

School Paraprofessional Advisory Council Meeting Notes
Tuesday, May 13, 2014
SERC Library Community Room, Middletown

In Attendance: Nick Gelbar and Christine Sullivan from UCEDD; Regina Birdsell, CAS; Heather Dawes, SERC; Bill Walkauskas, CSEA; Donna Morelli, CREC; Annie MacDonald, UE; Marcia Cattanach, AFT Connecticut; Iris White, CSDE

Paraeducator Needs Assessment: UCEDD distributed the preliminary results of the Needs Assessment that was conducted earlier this school year. They are going to post a more in-depth data report on their website: uconnucedd.org. There is a need to dig down deeper to look at the competencies and get a better understanding of where is a true need.

NRCP Conference: Marilyn Likins from NRCP forwarded two documents, a save the date and a call for papers. CSDE graphic designer created the attached draft save the date flyer. We need to make sure that the suggested topics match the results of the needs assessment.

Legislation: FMLA finally made it through the regulations process and is now effective.

There will be a vote on Thursday to authorize the Program Review and Investigations Committee to conduct a study of paraeducator staffing levels. This committee would work with the Advisory Council and submit its report next year. We will also make them aware of the needs assessment and connect them with UCEDD.

Anne Marie Paraeducator of the Year Award: The application deadline is fast approaching (Friday, June 6th) need to get out the word to remind folks. Iris will send out a reminder to the district contacts.

The Awards Ceremony will take place on November 6th from 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza. SERC is already getting calls to make sure that the ceremony is still happening eventhough the fall conference will not be held. SERC will work on a save the date flyer.

Group Vision and Mission Statement:

Vision: Educational Support Equity, Collaboration, COMMITMENT

Mission: Gather resources, examine data, investigate and study issues, provide guidance and professional learning opportunities, and maximize results using current, relevant tools and strategies.

Ideas for how to use the vision and mission statement: include in Legislative Reports, post on webpage, and include on the top of each monthly district contact for paraeducators newsletter.

SERC Update: SERC plans to offer the learning seminar session again next school year. These sessions will focus on SRBI and Math.

The SERC 7 Day Administrative Series will include a session on the effective supervision of paraeducators.

CREC Update: They are finalizing the certification webpage for COMPASS trainers. It should be ready in two weeks. CREC is working on scheduling a meeting with SERC, CSDE, and UCEDD to begin work on the paraeducator webpage.

Monroe and Norwalk districts are interested in certification for the advanced COMPASS modules.