

DRAFT MINUTES  
27 November 2007  
SECAC-PG Meeting  
The Arc of PG County

Attendees:

Mike McLaughlin - Chair  
- Lillie Bond - Vice Chair  
Sarah Wayland - Secretary  
Meg Dillman - Treasurer  
Gail Voigt - Asst. Secretary  
Melonee Clark  
Pamela Downing-Hosten - Director of Special Education PGCPs  
Darilyn Marinelli - M-NCPPC - Therapeutic Recreation Program, ADA task force  
Duffy Noble  
Shirl Brown  
Jameika Purnell  
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?

General Introductions

**SECAC PG business - Mike McLaughlin**

MSDE Resource CD - Got it at the Superintendents Family Involvement Council at MSDE presentation on Foster Parenting. Great compilation of Parental Procedural Rights & Safeguards, new training programs (used by Partners for Success),

LRE definition on CD (p 29) is wrong: "The child can be educated at the school they would normally attend as long as the IEP can be implemented." Should be "Unless the IEP of a child with a disability requires some other arrangement, the child can be educated at the school they would normally attend." Fixed it on latest round of CDs.

BTW, any citizen can act as a surrogate for foster parents during IEP meetings.

Progress of Inclusion around the country report...

What is best way to test students to reflect their knowledge? MOD-MSA may help (when it gets implemented.) ALT-MSA can help with testing results for meeting Adequate Yearly Progress because kids tend to score well. Assessments are on grade level content, but responses must be at instructional level.

Dr. Downing-Hosten discussed the importance of a teacher who can alter the instructional material to a level at which the child can access it. Very important to have the training to know how to do that.

Children are learning the same material - just being taught in a different way.

**Committee Updates**

**Website** - Sarah Wayland

Parents -> Academics -> Student Services -> Special Education (PGCPS website)

Dr. Downing Hosten mentioned: [www.microsoftoffice.com](http://www.microsoftoffice.com) for developing website  
[google.com](http://google.com)

Look at free software

Mike will ask Judith Kachinske regarding whether a company could donate software as charitable donation.

**Membership** update (Gail Voigt) - How to increase membership?  
Top-down and bottom-up approach.

(1) Contact OTs, PTs, SLPs, PPWs, School Psychologists, Guidance Counselors, School Nurse, Assistive Technology people, telling them about the SECAC, also ask them to think about answer to "if parents knew these 3 things, life would be easier...."  
Contact heads of the above groups to send letter and brochure.

(2) Brochure & Letter to PTAs about SECAC - electronic brochure for easy distribution

(3) Brochure & Letter to Parent Liasons in each school because they know the parents that need help.

Send out after break - in January. Need to make it clear this is a PGCPS approved group.

### **Special Presentation:**

**Darilyn Marinelli: "Leisure and Life Skills" after school program - MNCPPC**

Recreation

Parks accessible and welcoming for everyone.

Inclusion services

SMARTLink

Therapeutic Recreation Programs

After school programs (PGCPS provides transportation) 6-12 years old.

Needed program for CRI teens ages 13 - 20

Students at Greenbelt, Parkdale, Duvall, Northwestern, Eisenhower, Highpoint were all supposed to attend the programs at the Good Luck Community Center program Bowie (and another school I didn't get) attend programs at the Huntington Community Center. But the programs are undersubscribed, largely because of transportation issues.

So, representatives from PGCPS Special Education (Dr. Downing-Hosten & Mr. McLaughlin), the PGCPS Transportation office, and MNCPPC got together to discuss transportation issues in the southern part of the county. The good news is that students in the southern county will have access to programs for next year. This will serve students at Friendly HS, either at the Tucker Road Community Center or Temple Hills Community Center or Stephen Decatur Community Center). And Eisenhower, Highpoint, [and another school I didn't catch] will be served starting in January at the Good Luck Community Center location.

The programs must be licensed as daycare, and the room size determines capacity. This means they can support 12 kids at each session.

Eligibility requirements - CRI teens (must be in CRI, or eligible for it, but included, eligibility determined by phone interview) ages 13-20, that reside in PG County.

These programs are not part of the playground programs, which have 2 adults to 50 kids, and are NOT appropriate for kids with disabilities.

HOT TIP: Registration opens first Monday (June 2 2008) in June. Register right away. If you don't make it, get on the waiting list.

HOT TIP: For summer school programs, register first day available. (March ?, 2008).

HOT TIP: When asked whether ADA Accommodation is requested: answer yes! on your child's profile with their SmartLink account.

There is new top management at MNCPPC: Ronny Gathers, as well as new deputies. As part of this change in management, MNCPPC is planning for their future directions and will have a public forum for determining what disability services they will provide over next 5 years. Come out and tell them what you like, don't like, and want.

Ms. Martinelli mentioned that MNCPPS is working to make a playground in the park in Mitchellville next to C Elizabeth Reid that is ADA accessible for kids at the school to use.

Ms. Dillman asked for more contained playground areas.

### **Director's Update** - Dr. Downing-Hosten

#### General Info

Brought the report from the external "Evaluation of PGCPs Special Education Program"

Biggest challenge: getting schools and principals to use supplemental materials PGCPs has purchased to help these kids (e.g., Spire, Read 180, Voyager, FasttMath, I-Station, SRA Corrective Reading.)

MSDE asks for list of research-based supplemental materials we use. Ask Dr. Downing-Hosten via e-mail for copy of this list.

Principals should get mandatory disability training.

For evaluating new programs:

Who is group on which material is normed?

What is success rate?

Was the system the same size as ours , with same demographic?

### **Info Sharing**

Disability Issues Advisory Board

CTV Broadcast

PGCPs TV Outreach

Respectfully submitted,  
Sarah Wayland  
Secretary, PG-SECAC