

**Eatonville School District  
Special Education advisory Group (SEAG) Meeting  
June 12, 2008  
Eatonville Elementary School (EES) Library  
AMMENDED**

**Call to Order:** Chair Steve Collins called the meeting to order at 4:10 PM.

**Flag Salute:** Chair Collins led the group in the flag salute.

**Announcements:**

- A. Still no general education secondary teacher representative.
- B. Still no secretary.
- C. School board stated only district employees can be on interview teams. Preference will be given to SEAG members (employees). There will be community forum input in positions of principal or above.
- D. Special Services Director position posted until 6/16/08.

**Requests:** Chair Collins called for a volunteer to take the minutes. Mr. Auton, Assistant Principal, Eatonville Middle School volunteered. Chair Collins thanked Ms. Mainard for taking the minutes from the last meeting.

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion to approve the SEAG minutes from May 15, 2008 was made by Mrs. Betschart and seconded by Mrs. Sharpe. The minutes were approved.

**Public Comments:** There were no public comments.

**Presentations:** Ms. Renate Bertoia: Ms. Bertoia, SEAG community member representative gave a presentation with handouts on past experiences in Transition Services from Tacoma School District.

Mrs. Janet Gonzalez: Mrs. Gonzalez, Washington State SEAC representative gave a presentation on Transition Services Programs for 18 – 21 year olds and “Special education students are first general education students.”

Worksite Learning Manual: Ms. Karlene Hayward passed out copies of the latest Washington State Worksite Learning Manual and highlighted the importance of the information on page 26 “Strategies for students in Special Education populations.”

**Reports:** Mrs. Tina Schmidt: Mrs. Schmidt gave a report on Survey Report – Other WA state school districts of similar size as ESD. Have received seven responses, would like to add Eatonville’s to the results. Mrs. Schmidt will coordinate with Dr. Henderson.

Mrs. Schmidt also gave a report on the Transition Task Force in regards to meeting her, Ms. Bertoia, Ms. McKinney and Mrs. Sharpe had with Mr. Jacobson and Dr. Henderson. A report was handed out. A call was made for volunteers to

join the Transition Task Force and Ms. Karlene Hayward volunteered.

Mrs. Schmidt gave a report on the community events task force. A call was made for volunteers for the Events Task Force and no new members volunteered.

The interview task force information was covered in announcement and at last meeting.

Mrs. Sally Betschart: Mrs. Betschart gave a report on the secondary special education task force. She went over the various programs at the middle school with clarification from Mr. Ken Andersen, EMS Principal. Discussion ensued. Mrs. Betschart would like better clarification on programs and more input. Chair Collins and Mrs. Betschart expressed concern regarding behavior students in classes with high needs students. A call was made for volunteers for the Secondary Special Education Task Force and Mr. John Trent and Ms. April McKinney volunteered.

**New business:**

SEAG Recommendation to ESD School Board – June 12, 2008: A motion was made and seconded to submit the following recommendation to the ESD School Board: “ESD SEAG would like to commend ESD for recognizing the need to place a Dean of Students at Columbia Crest Elementary School to accommodate the increasing student enrollment at CC. The SEAG would like to recommend that the plan, as initiated to relieve the ESD Special Education Director of other administrative duties, including principal of CC, continue forward within the next two school years. We believe the needs of district special education students require the full attention of a 1.0 FTE administrator. Also, the commute time between Ashford and Eatonville draws away from the valuable resources of a specialized administrator from already scarce resources.”

After discussion the motion was voted on and passed with a vote of 6 to 5. Chair Collins mentioned that School Board President Tim Patterson requests that for votes on major issues that a “dissenting opinion” be submitted to the school board. Mr. John Trent of the dissenting group volunteered to facilitate the pulling together of the dissenting opinion. Chair Collins asked for the names of those personnel who voted with the dissenting opinion and they are: Mr. Trent, Mrs. Bacher, Ms. Mainard, Mrs. Bertoia, and Mrs. Arthur.

**Unfinished business:**

Chair Collins amended the agenda to not conduct break out sessions for: 1. defining what “Special education students are first general education students “means for ESD students and 2. Qualifications/attributes for ESD Special Education Director.

**Future SEAG  
Agenda Items:**

Definition of Inclusion: It was decided to move the topic of “the definition of inclusion” to the September 2008 SEAG Agenda.

District Calendar: A discussion was initiated to submit SEAG Meeting dates to ESD for inclusion on the ESD Calendar. It was decided that SEAG Meeting dates would be on the first Thursday of every month unless that date falls on a holiday or break. Meeting times would alternate between 6:00 and 4:00 PM with the next meeting in September starting at 6:00 PM.

Recognition of Mr. Jacobson: Mrs. Shannon Powell commended Mr. Jacobson for his leadership as the ESD Special Education Director.

Next meeting at 6:00 PM on September 4, 2008 at EES.

**Adjournment:**

Chair Collins adjourned the meeting at 6:33 PM.