

SPED Learning Council Minutes
November 16, 2006

I. Response to Intervention:

A 2 phase approach to ensuring a smooth transition to GenEd assuming responsibility for RTI was discussed.

PHASE 1: Reviewing and standardizing at all sites the pre-referral and referral process, and documenting interventions

PHASE 2: Implementing, by GenEd at all sites, the regulations from the state for Response to Intervention

Action: Kevin Skelly will e-mail all principals to let them know that a team will be happy to come to their site and make themselves available for a review of their SST process. This is going to be voluntary, not mandatory.

- Frustration was expressed that consensus had been reached on the work that needed to be done to address getting a benchmark on where all sites were in the pre-referral process at schools. A schedule had been prepared using the Quality Review Process to gauge and address needs at sites, as well as standardize procedures. Concern was expressed that a lot of work had been done, but a hold was placed on moving forward. Phase 1 could move forward as planned as it was independent of Phase 2. Does the Learning Council get consensus and move forward, or does administration make final decision? This group is advisory and final decisions are made by appropriate administration
- The need to communicate and articulate in a better fashion was acknowledged. There is a concern that this not be repeated in moving forward with the work. Gaps in communication result in “guesses” and hard feelings. People did a lot of hard work when we weren’t ready for that. . Administration will give more information in the future.
- Elaine Cofrancesco might be the person to take charge of this project and avoid SPED label. Kevin will discuss this with her.
- Counselors at the middle and high schools might be the people responsible for this at their sites
- RTI Coordinator was discussed
- Action items will be tentatively approved, with final approval at next meeting

There is a concern that this is a huge paradigm shift and that principals and others will feel that this is “getting into their business”. A presentation was made to principals and the information was well received. Ricardo Cecena presented an SST model that segued perfectly and avoided SPED label.

II. Strategic Plan

- This is a living document and will not be “done” at the end of the year

III. Minutes

- Minutes will be shortened to summaries with pertinent information. They will be sent to all council members and approved/amended at the start of each council meeting. After approval, minutes will be sent to SPED Problem Solving Group

IV. Curriculum

- Existing “Packaged” curriculum for Learning Strategies is not teacher friendly
- There is a need for research based Learning Strategies curriculum development (not much out there is appropriate)
- Critical Skills has a guide, but no curriculum
- There is money for getting a group together. Secondary Program Specialists are currently doing this work. In order to fit framework, it must be research based. Concern that teachers do not have the time to do this. Teachers need to be supported with release days and money to do this work.

Action: The curriculum group will investigate research based Learning Strategies curriculum

V. ADR – This is an update from JoAnn to be included in the minutes:

Here is an update on our activities for set up of the ADR model in PUSD:

- Conflict Resolution Training for IEP teams 75% complete. The final training is scheduled for Dec. 13 and 14 which should bring us to 100% IEP team participation if those designated attend.
- Two parent training sessions are scheduled for the evening of Dec. 13 and the morning of Dec 15. These are duplicate sessions entitled: **Preventing Conflict** in the education of children with disabilities and **Strengthening Relationships** when children have special needs. This parent training is sponsored by our Community Advisory Committee.
- Today we started the first day of our mediation team training. This is a five day training composed of parents, our ADR coordinator, school site/district administration, psychologists and program specialists. In addition, we opened up 20 slots for the North Coastal and North Inland SELPAs which are composed of parents and district administration/program specialists. We are charging non district staff \$450 per person to recoup some of our costs for this training.
- The final agreement between SDSU, the Exceptional Family Resource Center EFRC is completed and will go to the board next month. We will have the ADR coordinator on board in Jan and hopefully will have our new model up and running in Feb-Mar.

VI. Reformulating of groups (these groups will report back to Council)

Curriculum/SD:

- Gail
- McKayla
- Wendy
- Lynneah
- Mandy
- Melanie
- Subs to bring other teachers in to this group

Culture of Ownership:

- Kathy
- Jeralyn
- Christine
- Lynneah
- Linda
- Mandy
- Lashawn
- Teresa

Dispute Resolution:

- Dave