

Low Incidence Exceptionality Sub Committee minutes

December 13, 2018

Members Present:

Geraldine Horvath Parent	Silvia Velarde FSDB Parent Advisor/ District Support
Laura Chinloy Teacher	Mara Kunitz, VI Chair
Lynn Miskiel Debbie School	Sascha Etienne DHH Chair
Kathleen Vergara Debbie School	Gisselle Pascal Early Step Representative
Dr. Kelli Hunter-Sheppard, ESE (via Phone)	

The meeting was called to order at 2:45 pm

Attendees introduced themselves and described their roles and positions.
Review of minutes from the previous meeting took place.

The subcommittee discussed the need to develop clear goals for the year. Areas that were discussed were: Parent Outreach, Teacher Professional Development, Early Intervention, Program Development

Ms. Ramsay inquired about FSDB providing students the option to share services with the public school setting in their area.
(Mainstream option)

For Professional Development opportunities the Florida School for the Deaf offers online courses in sign language every semester

Concerns regarding formative tests for Dual Sensory and DHH students was discussed. It was proffered that the team explore what assessments are being utilized by other counties or States.

Questions were asked about computer-based programs that are not accessible to the DHH and VI population. Ms. Ramsay stated that Reading A-Z has been provided to all DHH teachers in the District in lieu of iReady

Dr. Hunter-Sheppard mentioned Office of Special Education Programs letter about Interveners for students who are deaf/blind. The training requires intensive instruction and is offered in select universities.

A parent participant stated she was excited to be in attendance at the meeting. She shared her son's educational journey and believes that early education for DHH students is essential.

The Early Steps representative stated that they are happy to collaborate with the district with an initiative that encourages early intervention. It was mentioned that there are 3 ITDS in the county who go into homes to discuss options for parents however they are not well versed in manual options.

Ms. Vergara mentioned that follow up is lacking after initial audio screening (Alfano Center is a great resource)

Future trainings were discussed – Ms. Miskial spoke about Ski Hi curriculum (research-based) training taking place in January with Jennifer Cado from FSDB

Lynn: PD-Hearing Loss & Beyond: Understanding Child Learning- January 18, 2019.

School Visits in Broward to view DHH and VI Programs scheduled for January 30, 2019

Next Meeting Date: TBA