

Paraprofessional Consortium

Meeting Notes

June 6, 2002

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

Next Meeting Date:

August 12, 2002	10:00-12:00	Ogden City Schools Professional Development Bldg. Conference Room B
September 18, 2002	10:30-12:30	Utah State University Logan
October 24, 2002	10:00-12:00	Larry H. Miller Center Salt Lake Community College

Highlights and Happenings:

We welcomed two new members this month, Richard Hyland, Title 1, Granite District and Anna Lee Hansen, Coordinator, Davis District!

Bob Morgan and Project Impact staff have successfully completed training sessions to four national sites using their delivery system. Anna Lou's session in May was broadcast to Box Elder County S.D. in Brigham, Preston Idaho, Warrior Run, Pennsylvania, and Wilmington DE. They are gearing up to teach courses for paraeducators and teams of teachers and paraeducators starting Sept. 5, 2002, at the above mentioned sites.

Deanna Avis reported that the project has distributed 142 packages of our new paraeducator training program to districts in the U.S. This summer we will be writing a grant to make the Enhancing Skills of Paraeducators program available as an internet course with instructional support from USU.

John shared a Para training offered by Salt Lake Community College is on the Internet for Utah residents.

Jill Morgan reported the Provo "Student to Paraeducator program" went well. The students accrued 2200 hours of teaching. They are currently training the kids who will be paraeducators in the summer migrant program.

The State Office plans to use the CACTUS System as a paraeducator data base to monitor a variety of items, e.g., training certifications. We should be able to access the database for mailing labels as well.

The theme for this year's Special Educator is Recruitment and Retention. The November issue will focus on *Valuing Paraeducators*. If you are interested in submitting an article the due date is September 27, 2002. Articles should be sent to Cherylh@ulrc.org.

Discussion:

ESEA- The Title I Paraprofessional Surveys are still coming in from the districts. There is not enough information to share at this time. Title 1 will report the results at the next meeting and discuss the development of the assessment instrument to help paraeducators and districts meet the criteria established in ESEA.

Richard Hyland- Some of the issues we face related to ESEA are that people with degrees do not want to work for classified wages, of the 300 paras in Granite approx 90 % will need to take the test.

We need to contact Brian Sprague and Sherlyn Cano to coordinate efforts. The USEA has contacted Salt Lake Community College to contract trainings. The ATC Center is responding to USEA's request.

The State Office has to submit a consolidated plan by June 12, 2002 identifying how they will support training and implementation of the plan within the district.

Bruce, Richard, John and Marilyn will talk to USEA staff and Kreig to get the current thinking on the rigorous assessment.