Act 08-5:

Here are the current recommendations: 1. Establish a Center for Excellence Focused on Autism, 2. Model Site Districts 3. Development of a Consortium- Advisory Board addressing compliance areas, competency based, Higher Education, DDS, SDE, UCEDD, Center of Excellence, RESC, Paraprofessional Work Group

Comments/Feedback from the Council:

Working with teams, teachers need to know how to supervise paraprofessionals and give targeted feedback

Need to place training for teachers in-service in the Districts.

Special Education Home Page link for Special Act 08-5. The link includes meeting minutes and the list of committee representatives.

Council Recommendations

The Council reviewed the Commissioner's response to our recommendations. The council decided to move forward with the approved recommendations. We will also try to look for ways to work within these approved recommendations.