

Paraprofessional Consortium
Utah State Office of Education
February 8, 2005
Meeting Minutes

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

We want to thank Gail Johnson for making arrangements for us to use the EDNET system for the February meeting! It worked very well. We are looking forward to trying the Polycom system this month!

Next meeting date: May 4, 2005, Davis Applied Technology Center, 10:00-12:00.

Para educator training updates:

SLCC- Beth Rodriguez discussed a program comparison between the old classes and the new classes. The comparison is attached. In looking at what they have compared to the state standards they determined they need a class on collaboration and one on critical health care. They are currently thinking of offering four of the classes online.

DATC- Michelle Friz reports student numbers are increasing, an articulation agreement with SLCC is being discussed.

IOTI- Marilyn Likins ...

FIPSSSE- Linda Alsop- the grant is to develop 3 semesters of coursework for paraprofessional in the field of deaf/blindness. They are currently working with SLCC and other colleges in Texas (early childhood education) and Arkansas (interpreter training) to develop specialized coursework that can be used by a variety of institutions. As they are developing the training curriculum they are taking into account state standards. Articulation agreements will be another key component for their students.

USU-Bob Morgan- para courses this semester are on hold but they are continuing to develop activities. Ronda wants a coordinator for the Paraeducator program to assist in curriculum development, identify, develop and keep in touch with site coordinators.

USEA-Brian Sprague has a resource for paraprofessionals interested in taking the ParaPro Assessment; How To Prepare for the ParaPro Assessment. USEA is partnering with NEA. They created the study guide. Ets.org also has sample questions for paras to preview.

Gail Johnson has been funded for new portfolio training. She would like to set it up ASAP. The scores on the Parapro have been coming in to the state office and are being put on the CATUS system.

National Paraeducator Conference is April 28-30 in Salt Lake City at the Little American Hotel so we will not meet as a consortium until May 4, 2005.