

Paraprofessional Consortium Meeting Minutes  
State Office of Education  
August 12, 2005  
10:00-12:00

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

The meeting was held at the Utah State Office of Education.

The agenda was reviewed and future dates were set for meetings and locations.

Attendance: Gail Johnson, Bruce Schroeder, Marilyn Likins, Shawna Baird (AFT), Diana Fillmore, Margo Thurman, Bob Morgan, Rebeca Rich, Beth Olsen, Linda Alsip, Sharon Grey, Michelle Friz, Dianna Avis, Joyce Humzeker, Penny Ford, and Peggy Dooling-Baker

Training program updates included:

Michelle Friz at DATC:

- student enrollment is going up,
- an advisory committee is in place
- a two month tuition waver helped bring people into the program
- quite a few students want to go onto Salt Lake Community College

Salt Lake Community College is taking the entire program and awarding credit in pre-teaching.

Beth Olsen; Salt Lake Community College;

- On-line course starting in the fall
- Curriculum committee is meeting regarding critical health care issues and collaboration coursework
- SLCC is using a results matrix with links to course syllabi. It can be used by instructors. Beth will give us more information soon.

Bob Morgan; Utah State Para Training and Associates Program:

- courses are developed

- at this time, no further development
- there is a need for a director and funding before it can proceed

There was a discussion about a Department of Defense RFP that was out this summer for Para training program which had a tight turn around time. Linda Alsop discussed the RFP and determined there were too many encumbrances, including copyright issues, which went beyond what the group wanted to do. The consortium members should watch for upcoming RFP's and share information.

Linda Alsop; Consortium for National Paraprofessional Training in Deaf and Blindness:

- Collaborating with people in Arkansas, Texas and Massachusetts,
- Working on the systems design courses set to start in the summer of 2006
- Course 1 is an introduction to Deaf Blindness
- Course 2 is related to communication systems, and behaviors
- Course 3 includes issues related to health, motor, mobility, life skills and roles and responsibilities of an intervener online courses that are interactive, visual, multimedia, guest lecturers, accessible to everyone, college credit available upon completion of 3 courses,
- Blends into the paraprofessional elective hour.

Each program will give an update to share with the Consortium members, post on the web site and include in the next edition of the PARAGraph.

State Conference:

November 18-19 at the Little America Hotel

The theme this year is "One For All - All For One"

Call for Presenters has been sent -Please get them into Marilyn

Gail Johnson; Review the Board Minutes

As it reads and as it is understood the paraprofessional standards are board approved.

A next step is to pull the standards committee back together and check alignment with the national standards and present to the Law and Legislative Committee in November. Marilyn will pull together the Standards Committee

Gail reports that approximately 80% of the state paras are on Cactus as highly qualified.

***Meeting Dates for the 2005-06 school year.***

September 29, 2005, 1:00-3:00, at Davis Applied Technology College

October 28, 2005, 10:00-12:00, at UPDC

November 30, 2005 1:00-3:00 at Utah State Office of Education

December, no meeting scheduled

January 19, 2006, 1:00-3:00 at Salt Lake Community College

February Gail is checking on using the EdNet System, date to be announced

March 24, 2006, 1:00-3:00 Jones Center

April, no meeting scheduled

May 4, 2006, 10:00-12:00 at Davis Applied Technology Center

***Please note if you cannot make the meeting due to distance, please plan on participating in February via Ed Net. We will have the date soon!***