

SECAC – PG GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
May, 2009

Attending:

Mike McLaughlin

Lillie Bond

Gail Voigt

Dr Pamela Downing-Hosten

ITia Meika Purnell Davenport

Sharin Laufer

Scott Geist – Guest Speaker from PGCPs Adapted Physical Education

Greetings and Introductions were given by all those in attendance.

Scott Geist, is our Guest Visitor tonight giving a presentation concerning Adapted Physical Education (APE). APE is part of a student's physical education when the student cannot make progress toward the physical education goals without additional supports. APE is considered a service, not a setting. APE, like any other related service is utilized only when the student needs it. Many students with disabilities do not have APE. Some student without disabilities have APE when they are also unable to meet physical education goals. For a student with a disability, APE should be identified on the IEP.

To determine if APE should be a part of the student's curriculum, a Performance Assessment is conducted. All of the members, including the parents of the IEP Team are involved. What is usually adapted in APE is environment, although APE is conducted in the Least Restrictive environment. There are a number of models/methods that are used to deliver APE with the goal of allowing the student to participate and succeed in the physical activity:

1. Slow down the activity. Same activity but at a slower pace.
2. More chances to perform and repetition of the activity.
3. If the activity uses a defender, either reduce or eliminate the defender.
4. Decrease distractions.
5. Use visual cues.
6. Reduce the size of the activity area.
7. Eliminating environmental noise
8. Remove some of the rules.
9. Change lighting.

PGCPS employs 46 APE teacher with 23 certified which is the largest number in Maryland. There are three types of services:

1. Direct instruction to the student of an activity
2. Specific instructions are identified for a specific skill which then can be better used in the activity
3. APE teacher can help the existing PE staff to accommodate and modify activities.

Scott Geist further stated that On June 10, at C.E Reig Regional School, an adapted sports night will be held from 6:00 – 8:00 PM.

The Extraordinary Services Award Ceremony will take place June 15 (now on June 22) at 6:30 PM at the ARC. Mike will send out a reminder of the ceremony.

The election of SECAC officers will take place on Tuesday, June 23, 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month, at 6:30 PM at the ARC. The SECAC needs more people to volunteer for the officer positions.

#### Dr Downing-Hosten's Update

Staffing for next year is continuing. Dr Downing-Hosten has sent the first round of staffing prospects to PGCPS Human Resources. The Special Education office has been working with PGCPS Human Resources since last December.

A portion of the stimulus money will be used for positions expanding MEANS at the Middle School level. In order to first figure out where Middle School MEANS programs would be held, had to find out where the K-8 schools were to be located and which Middle Schools were to be closed. A more complete overview of the uses of the stimulus money can be found on the PGCPS web site.

There are three models for the Middle School MEANS classrooms are:

1. 1 Special Educator plus 1 para-professional intensive class with 15 students
2. 1 Special Educator plus 1 general educator co-teaching – 22 students, 11 disabled, 11 non-disabled
3. traditional co-teaching classroom – 30-32 students, disabled and non-disabled

Dwight D Eisenhower is the model that PGCPS will be using. Dwight D Eisenhower's principal quietly began a few years ago to include incoming students with disabilities in the Middle School instead of automatically sending/referring them to other Middle Schools.

There has been no further developments concerning Andrea Toney Thomas issue of determining consistent calendar date/times for all Maryland students who will be receiving a Certificate of Completion upon their 21<sup>st</sup> birthday. Depending upon a student birth date is and when a Maryland school district begins school in the fall can determine if a student who is receiving a Certificate of Completion attends school for a full calendar year or ages out. Maryland counties begin their school year at different dates and often may not decide until the spring when the next school will begin leaving parents unable to decisively plan for the next school year.

MOE Waiver – The MOE waiver was disallowed, that is County Executive Jack Johnson can not cut the amount of PGCPs tax money spent on PGCPs schools.

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Respectfully Submitted,

Gail Voigt  
Assistant Secretary