

**KAPS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING**

MARCH 20th, 2009

The meeting was called to order at **2:00 p.m.** by **President Kristen Kyriacou** by conference call at the Jefferson County Vanhoose Building. Introductions were made.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Those in attendance included: Kristen Kyriacou, Misty Lay, Stacie McCune, Diane Herrick, Courtney Bishop, Penny Mills, Connie Adams, Christina Mayfield, Dan Florell, Matt Buckman, Carl Myers, Laura Jackson, Corlia Logsdon, Michelle Antle, Jill Baird, Ken Epperson, Teri Nowak, Beth Edmonson, Melodie Slone, Lisa Knight, Megan Sayler, Catherine Hacker, and Roy Mays.

MINUTES:

The minutes of the October 1st, 2008 meeting as submitted by Stacie McCune were reviewed. Diane made the motion that the minutes be approved, with a second from Misty. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Diane reviewed the Treasurer's Report dated 3/20/09. Current Assets were listed as \$21,060.29. Major Income as \$20,586.31, Major Expenditures as \$28,625.12, and Fall Conference income \$39,180, Expenses \$32,535, Net gain/loss +6645. Misty made motion to approve the treasurer report with a second from Melodie Slone. Motion carried.

The proposed budget was reviewed. Changes in Membership, President-Elect, President, SPOTY stipend for NASP, and Public Policy Institute-NASP were reviewed (see attached report). Further clarification was provided regarding funding for the KAPS President (\$600) and President-Elect (\$400) attendance at the NASP conference. An allotment of \$200 was designated for the President to provide regional trainings and an allotment of \$700 was designated for the President-Elect to attend the NASP regional meeting. Stacie made motion to approve the proposed budget with a second from Misty. Motion carried.

REGIONAL REPORTS:

Western Kentucky: Randy Potts reported:

- 1) I have kept KAPS members up-to-date by forwarding emails about KAPS business and advocacy. This will continue.
- 2) Best Practices for region and state level have been forwarded to members in West KY.
- 3) Some KAPS members attended training on March 5, 2009 in Eddyville, KY. The title was "Use of Severe Discrepancy in Eligibility Determination for Specific Learning Disability: An Update." This training was arranged by West KY Educational Cooperative who sponsors many trainings in West KY each academic year. Presenters were Toyah Robey from KDE and Belinda Bowling from the KY LD advisory committee.

I had hoped that this training would clear up differences of professional approach and opinion about SLD eligibility within functioning RTI systems. However, after one hour into the presentation thereabout, significant differences arose about whether or not to use the tables and what guiding document districts should use to base their new SLD procedures upon. One of the presenters said that to determine SLD, in her view, the 1993 LD procedural manual is still the document in

authority because it has not officially been replaced by a state approved manual since then. Nearly everyone disagreed that reforms to IDEA 2004 superseded this old document. Furthermore, on the other end of the spectrum so to speak, in West Ky, several districts have rewritten and adopted new referral and assessment procedures to include their version of RTI and how to determine LD in their district after new federal and state regulations came down.

I left the training with this advice: A district needs to make sure they thoroughly review their policy and procedures about SLD assessment/eligibility and make sure they close loop holes in their current day approach and practice.

FYI: From what I have heard over the last few months, some districts are trying to match their eligibility with neighboring districts that swap kids often each year. Other districts that don't typically have frequent contact don't bother contacting each other before changing eligibility procedures/criteria in this region. **Several districts down here are using a 22-point discrepancy. One presenter disagreed with this approach 100%.**

4) Dyslexia training opportunity:

- The West KY Educational Cooperative is sponsoring a two day training with a nationally known, highly recommended presenter. The presenter is Marcia K. Henry, PhD.
- **Tentative dates: May 19th and 20th, 2009.** These may change.
- Location: The West KY Factory Outlet Mall complex in Eddyville, KY in May 2009. The meeting room is named "WKEC Conference Center."
- Cost: FREE!
- Admission: open to any educator. The large conference room holds 125 people at regular tables.
- Registration: Wait until the week of March 23, 2009. Anyone planning to go needs to go to West KY Cooperative website at <http://wkec.org/dev/> and click on "trainings", then follow instructions to complete info on who is attending and how many. For more info contact:

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Presentation goals from Dr. Henry:

"On Day 1 I would discuss just what dyslexia is and isn't, and provide a brief history of this specific learning disability. I would then discuss appropriate assessment. Formal instruments as well as informal assessment will be considered. Teachers will have an opportunity to look for typical error patterns in student writings.

Day 2 will focus on effective strategies for intervention in the areas of decoding, spelling, fluency, vocabulary and reading comprehension.

You may want to suggest that attendees read one of the following books prior to the workshop if they are interested in some background material:

Birsh, J.R. (Ed.). (2005). *Multisensory teaching of basic language skills* (2nd ed.). Baltimore: Paul H. Brookes Publishing Co.

Henry, M.K. (2003). *Unlocking literacy: Effective decoding and spelling instruction*. Baltimore: Paul H. Brookes Publishing Co."

Caveland: Michelle Antle reported on various trainings provided in the region, including reading, positive behavior supports, etc. Correspondence is forwarded through email. She is receiving nominations for awards.

River Region: Beth Edmonson reported the following:

Several districts in the River Region have been working on developing and refining their RTI procedures and how to progress monitor the interventions being done. Many of the region's districts are using AIMSweb to assist in this process. Several districts, such as, Daviess County and Owensboro Public Schools are trying to develop similar processes since there is a lot of transition of students between the two systems.

As region rep. I am trying to contact River Region counties that do not have current KAPS members and encourage them to join KAPS. I have also solicited current members to send in nominations for KAPS Region and Best Practice Awards.

Jefferson: Kristin DeMichele was not in attendance. Lisa Knight reported in her absence. Kristin is resigning her term as Region Rep and nominations are currently under way. About 50% of the school psychologists in this region are involved in KAPS.

Ohio Valley: Megan Sayler reported:

We're definitely working hard!

The question I mentioned before follows:

I have a question that someone on board may be able to point me in right direction. As I get closer to retirement, I am thinking about KY not allowing school psychologists to work for public school just on a contract basis. In other words, we have to be hired (can be part-time) for public school but not just paid my testing case. I believe this was something that KAPS supported years ago b/c we thought it was a good idea. It may be a good idea but I'd like to learn how that policy works b/c my information may not be correct. Can someone tell me where to find that in regulation, etc. so that I can try to understand it more clearly. BTW – I assume it does not apply to licensed psychologists.

Northern Kentucky: Jill Baird reported:

The NKY region has now had two regional meetings to discuss various topics/concerns. We are having a third meeting in April. The counties are taking turns in hosting the meeting. I have worked on bringing outside professionals to come and speak with our group. The NKY Co-op has been involved as well with helping to bring in speakers (i.e. psychologists from Children's Hospital) and asking for feedback for updating their lending library. Most of the attendees are currently KAPS members. However, a few are not. This venue has really helped me to spread the word about KAPS and I have been reminding everyone to renew/join when the time comes. I am hoping for 100% membership amongst Kenton, Boone, Campbell, and Covington Independent.

Big East: Catherine Hacker reported:

"We are very much an email group. I forward on what I receive and have recently asked that we use that email group as a forum for discussing difficult assessments or issues that one of us wants to bounce off other/noninvolved school psychs. I also sent the KAPS Award nomination to all members and then to all of their DoSE's as I thought they would be the most likely to be aware of any exceptional actions."

Kentucky Valley: Ken Epperson reported on continued communication with his Region.

Upper Cumberland: Roy Mays reported that he is looking for nominations and distributing information through email.

Wilderness Trail: Teri Nowak reported that she continues to maintain communication with Region members and is forwarding award nominations and distributing information across the region.

Central Kentucky: Melodie Slone sent out nominations for Best Practice awards. She is working on updating membership for emails. She is resigned from Region representative and is hesitant to leave the EC but thinks the region is going well. She will notify the region of the upcoming position and solicit recommendations.

The Region Representative terms for Western, Jefferson, and Central regions are due for re-election and new nominations will be solicited. The representatives from Jefferson and Central have chosen not to run for re-election.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Conference/Program: Diane reported on conference funding and indicated that finances have been adjusted so that KAPS is no longer in the negative (see report). Major changes include online registration brochures, awards, and speaker fees. The KAPS Fall Conference is scheduled for September 9-11th, 2009 at the Hyatt Downtown in Louisville. Carl Myers indicated that he would conduct a session on ethics. Other

presenters were mentioned including RTI, cognitive processing, behavior supports, Aspergers, Conners, etc. Discussion of poster presentations occurred regarding appreciation of the professional work of School Psychologists. Misty suggested a Best Practices display showcasing some of the work done by KAPS members who were nominated for an award.

Membership: Courtney reported that Penny Mills will be taking over the Membership Committee. She will be sending/forwarding information and spreadsheets to Penny. Courtney reported on issues with communication among members and tracking sheets of those registered and those who paid their membership. It was recommended that the form be placed on line for an easier system of return and accountability. KAPS is also seeking information regarding paying for dues online, which may soon be an option and any fees encountered may be absorbed by the member paying online. Kristen discussed the need for a membership directory. Roy reported that when hard copy directories were provided at the KAPS conference, they went unclaimed and had to be shredded. Dan reported that he and Matt have limited web abilities and other online payment and/or membership databases, etc. will need to be contracted out and could become expensive. Other options for online supports were discussed and means of decreasing fees, funding, etc. were explored. Security issues were also discussed. The creation of a “members only” site was discussed, as well as pros/cons for development of such. Misty discussed the idea of reformatting the membership form to be completed online using survey monkey. Dan also stated that mailings are expensive but consideration should be given to those less technology savvy members, if only to have a document of what KAPS can do for the members. Diane suggested that Penny and Misty work together regarding membership process and options. It was agreed that offering a hard copy is sufficient. Penny will send the new membership form to Dan to be posted on the KAPS website.

Legislative: Connie reported on the NASP State Legislative Advocacy Coordinators meeting with concerns of APA Licensure Act. The Stimulus Bill and increasing student achievement bills were discussed. Kristen indicated that ways to increase legislative support are being evaluated by KAPS executive committee members. Connie reported on 2 Bills that were passed and directly affect schools, including the CATS assessment and HB 322 (Disaster Days bill). Increased IDEA funding was also discussed.

Public Relations: Christina reported that she and Kristen are working together on ways to increase public relations.

Newsletter: Dan reported that a newsletter was sent to members this Spring. Mary Margaret and Dan are working on finessing the format of the letter. All contributions are encouraged and appreciated. Kristen will remind members of submissions as the deadline approaches. Mary Margaret will then send the newsletter to Dan for conversion and he will forward it to the KAPS President for member distribution.

Ethics: Carl reported that there are no ethical complaints currently; however, some concern regarding practices such as RTI/Interventions/discrepancy were submitted.

Website: Dan/Matt reported on online communications. From last October-current, we have had about 1400 visitors to the website. The homepage and training opportunities are the most visited. The idea of a KAPS Facebook page was discussed and many members felt it would be beneficial to the organization. Kristen indicated her appreciation for information being added quickly to the website.

LD Advisory: A short email from Jim indicated that during a conference call with Belinda and KDE representatives, he answered questions regarding LD tables, discrepancies, and issues related to the model licensing act.

LIASON REPORTS:

KDE: Corlia Logsdon reported that she was not aware of the training in Western Kentucky regarding policies for learning disability identification. She suggests input from KAPS members across the State of Kentucky. She reported on complaints/concerns from other groups in Kentucky regarding dyslexia issues and nonstandard evaluations conducted outside of the school setting. Connie Adams further elaborated in changes for special education, 504, etc. that will directly affect disability identification and carry over into transition beyond graduation. Children's Advocacy Center/Children's Law Center has received a grant to address school concerns in special education identification. Concern was expressed regarding expanding discipline issues to regular education students as well as special needs students and questioning regular education as having unidentified disabilities. It was recommended that positive behavior supports and interventions be in place at the district level so that issues are adequately addressed. Corlia indicated that when KDE is approached with such complaints, they are trying to be objective but have a responsibility to follow up with districts.

KASA: Michelle Gadberry was not in attendance. Kristen reported that it may be helpful to have a KAPS presenter/representation at various other organizations/conferences, such as KASA, to promote School Psychologists across the State.

KPA: Suzy Rogers reported that KPA is supportive of KAPS. She provided input on the Heads-Up Kit (character lessons/trainings), which is no longer being made but has been distributed to several districts. Materials will be posted on the KPA Foundation Website for districts to download with the only cost being the purchase of books. This is likely to be posted near the end of April. Kristen will provide KPA of an inventory of all Heads Up kits currently being used by psychologists across the state.

KCSS: Dan reported no updated information at this time.

KMHC: Kristen reported that the meeting indicated concerns of sending students out of State for mental health treatments, drain on funding, cigarette tax, etc. She can share more detailed information with anyone interested.

OLD BUSINESS:

Wiley & Sons Affiliate Program: Diane reported on the affiliate status to earn a percentage of sales that our members purchase. KAPS could get 7.5-10% of the proceeds. After checking with the accountant, we are allowed up to \$1,000 a year in unrelated business income and therefore, this is something that can be pursued. Diane will follow up with Dan/Matt for internet purposes.

Operations & Procedures Manual/KAPS Board Member Handbook: Kristen, Misty, Stacie, and Diane are currently revising the procedures and will send them out to EC members soon.

NEW BUSINESS:

- MLA Strategic Action Plan & Public Policy Institute (PPI): Kristen reported that the information is lengthy and changes may affect title, scope of practice and supervision. Misty indicated there are 5 or 6 sections that need to be further discussed and determine if KAPS action is needed. There are concerns involved in title and practice. The scope and depth of addressing these concerns may be challenging for a smaller organization such as KAPS. Kristen suggested that the strategic action committee schedule a meeting to discuss the issues further and provide member with input and recommendations. Dan also reported that comments should be individualized to specific organizational concerns.
- NASP GPR Training: Kristen discussed increasing representatives and having training for advocating our organization with regards to legislation, etc. Misty suggested developing a standard response form for members to utilize when responding to APA's MLA.
- Nominations/Elections for Officers: Kristen reported that several positions are up for openings including Secretary, President-Elect, and Regional Representatives.
- Best Practice Awards: Misty reported that award nominations were sent by email. The regional form goes to the representative and the categorical nominations will go to Misty.
- EC Mileage Reimbursement: Diane discussed travel to and from EC meetings. It was suggested that the Fall conference travel reimbursement be eliminated since most other districts provide travel to the district. Also, it would save the organization some funding in the budget and has not been a long standing procedure, given it was only implemented for a few years. The motion is to eliminate the Fall conference mileage unless circumstances for personal preference occur, which will then be taken to the EC for consideration. Misty made a motion to eliminate travel reimbursement for the Fall conference, which was seconded by Stacie. Motion approved.
- KASA, etc. conferences: Kristen indicated that we will look further into having representatives at various conferences.
- Conference call satisfaction: Kristen indicated that today's meeting is broken into a specific amount of money per minute (3 ½ cents per minute) per person. Misty reported on other organizations with flat rates that are online. All options will be considered. Diane reported that this EC meeting is the most attended in some time, therefore indicating success in use of a conference call meeting.

- Future Meeting Dates/EC Retreat: Kristen is looking at a time in June and will send information to the EC members soon.
- The meeting was adjourned at **4:16 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,
Stacie McCune
KAPS Secretary

KAPS March 20th, 2009
Approved Motions and Discussion Topics:

APPROVED MOTIONS:

- October EC minutes approved.
- Treasurer Report and Proposed Budget approved.
- Fall Conference Travel Reimbursement eliminated

DISCUSSION TOPICS:

- Online Payment options being reviewed.
- Online Registration being considered and reviewed.
- Offering a hard copy of directory for members who want it, otherwise online sent.
- Having a KAPS representative or trainer at various State conferences/organizations to promote School Psychology across the State.
- Consideration of a KAPS Facebook page.
- MLA Action...EC members will meet and discuss legislative impact and KAPS stance.
- Operations manual to be sent to EC members soon.
- Nominations for awards being collected.
- Several EC positions up for election.