

The mission of the Utah Paraprofessional Consortium is to promote training and support for paraprofessionals leading to improved outcomes for children, youth and families.

**Paraprofessional Consortium
January 6th, 2005
Utah State Office of Education
Minutes**

Attendance

Jan Pace, Connie Nink, Beth Rodriguez, Deanna Avis, Bruce Schroeder, Marilyn Likins, Mary Baldwin, Michelle Friz, Diana Fillmore, Pat Fender Tim Riesen and Kreig Kelly

Welcome

Peggy Dooling-Baker was excused from today's meeting. Jan Pace welcomed everyone and highlighted topics that will be discussed.

Future Meeting Dates

February 8, 2005 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. using EDNET at the USOE

March 16 from 2:00-4:00 p.m. at the Jones Center

May 4th from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. at DATC

Update on IDEA 2004 – Marilyn Likins & Pat Fender

Marilyn stated that the Senate version of IDEA that pertains to paraeducators was adopted for the reauthorized IDEA legislation. It reflects that need for appropriate training and supervision tied to state standards. There also appears to be a section referring back to "No Child

Left Behind” concerning criteria for “highly qualified” but Marilyn and Pat will talk and bring information back to the February meeting.

Marilyn highlighted PARABILITY: The CEC Paraeducator Standards Workbook. It is available to the Paraed. Consortium members upon request.

Updates of Training Programs

DATC Training Program for Paraeducators - Michele Friz, DATC, reported that the DATC sent a proposal to the Utah State Board asking that a certificate of completion be recognized for their paraeducator program and the board approved it as another option for paraeducators to demonstrate “highly qualified” status. Davis District supports the program but wants it to be an option. It can be implemented at any of the ATCs around the state. Uintah Basin, Ogden/Weber are some of the sites. There are a total of 9 around the state. The next step is to build an articulation agreement with the colleges.

SLCC Classes - Beth Rodriguez stated that she has met with Marilyn and Linda Alsop and some additional SLCC personnel to help with the revision of paraeducator classes to be offered at SLCC.

Update on Para Conference – April 28-30, 2005 – Marilyn Likins

Marilyn stated that many proposals have been received, both nationally and locally. The schedule will be finalized and sent up to Joel to be put on the websites. Anyone interested in information concerning the conference go to: www.nrcpara.org or www.utahpara.org

PARAgraph Update – Deanna Avis

Deanna disseminated the latest issue of The PARAgraph. Carol Harrington will be working to secure funding for next issues. She is preparing a letter to go out to Title 1 directors. Hopefully they will contribute toward the publication.