NC-APE-AC February Meeting Minutes

**Date:** February 13, 2015

**Location:** Haynes-Inman, Jamestown, NC

**Attendees:** Kaky McPeak, Barbara Meleney, Vicki Simmons, Stan Rogers, Jolanda Hengstman, Bob Beaudet, Teresa Hudson, Ann Hughes, Lara Brickhouse, Laurie Ray, Burt Jenkins

(Tim McMillan-Sick and Bill Elvey unable to attend)

**Official Meeting** **Start Time:** 9:47

* **Introductions** were made as it was **Teresa** Hudson first meeting and **Burt** Jenkins joined us as a guest to discuss ASW.
* **Kaky**-overview of the today’s meeting **Agenda**
* **Jolanda** provided a **Review** of last **Meeting Minutes**
* **Burt**-**ASW update**. No ASW for APE this year- how the program is set up works makes it impossible for the APE programs at this time.

Burt asked “How to begin the process of establishing where we are (physically) and what (exactly) do we do?”

**Lara** said the IEP process dictates that and shows student growth.

**Laurie** shared that the PTs/OTs use an evaluation instrument called Goal Attainment Scaling (GAS) into account their unique responsibilities. More information about it can be found on line.

**Laurie** suggested we include all itinerant teachers in this process. (VI/HI/O&M homebound and hospital school teachers) The HI, VI, O&M folks would like to work with us on a work assessment for itinerant teachers.

**Sherri Vernelson**, DPI’s Section Chief, Sensory Support & Assistive Technology (SSAT), 919-807-3982.

**Kaky** listed situations/reasons that make this process difficult for APE Specialists.

**Jolanda** was concerned that the APE Instructional Support folks would be graded on students that they were not directly responsible for and suggested that those APE Specialist pick their our own classes/students that they are directly responsible for and they could most definitely show growth. We all felt strongly about only being held to standards with groups that we are responsible for directly teaching.

**Burt** asked if we needed a mandate or recommendations from the state? He is willing to support our recommendations and understood our need for any decision made to come down from DPI. He asked: What would our assessment look like? Would it be standard across the board or would each of ours’ look different? We all wondered if we should create a list of options?

**Kaky** inquired about how inclusion teachers get evaluated? This was out of Burt’s jurisdiction.

**Burt** reminded us all that Standard 6 is 1/6 of the evaluation. Standards 1-5 are what our principals see and that is the majority of our evaluation.

**Lauire** reiterated that we are not going to be assessed on our assessment skills, but as an employee. She stated that we may just want to accept a pass.

**Jolanda** inquired about assessors asking if they would be biased trained and stressed, if not, that was a real problem.

**Burt** said the plan is to train other Physical Educators to assess Standard 6 for PE. And said it was a “Definite Maybe” that those folks will be paid to assess.

**Barbara** shared that the GPE teachers in Durham had numerous issues with the fairness and validity of the program. She stated that since there are so many parts of the process to still be worked out for the GPE teachers that maybe we should take the pass and wait to see how it goes.

* **Burt** touched on the **Revised HAC Policy**. Principals will have to report how much time was spent in PE. The recommendation is a combination of physical activity/education, energizers, etc. for at least 150 minutes a week. (must be at least in 10 min blocks) This will be the first year DPI is having Principals sign off on a “testament form’ which will at least show that Principal’s are aware of the policy. The revisions are trying to include checks and balances, and DPI is getting a lot of push back which is evidence that people are getting the message.
* **Burt** will send Laurie the State Board Policy on recess and the link to HACP

Healthful Living Wiki

\*Side note 1: DPI has challenged the GPE teachers to use energizers during their school or LEA beginning of the year Principal meetings to demonstrate how effective it is to use movement breaks in the classroom.

**Lara** will post links to Energizer and Brain Break resources on NC-APE-AC website.

\*Side note 2: Laurie will present on Movement Based instruction-incorporating movement in your class to support instruction.

* Do we want an **APE Course Code**? Laurie said “be careful what you ask for!” and Burt agreed. We should think of ourselves as another curricular area. Laurie is advocating that we **DO NOT** get a course code.

**Burt** wanted to know- What is our major concern about not being part of the ASW process?

**Laurie** suggested we get a work group together with other itinerant teaches to take the teacher standards and draft what it would look like for us. Come up with a framework. Group would need to get together a couple times.

**Jolanda** shared copies of the standards that they had reworked to reflect the unique job (APE Instructional Support) that they do in Charlotte/Meck.

* Discussion ensued about how each of us was evaluated currently and in the past? **Kaky** asked **Lara** if she would be willing to represent the NC-APE-AC for the “Standards” work group. She agreed and **Jolanda** gave good advice about keeping it simple and aligned. (keep cutting!).

**Lara** and **Stan** agreed to do it. **Ann** also volunteered to help.

**Laurie** will recruit from other Specialist areas.

11:03 Break

11:15 Meeting Continued

* APE is not currently on DEC 2 so **Laurie** is advocating for APE to be one of the choices on the DEC 2. The council agreed we would like to see the term “Physical Education” on the DEC 2.

And if an option is necessary then we would be OK with using the 4 strands from the Standards. 1. Motor Skills 2. Fitness 3. Personal and Social Responsibilities and 4. Movement Concepts.

* **Laurie** pushed for the APE question to come off Special Factors page of the DEC 4. And instead advocated that APE be added to the “Area of Concerns/Need drop down box “.
* **Laurie** is also advocating for making PE part of the Monitoring process. She felt that all of our work to educate everyone about APE, now 2 yrs out, DPI will make it part of the compliance process. We will have to describe the specialized instruction.
* **Jolanda**-had a question about assessment. Charlotte APEs are called in for paperwork at age 7 to determine area of eligibility for students who have already been receiving APE services. It was suggested that we be proactive, providing data before the meeting to show if additional data is needed to continue eligibility.
* **Workload/caseloads:** What do we want Laurie to advocate for?

**Stan** had researched this topic on-line and found it was up to the LEA supervisors (e.g. EC Director) to determine as there are currently no state or federal mandates.

**Vicki** suggested using our IEP service delivery times to determine if we can manage our caseload numbers and that we may want to consider tweaking the formula that was created by Lauren, DPI OT for the NC PTs and OTs.

**Kaky** stated that Tim Davis suggested APE Specialists stay away from following PT’s as it blurs the lines between direct special educators (APE) and related service providers (OT/PT).

**Laurie** suggested we and other itinerant EC teachers do a time study to determine weekly hrs you serve students through direct instruction and/or consultation. Then look at other factors🡪 travel, set up, tear down, meeting, evaluations, etc. **Burt** suggested adding a narrative about when you run out of time in the day….to reflect what school related business you do during off hours.

**Lara** is willing to meet with the Itinerants’ group to start the discussion.

**Laurie** advised that we should ask as many people as we can to do a time study for us. **Laurie** said best case would be do time study for the month. Our input/suggestion must be data driven! Without data we can’t more forward.

**Lara** said there is a new APE professor at ECU who has to do research so maybe she can help. **Lara and Jolanda** thought creating an APP for time study data collection would be a great idea. Anyone?? Discussion continued on how long we would need to collect- 2 weeks or a month. Two weeks was agreed upon. How often--15 minutes or 30 minutes? No absolute decision was determined. **Lara** will send template for data collection and resources that will make the Time Study easier/more efficient.

* Presentation of Awards-Barbara
* Silent Nominations
* Break for Lunch 12:15
* Meeting Brought to Order 12:50
* Jolanda gave us the overview of our APE survey from NCAAHPERD-will resend. **Teresa** followed up with the folks from her area with an email thanking them for completing the survey at NCAAHPERD and provided them with her contact info and offered her help if they need it.

**Top areas of need** from the surve**y**:

1. Hire an APE Specialist

2. PD for behavior

3. PD for modifications for games, motor skill instruction, rules, lessons

4. PD on inclusion in GPE

* Webpage suggestion: Send **Lara** old video (videos/pictures-permission has already been granted) for the webpage. Send any and all other suggestions for the website to Lara – pictures, lessons, activities, articles, etc.
* Voted on New Officers for Leadership Team

Results:

Chair: **Jolanda Hengtsman**

Vice-Chair: **Barbara Meleney**

Secretary: **Lara Brickhouse**

* Criteria for AC Membership Team:

\*Minimum commitment-2yrs

\*Attend May meeting and NCAAHPERD

\*Licensed in PE

\*Experience in APE – do we need to identify how much?

\*Interested in Advancement of APE

**Barbara** will create a short application for the new recruits-and will send to council.

* Table Charter Schools, Behaviors, Itinerant Workgroup
* **Great Activities**

Deadlines: Next Deadlines April 1st, August 1st

* Upcoming Conferences

NCPEID Tyson’s Corner, VA

DPI Summer Institute 28-29 Greensboro

National PE Institute July 27-29 Asheville

NCAAHPERD-SM Oct. 29-31Winston Salem

* **Jolanda** has sent in a proposal for NCAAHPERD-State of APE in NC Forum
* **Barbara** will send in a proposal NPEI and NCAAHPERD for Assistive Technology and Inclusion in PE
* Miscellaneous ideas
  + Jolanda, with Amy’s assistance, will be presenting Physical Activities Made Possible at the NCCVIB .
  + Vicki will send out info on the free Deaf/Blind Seminar happening in Chapel Hill
  + Vicki told group about Medicaid cuts that are affecting children’s ability to learn. She is going to make connection with a legislature and encouraged us to do the same. Email: Insurance Commission-Wayne Godwin
  + Visit Vicki’s Gym Set Up for sharing several activities.
* Next meeting is Friday, May 1st.
* Meeting adjourned-2:30 pm