

TASK FORCE ON BLIND STUDENT ACADEMIC AND VOCATIONAL PERFORMANCE BLIND TASK FORCE (BTF)

Minutes
Regular Meeting of Committee Representatives
November 12, 2013

A regular meeting of the committee representatives of the Task Force on Blind Student Academic and Vocational Performance Blind Task Force (BTF) was called to order at the Howerton State Office Building, 615 Howerton Ct., Jefferson City, Missouri at 10 a.m. pursuant to the notice sent to all directors in accordance with the bylaws. For information on the BTF, visit <http://dese.mo.gov/se/btf/>.

The following committee representatives were present:

- Patricia Schonlau, 2013 Chair Person, Consumer Organization: Missouri Council of the Blind Representative
- Dacia Luck, Consumer Organization: National Federation of the Blind Representative
- Dr. Stephen Barr, Asst. Commissioner, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Representative
- Keith Roderick, 2013 Vice-Chair, Department of Social Services (DSS) Representative
- Deana M. Griffin, Employer Representative
- Doreen Frappier, Parent Representative
- Linda Coccovizzo, Parent Representative
- Carrie Ragsdale, Parent Representative
- Kelly L. Helmick, Public School Building Principal Representative
- Diana Lawson, Public School Building Principal Representative
- Donna Borgmeyer, Rehabilitation Council for the Blind Representative
- Devon Sgroi, Student Representative

The following committee representatives were absent:

- David C. Ekin, Employer Representative
- Ian Shadrick, Institution of Higher Education Representative
- Patty Yocum, Missouri School for the Blind Representative
- Julie Brown, 2013 Secretary, Public School Special Education Administrator Representative
- Lori Moore, Public School Special Education Administrator Representative
- Diane E. Stockman, Teacher of Visually Impaired Representative
- Louise Whitworth, Teacher of the Visually Impaired Representative

Guests: Jennie Mascheck and Annette Miller, Missouri School for the Blind, Outreach Services, Aundrayah Shermer, Blindness Skills Specialist, Missouri State University, Anthony Blades, Blind Skills Specialist, Northeast Regional Professional Center, Truman State University, Julie Anderson-Ituarte, MSU Blindness Skills Specialist, Corey McMahon

Copies of handouts used during presentations can be found at

http://dese.mo.gov/se/btf/BlindTaskForceMeeting_11_12_13.html

Patti Schonlau, Chairman, presided and Regina Miller, Administrative Assistant, Office of Special Education, recorded the proceedings of the meeting.

Welcome and Introductions: Patti Schonlau

1. **Roll Call of BTF Members:** Regina Miller
2. **Review and Approval of November 12, 2013 BTF Agenda:** Patti Schonlau
Upon motion duly made and seconded, the agenda for today's meeting was approved.

3. **Review and Approval of August 6, 2013 Minutes:** Patti Schonlau
Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes for the August 8, 2013 meeting were approved.
4. **Introduction of Guests/Visitors and Public Comments:** Patti Schonlau
5. **Blindness Skills Specialists Presentation:**
Aundrayah Shermer, Blindness Skills Specialist Southwest Regional Professional Development Center, Missouri State University, Anthony Blades, Blind Skills Specialist, Northeast Regional Professional Center, Truman State University; Julie Anderson-Ituarte, MSU Blindness Skills Specialist, Jennie Mascheck and Angie Miller, Missouri School for the Blind Outreach Services
Presented an overview on how BSS interacts with their regions and the districts on a daily basis. Handouts from these presentations can be found at http://dese.mo.gov/se/btf/BlindTaskForceMeeting_11_12_13.html

6. **DESE Update: Stephen Barr**

Handouts can be found at http://dese.mo.gov/se/btf/BlindTaskForceMeeting_11_12_13.html

- State Plans Part B and Part C – Completing public comments to changes. Final changes to be taken to State Board of Education at December meeting.
- Usability, Accessibility and Accommodations Guidelines
 - Available – Fixed Braille version, fixed large print, or use Braille printer if desiring the computer adapted.
 - Student's own assistive technology can be used for speech-to-text when allowed.
 - ELA grades 3-5 disallow text-to-speech – if used, would institute LOSS (Lowest Obtainable Scale Score) for that student.
 - Blind student in grades 3-5 without adequate Braille skills for ELA test – our current thought is that we will permit teachers to read or use assistive technology.
- Results-Driven Accountability: Balance student outcomes with compliance; replace indicator activities with comprehensive State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP).
 - Phase I (due 2/1/2015 SPP/APR): data analysis; identification of the focus for improvement; infrastructure to support and build capacity; and Theory of Action
- Collaborative Work – Provide Mo-SPDG piece as part of the implementation of the Theory of Action
- Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM)
 - Provided the field test planning details which provide three (3) assessment opportunities
 - Good opportunity for schools to test equipment, become familiar with the testing protocols and better understand the ability of students to interact with computer adapted assessments.
 - The field test will be available for all MAP-A assigned students but are not mandatory.

7. **Standing Committee Updates: Patti Schonlau**

For current Membership and Committee listings go to: <http://dese.mo.gov/se/btf/>.

- **Student Achievement: Julie Brown, Chairperson**
Members: Doreen Frappier, Kelly Helmick, Stephen Barr, Patty Yocum, Mike Charland, Ian Shadrack, Louise Whitworth, Julie Salih, Doreen Frappier
Charge: To evaluate, determine, and report the degree of academic success of blind and/or visually impaired students in Missouri public schools.

Chair Person was not present - nothing to report at this time.

- **Academic and Vocational Services: Patty Yocum, Chairperson**
Members: Julie Brown, David Ekin, Keith Roderick, Mike Charland, David Wilson, Ian Shadrack

Charge: To address transition services, development and educational needs (birth through high school) to assist students and their families in setting goals and implementing strategies through the life continuum, commensurate with the student's aptitudes, interests and abilities.

Chair Person was not present - nothing to report at this time.

- **Rules: Diana Lawson, Chairperson**

Members: Julie Brown, Patti Schonlau, Mike Charland, Louise Whitworth, Diane Stockman, Doreen Frappier

Charge: To work at the discretion of the Blind Task Force (BTF) Chair to investigate and define rules and policies of the Blind Task Force.

Nothing to report at this time.

- **Children's Vision Summit: Patti Schonlau, Chairperson**

Members: Donna Borgmeyer, Kelly Helmick, Keith Roderick, Patti Schonlau, Ian Shadrick, Deana Griffin

Charge: Plan and conduct the Children's Vision Summit

Nothing to report at this time.

8. **Membership Updates/Vacancies:**

- Current vacancies:
 - Effective immediately, Patti Schonlau stated her intent to resign as representative for the Missouri Council of the Blind. She noted that she has someone in mind to replace her before the next meeting and asked Regina to send her the nomination form to pass on to the nominee.
 - Per an email dated Thursday, October 31, 2013, Mike Charland, Orientation & Mobility Specialist Representative, has resigned.
 - Two (2) vacancies remain for Student Representative.
 - Regina reported that there will be at least two (2) vacancies that will come available in 2014 as a result of members finishing their second term with BTF.
- Introduction of two (2) new members: Carrie Ragsdale, Linda Coccovizzo
- The nomination form can be found at <http://www.dese.mo.gov/se/btf/documents/se-ep-btfnomform.pdf>

9. **2014 Nominations/Election of Officers**

- 2014 Chair Person, Nomination – Diana Lawson
Upon motion duly made and seconded, Diana Lawson approved and elected.
- 2014 Vice Chair, Nomination – Keith Roderick
Upon motion duly made and seconded, Keith Roderick approved and elected.
- 2014 Secretary, Nomination – Dacia Luck
Upon motion duly made and seconded, Keith Roderick approved and elected.

10. **2014 Meeting Dates/Location/Catering**

- Meeting Dates
 - February 11, 2014
 - May 13, 2014
 - August 5, 2014
 - November 4, 2014
- Location: Howerton State Office Building, 615 Howerton Court, Jefferson City, MO 65109
- Caterer: McAlister's Deli

11. Current Workshops/Events in the State 2013-2014

November 14	Tech It Up A Notch, MSB Contact: Joy Waddell, 314-776-4320, ext 1140 or joyce.waddell@msb.dese.mo.gov
November 19	Activity Based Programming with MSSD Contact: Anthony Blades, 660-785-7428 or ablades@truman.edu
November 20-22	VIISA Course I, Session I: Early Intervention for Infants and Toddlers with Vision Impairment and Their Families, Chesterfield Contact: Jennie Mascheck, 314-776-4320, ext. 1250 or jennie.mascheck@msb.dese.mo.gov
November 20-22	Session I: Hand In Hand: Understanding Deafblindness for Education Teams of Students Who Are Deafblind-Lee's Summit R-VII School District, Lee's Summit Contact: Susan Bonner, 314-776-4320, ext. 3255 or susan.bonner@msb.dese.mo.gov
December 4	KC Area VI Professional Group presentation on iPad2 from 1:30-3:30 Contact: Julie Ituarte, 417-836-5490 or jituarte@missouristate.edu or Aundrayah Shermer, 417 836-8872 or ashermer@missouristate.edu
December 6	Introduction to Cortical Visual Impairment with MSSD Contact: Anthony Blades, 660-785-7428 or ablades@truman.edu
January 2014	Programming for Students with Severe Differences (Details TBA) Contact: Anthony Blades, 660-785-7428 or ablades@truman.edu
January 14-15	Session II: Hand In Hand: Understanding Deafblindness for Education Teams of Students Who Are Deafblind-Lee's Summit R-VII School District, Lee's Summit Contact: Susan Bonner, 314-776-4320, ext. 3255 or susan.bonner@msb.dese.mo.gov
February	Introduction to Braille (Details TBA) Contact: Anthony Blades, 660-785-7428 or ablades@truman.edu
February 27	Braille Challenge at MSB (also MSB's 163rd Birthday) Contact: Joy Waddell, 314-776-4320, ext 1140 or joyce.waddell@msb.dese.mo.gov
March	Expanded Core Curriculum (Details TBA) Contact: Anthony Blades, 660-785-7428 or ablades@truman.edu
March 1 (March 8, snow date)	SW Regional Braille Challenge Contact: Julie Ituarte, 417-836-5490 or jituarte@missouristate.edu or Aundrayah Shermer, 417 836-8872 or ashermer@missouristate.edu
March 12-14	VIISA Course I, Session II: Early Intervention for Infants and Toddlers with Vision Impairment and Their Families, Chesterfield Contact: Jennie Mascheck, 314-776-4320, ext. 1250 or jennie.mascheck@msb.dese.mo.gov
April 1 & 2	Session III: Hand In Hand: Understanding Deafblindness for Education Teams of Students Who Are Deafblind- Lee's Summit R-VII School District, Lee's Summit Contact: Susan Bonner, 314-776-4320, ext. 3255 or susan.bonner@msb.dese.mo.gov

12. **Agenda for next scheduled meeting on February 11, 2014.** Nothing discussed at this time.
There being no further business, on motion duly made and seconded, meeting was adjourned at
2:00 p.m.