



DUPAGE/WEST COOK GOVERNING BOARD

Meeting Notes – November 9, 2017

LOCATION: SASSED Administrative Center
2900 Ogden Avenue, Lisle, IL 60532

Dr. Jimmy Gunnell, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:06 am. During roll call, the following members answered present:

AERO – Dr. Jimmy Gunnell	
LADSE – Dr. Sheri Wernsing	Districts #86 & #181 – Tammy Prentiss
LASEC – Melinda McGuffin	Districts #90, #91, #98, #100 – Maria McCarthy
SASED – Dr. John Correll	District #204 – Jennifer Law

The following members were absent:

CASE – Dr. Mary Furbush	District #200C – Dr. Gwen Walker-Qualls
NDSEC – Jim Nelson	District #200D – Dr. Joanne Panopoulos
PAEC – Mary Beth Boeh	District #201C – Dr. Ramona Stavros
District #97 – Eboney Lofton	District #203 – Christine Igoe
District #99/Cook – Allison Cirone	

The following non-voting members were present:

District #81 – Brandon Cochran & Kathy Tomasiewicz
SEPTA Rep. – Susan McMahan (Cook County)

Also present:

Nan Diamond, Coordinator, DuPage/West Cook
Sam Cannata, Treasurer, DuPage/West Cook
Lynne Mennel, Recording Secretary

At the end of roll call it was determined that quorum was not met. Dr. Gunnell announced we had not met quorum, and he continued the meeting with the Introduction of Guests. Dr. Gunnell then moved on to the Coordinators Report, the DWC Summary of Budgets and Other Discussion. NO action items or motions were voted upon, and they were tabled until the February 15, 2018 Board meeting.

INTRODUCTIONS

Dr. Gunnell requested the Board and guests to introduce themselves.

Dr. Michael Volpe, SASSED Executive Director
Carrie Morfoot, Hinsdale South DHH Department Chair/LADSE DHH Program
Brian Riegler, Business Manager, LADSE
Ellie Ambuehl, LADSE Assistant Executive Director
Ellyn Gehrke, SASSED DHH Program Administrator
Amy Deegan, SASSED DHH Social Worker
Mary Davis, District #200D, Assistant Director of Special Education

COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Deaf/Hard of Hearing (DHH) Parent Program Report

Ellyn Gehrke, Deaf/Hard of Hearing/Audiology Program Administrator and Amy Deegan, Deaf/Hard of Hearing Social Worker gave a presentation. They explained the purpose of the new parent DHH training program, what the intended outcomes could be, the results of the program, as well as the topics that will be addressed throughout the remainder of the year.

Parent Program Purpose – Education addressing the communication, social skills and behaviors in everyday family routines within the student’s home. It is student centered, and parents will learn strategies for communication with their children using hands on activities. The program is replacing the sign language classes with a different educational format. The previous parent sign language classes were declining in enrollment over the years.

Intended Outcomes – Parents can communicate behavior expectations in different settings with their child by creating a positive communication environment. They can locate resources about sign language, deaf culture and DHH activities and support. Parents will be able to troubleshoot problems and locate assistance for their child’s hearing technology, as there are changes and updates all the time.

Program Results – Parents will be surveyed after the last session, which is in April. They will be asked to rate their skills based on the “I can” statements. These results will be used to develop the program for next year.

Topics to be Addressed – October was the CHAMPS system and how to use it at home. CHAMPS: Conversation, Help, Activity, Movement, Participation, Success. November is family time – meals, games and holidays. January will be communicating basic needs, such as pain, hunger, etc. February will be the importance of sleep. Students with hearing impairments have a hard time sleeping. March will be going out in the community to work on behavior and communication. April will be a review and deaf culture discussion.

Program Schedule – Parents are invited to school for a 75-minute parent training session; 30-minute activity with students in the classroom; then a 30-minute parent discussion to review the activity, questions/answers and program feedback. The Program is held at North Elementary and Westmont Junior High, which are where SASED DHH classrooms are located.

First Session Results – North Elementary

- Six (6) parent participants represented 5 families
- Using a 5 point scale, 100% of families gave the program and presenter the highest rating
- Five (5) of 6 participants expressed a plan to attend another session

First Session Results – Westmont Junior High

- Zero parents participated
- Nine (9) out of 17 students participated in the program with staff
- Nine (9) out of 9 students reported going places with family having no idea where they were going or what was expected of them, which normally creates a behavior response
- Six (6) out of 17 students returned completed CHAMPS packets and parent signatures

Parent Topic Suggestions

- Behavior in public places; use a volume chart
- Communication skills
- Student emotional health
- Technology and resources
- ASL classes in the evening or on-line classes
- Post information on-line

Parent Feedback

- “I love the concept!”
- A COD parent offered to run the ASL class in the spring for free
- “This is a terrible time for me”

Response to Feedback

- Explore posting power points and video clips on our website
- Creating sign language vocabulary lessons
- Incorporating emotional health into upcoming topics

We have a very large Spanish population, 57%, and ASL does not translate to Spanish. Spanish sign language is very different from ASL.

<u>DWC Enrollment</u>	<u>11/2017</u>
Deaf/Hard of Hearing	114
Visually Impaired	79
Transition (Blended)	15
Project SEARCH	<u>9</u>
Total	217

There has been an increase in Vision enrollment for the early childhood program.

SUMMARY OF BUDGETS FOR FISCAL AGENT & OPERATING ENTITY

The budget for the DWC programs (elementary DHH program, Vision program, ESY program and Audiology services) operated by SASSED are integrated into SASSED's budget.

The responsibility of the DWC programs is shared with LADSE. The budget for programs operated by LADSE are integrated into LADSE's budget, which operates the Hinsdale High School DHH self-contained program and the DHH Transition program.

Some of the responsibilities assumed by SASSED and LADSE as operating entities:

- Human Resource – hiring, evaluating & supervising program staff; managing worker's compensation, health insurance & other employee benefits; negotiating contracts with bargaining units.
- Fiscal – program billing, cash collection, payroll & accounts payable; carrying the IMRF reserve for employees hired by the operating entity, but who work in DWC programs; obtaining & maintaining classroom space for programs; budget development & management.
- Programmatic – developing & maintaining the best educational practices for students with disabilities.

SASSED budgeted tuition targeted rate of increase is 2.5%. Projected program tuition rate changes FY18 are:

- DHH 4.2% - due to a decline in enrollment
- ESY (2.9%)
- Transition 2.0% - medically-based population
- Vision 3.2% - due to a decline in enrollment; eliminated one classroom

SASSED budgeted services targeted rate of increase is 2.5%. Projected service rate changes FY18 are:

- One to One Staff 2.0%
- One to One Interpreters 1.0%
- Audiological Tests (20.0%) – due to a shared Administrative Assistant, eliminating an audiological assistant and a decline in testing

LADSE collaborates with Carrie Morfoot, the DHH Program Coordinator at Hinsdale South High School, who reviews current and projected staffing needs and brings forward recommendations to LADSE administration. Incoming freshmen are also considering for staffing changes to meet student IEP needs.

LADSE projected tuition rate changes FY18 are:

- DHH/Transition -1.8% - enrollment went from 82 to 62; mainstreamed more students with an interpreter
- ESY 14.0% - due to so few students; we pay staff hourly

OTHER DISCUSSION

The Options Transition Fair, hosted by Hinsdale Township SD #86 on October 26th, was a phenomenal success. Over 524 families attended; 1500 attending the Transition conference; 11 districts and 7 colleges partnered; and over 44 universities and services were represented as well as a very informative panel for adult services. Wheaton/ Warrenville Community SD #200 will host next year's Options Fair.

LADSE will be hosting a Transition Resource Fair on November 16th at the Holiday Inn William Tell in Countryside. There will be more than 40 representatives from colleges, universities, community organizations, businesses, and education and recreation organizations, plus 50 vendors and approximately 200 families.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:53 am.