

MCASE Region IV
Meeting Agenda and Minutes
4/24/18

I. Professional Development Opportunities (District/Coop, CSPDIV, MCEC, MASP) - All

A. MCASE Fall conference Speaker Ideas (Michelle)

- a. Emphasis on behavior
 - i. Ross Green
 - ii. Emily has a broad list she will share with Michelle
 - iii. Maybe more time with OPI on a second day
 - iv. More legal info
 - v. PK-innovative programs share info
 - vi. Voc as well
- b. Northern Plains Law Conference Rapid City Sept. 25-26
 - i. Registration is open now [Northern Plains Law Conference](#)
- c. Julie Weatherly

B. Collaborative PD: Fall 2018 - Michelle

- a. Goalbook/UDL
 - i. Goalbooks is focusing conference this summer in NY
 - ii. Interested: Chad, Shelley, Jenny
- b. Instruction aligned to Alternate Achievement Standards

II. Recruitment Project: Needs - Lori/Michelle

- A. Prickly Pear Co-op: Shelley needs a SLP and School Psych.
- B. Others:
 - a. Bozeman-part time Psych., possible 2 sped teachers
 - b. OPI has 3 openings
 - c. Jenny-spced teacher Shields Valley

III. Prior Written Notice documentation - All.

- A. Since I missed the webinar and MCEC, I'd like to hear how this is going (e.g. staff training, AIM issues, ER/IEP ??) Michelle
- B. Dan provided a packet of examples for language around PWN-Michelle will send out with minutes.
- C. Jenny 1 pm April Thurs. 26th PWN w/Dale-Go to Meeting
- D. Prior is not prior to the meeting as this would be predetermination. It is prior to the implementation of the proposal or denial. PWN is plain language summary. District pursue any area they suspect a disability.

IV. Topics from MCEC -Shelley

- A. MCEC would like to sponsor a speaker at MCASE Fall 2018 and would like MCASE to sponsor a speaker at MCEC 2019

- B. MCEC Speakers that would draw administrators- suggestions needed. Continue discussion
 - a. MCASE was asked to help fund MCEC
 - i. MCEC made some money on the conference-now flush on finances
 - 1. Provided scholarships
 - b. Recommendations for MCEC Conference
 - i. Legal
 - ii. PLUK-Frank can give contact person-call PLUK number
 - 1. Building budget for Executive Director
 - 2. Go back to parent training
- C. The Para Consortium is buying a tree and having it planted at the capitol for Susan Bailey-Anderson with a plaque. If you would like to donate to it, send a check to Annette Young, P.O.Box 20251, Helena, MT 59620-2501 by May 1st.
 - a. Do it quickly please

V. Suspensions, BIP, reintegration plans, and unilateral placement by the District for general ed. students - Michelle

Recently have had increased reports of parent being told “you are not welcome back here” when there are behavior/discipline issues for student not yet identified. Concern that they are disciplining without asking the question if behavior is due to an underlying disability. Instead they are using the behavior tiers without considering the need for individualized instruction or therapeutic needs.

Sped Directors are decreasing across state and being replaced with Superintendents. Requirement is for the person to be an Administrator. Verne is providing some YouTube videos as the role of Administrators as well as a chapter in Jennifer’s book. Also the School Boards are voting Sped Directors out. School Board may not understand that there is an eligibility process for placing a disability. School Board Associate good partner. SAM may need to address this as well. MCASE make recommendations to SAM as to what is critical for being a Sped Director. CoOp Directors have a stricter requirement than other Directors. Verne shared that there is a requirement through the MSU Bozeman to get the admin degree. Board of Public Ed need to address this. MCASE is on a project to address the national need for sped directors. Is there something to take to Delegate Assembly? OPI proposing doubled amount of fed money to prohibit district to leave CoOps. Preliminary allocations will be out this week---up about 1%.

VI. Pre-school: identification and educational placement for rural schools -

Big push in rural schools from agencies pushing for ABA/Discrete Trial therapy by BCBA. Making strong recommendation for child to be in preschool with para as well at age 3 without team consensus that pre-school is best placement.

VII. Fall 2018 CASE Early Career Special Education Administrator Award (National Award). - Emelie

\$1000 to be spent on the person. Application is due by June 30th for staff who is new within 5 years teaching. Cannot be spent on school. The application was attached. Please let Michelle know if you have a name you'd like to submit.

VIII. MSU offering classes for student with intellectual disabilities. MSU Life Scholars (Learning Is For Everyone) program will be starting up for the 2018-19 academic year with a small cohort of 6-8 students. The program will offer 2 or 4-year pathways and integrate components of Project SEARCH during the final year. Students will work with an advisor to create a self-directed program, and be able to audit/access courses that meet their interests and needs. Students will have supports of peer tutors (for academics) and peer mentors (for campus life). Residential options will not be available next year, but discussions are in the works. Students will pay tuition plus an additional program fee for inclusive supports. MSU has also arranged prorated fees for non-full-time students to access MSU student resources (Cat Card for access to sporting events, recreation options, student health services...) This program is developed through consultative support of [Syracuse University's Taishoff Center for Inclusive Higher Ed.](#) More info on inclusive higher education can be found at [Think College.net](#)