

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

Minutes
Regular Meeting of Committee Representatives
August 12, 2014

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., Room 202, Jefferson City, Missouri at 11:10 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/special-education/advisory-panels>.

Members in Attendance:

Dr. Stephen Barr	Dacia Luck Cole
Donna Borgmeyer	Devon Sgroi
Kelly Helmick	Diane Stockman
Diana Lawson	Louise Whitworth
Linda Coccovizzo	Reeda Rippee
Geoffrey Barney	

Members Not in Attendance:

June Lenk
Deana M. Griffin
Lori Moore
Doreen Frappier
Keith Roderick

Comments from the public: No public comments.

Call to Order/Introductions – Diana Lawson called the meeting to order at 11:10 a.m. Roll call was taken by Dacia Luck Cole. Diana Lawson introduced Mr. Geoffrey Barney, recently appointed Superintendent for the Missouri School for the Blind.

Copies of handouts and presentations for this meeting are available at:
<http://dese.mo.gov/special-education/advisory-panels/blind-task-force/btf-meeting-agendas-handouts>

Approval of Agenda – Linda Coccovizzo made a motion to approve today's meeting agenda. Louise Whitworth seconded the motion. Agenda was approved.

Approval of Minutes – Louise Whitworth made a motion to approve the minutes from last meeting with the following change: Louise is misspelled under "Members in Attendance". Reeda Rippee seconded the motion. Minutes were approved with changes.

Governor's Council on Disabilities Portal/Website

Linda Baker with the Governor's Council on Disabilities presented an overview of the current portal/website. Members were asked to email Linda.Baker@oa.mo.gov with questions/comments related to the website. To view the website, go to: <http://disability.mo.gov/gcd/>. Diana Lawson asked members to review the Disabilities website to make sure agencies in their areas were listed and if not to notify Linda and report back at next meeting.

BTF Member Updates/Comments:

Diana Lawson reviewed and led a discussion with members regarding current vacancies and the need for qualified candidates. A vacancy map and list were provided to all members and can be viewed at <http://dese.mo.gov/special-education/advisory-panels/blind-task-force/btf-meeting-agendas-handouts>.

RSB Secondary and Post Secondary Success – Diana Lawson presented a report to members provided by Keith Roderick, Policy Development Coordinator, Missouri Rehabilitation Services for the Blind.

DESE Update – Stephen Barr presented information/updates on the following topics:

- Recent budget withholding for Blind Skills Specialists
- Personnel Changes
- State Determinations
- IDEA Funding
- SSIP (State Systemic Improvement Plan)
- Missouri Collaborative Work document - Copies were provided to panel members for their review. Additional information about Collaborative Work can be found at <http://dese.mo.gov/special-education/effective-practices/collaborative-work>
- IEP Facilitation
- Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM)

Committee and Standing Committees

- **Academic and Vocational Services – Louise Whitworth, Chairperson**
 - Needing certified personnel to volunteer to review the Mega Test with the Pearson Group and DESE during a meeting scheduled for September 9-10, 2014.
- **Children’s Vision Summit: Keith Roderick, Chairperson**
 - Diana Lawson, in the absence of chairperson, opened the floor for additional discussion. Geoffrey Barney, newly appointed Superintendent, Missouri School for the Blind was appointed to this sub-committee. It was recommended that the upcoming summit focus on more parent-oriented areas. Issues of location, accommodation, scheduling and topics were discussed. Donna Borgmeyer has volunteered to once again oversee vendors for the summit. Diana Lawson asked that members go online and review minutes from previous summit planning discussions. This information can be found at: <http://dese.mo.gov/special-education/advisory-panels/blind-task-force/btf-meeting-agendas-handouts> (See minutes dated February 12, 2013 and April 23, 2013)
- **Rules: Linda Coccovizzo, Chairperson**

Nothing to report
- **Student Achievement: Dacia Luck Cole, Chairperson**
 - Dr. Barr to send D. Luck Cole reports to follow-up on post-secondary outcomes in September.

Blind Task Force Website: Regina Miller reviewed website with members asking that they submit suggestions using the “feedback” link located at the top of the homepage at <http://dese.mo.gov/special-education/advisory-panels/blind-task-force/btf-meeting-agendas-handouts>. Linda Coccovizzo requested that when posting agenda and minutes to the web that a word doc also be included. Dacia Luck Cole asked that we consider adding a “Resource Links” section to the Blind Task Force home page.

New Business for next scheduled meeting on November 4, 2014 at the Howerton State Office Building, 615 Howerton Court, Jefferson City, MO, Room 202:

- Children's Vision Summit
- Vacancies
- NSB Presentation – Braille Literacy and Kids National Reading Media Assessment
Dacia Luck Cole will email link to the assessment to all members.

Adjournment – Diana Stockman made a motion to adjourn. Louis Whitworth seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 2:04 p.m.