

**KAPS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
MEETING  
September 09, 2009**

The meeting was called to order at **4:45 p.m.** by **President Misty Lay** in the Churchill Downs Room at the Hyatt Regency in Louisville, Kentucky. Introductions were made.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Those in attendance included: Misty Lay, Angie Chandler, Roy Mays, Lisa Knight, Beth Edmonson, Kristen Kyriacou, Ken Epperson, Marty Dunham, Dan Florell, Jim Batts, Catherine Hacker, Megan Saylor, Tiffany Martinez, Jessie Birdwhistell, Jill Baird, Connie Adams, Michelle Antle, Susan McGurk, Carl Myers, Randy Potts, and Suzy Rogers

**MINUTES:**

The minutes of the March 20, 2009 meeting as submitted by Stacie McCune were reviewed. Michelle Antle made the motion that the March 20<sup>th</sup> minutes be approved, with a second from Megan Saylor. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Susan McGurk reviewed the Treasurer's Report dated Sept. 9, 2009. Current Assets were listed as \$34, 441.89. Jennie Ewald account was listed as \$790.50

The conference revenue and expenditures were discussed. Diane Herrick moved to accept the report. The motion was second by Megan Saylor.

**REGIONAL REPORTS:**

Regional Reports were submitted prior to the EC meeting. The following is a summary of the reports submitted by the Regional Representatives:

**Western KY:** Randy Potts reported that most districts have implemented Rtl in some fashion. Different districts are in different stages and are utilizing different programs. All email information was forwarded about the fall 2009 conference in Louisville to KAPS members throughout July and August 2009. Six former KAPS members in Western Kentucky were invited and encouraged to rejoin KAPS for 09-10.

**River:** Nothing new to report.

**Upper Cumberland:** Nothing new to report.

**Wilderness Trail:** Nothing new to report.

**Caveland:** The regional school psychologists met in August at the new GRECC building. Several topics were discussed, most specifically the region's progress with Rtl, new school psychologists employed in the region, and future trainings/areas that might want to be pursued. Several members attended trainings this summer in Autism, Rtl, and most recently, the Conner's Performance Assessment. The recent changes with Medicaid and their implications for school psychologists were discussed. The new NASP guidelines for certification/recertification were also reviewed. The group also discussed the recent financial reimbursement being given to nationally board certified teachers. Districts are reimbursing these teachers \$2000 a year. The group will meet again on December 4, 2009.

**OVEC:** Nothing new to report.

**Jefferson:** Nothing new to report.

**KY Valley:** Nothing new to report.

**Central KY:** Nothing new to report.

**Northern KY:** The region is having its first regional meeting in October 2009.

**Big East:** Nothing new to report.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Conference/Program:** Diane Herrick reported that the 2009 conference was poised to be very successful. Over 250 people pre-registered. The slate of presenters is varied and impressive. She thanked the committee for their thoughtful planning, careful budgeting, and hard work. She noted that KAPS should come out in the black without having to sacrifice the quality of the conference offerings.

**Membership:** Penny Mills submitted a report that noted the following: Total membership is estimated to be at 285 (new members are being received every day prior to the conference. A good portion of members renewed their memberships this year in time to take advantage of the discounted rate. She had not completed the directory for 2008-2009 membership year. Information is available for all members and was provided to her by the previous membership chairperson. Assembling the directory will take many hours of hand entered member information. She will create a membership directory if it is desired, however the process may take several months. This problem, she noted, may be avoided this year with much of the member information being entered electronically using Survey Monkey.

**Government and Professional Relations:** Connie Adams submitted the following information:

- KAPS GPR Training – Frankfort – June 2009
- Action Alerts by KAPS
  1. Help restore Funding for School Mental Health Programs (July 2009)
  2. Student Loan Forgiveness (May 2009)
- KAPS joined the KY Mental Health Coalition to support a need for a strengthened and expanded Medicaid program as necessary for providing health coverage to people with low incomes or special needs-- (June 2009)

**Public Relations:** Christina Mayfield-Dishon resigned as PR chair in August in order to take time for other commitments. She expressed appreciation to the EC for her years of service.

**Ethics:** Carl Myers noted there was nothing new to report.

**Website:** Matt Buckman and Dan Florell submitted the following: The KAPS website has continued to be maintained. The EC listings, training calendar, homepage, and conference information was recently updated and some new found KAPS newsletters were added to the historical archives. In addition, they worked with Misty and Diane to create the membership pages with an online membership application and Paypal payment option. The website has had 3,562 visitors from August 26, 2008 – September 2009. This is a 42% increase in visits. Most of the visits (2500) were from people who live in Kentucky. The visitors tend to stay on the site for 1 minute 41 seconds and look at a couple of pages. The use of the website tends to peak the month before the annual convention. The four most popular pages on the site are training opportunities, resources, officer listings, and membership. They asked for assistance with providing links to websites when KAPS events are referenced. They asked that we continue sending Matt any training events that are relevant to school psychologists.

### **LIASON REPORTS:**

**NASP Delegate:** Marty Dunham submitted a report to the EC and it is available upon request. For the fiscal year 08-09, NASP had 25,245 members of which 273 were from Kentucky. As of the EC meeting KY's current membership was 228 (8% over last year at the same time).

**KPA:** No report was submitted.

**KDE Report:** No report was submitted.

KASA: Michelle Gadberry submitted that KAPS was supportive of KAPS' opposition to the "dyslexia bill" as it was written and submitted to the KY legislature.

KCSS: No report was submitted.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

Wiley & Sons Affiliate Program: It is a matter of Diane H. getting with the webmaster to link our site to their information. Everything has been worked out and this will be taken care of soon.

NCSP Parity: This issue involves the issuance of bonuses through the state department for Nationally Certified School Psychologists. Misty explained the history of the topic. Michelle Antle discussed the concerns of her region and their request for a letter from KAPS to advocate to the superintendents in that regard. Marty Dunham noted that NASP has information in regards to advocacy for the topic. He stated he would check on the resources and get back with Misty. Misty suggested that Michelle head the push to get this started.

Regional Trainings: Misty suggested that the Regions combine for "cluster trainings". That would allow the use of the NASP speakers bureau and would make KAPS more accessible to the members. She is going to speak to the regional representatives in this regard.

MLA Update: Connie Adams presented information in regard to the MLA. The second public comment period for APA's proposed revisions to its Model Act ended June 5, 2009 and resulted in approximately 19,000 comments being submitted, with the majority of comments addressing removal of the school psychologist's exemptions. Official adoption will occur in Feb. 2010. Revisions will come up for consideration in December. NASP will let the states know when we need to respond. Marty Dunham noted that there does not appear to be enough support for removal of the exemption. He noted he has received many favorable comments in regards to Kentucky's response. Dan Florell also noted that the FB page is a valuable tool for response to legislative alerts.

KAPS Informational Brochure: This has been an ongoing project for several years. Now that the logo is official, Misty recommended that we look into the development of an informational brochure. Marty Dunham volunteered to head up the project. Misty emphasized that this will be a wonderful tool for use at conferences and to inform others about school psychologists and the profession.

KAPS Directory: Penny Mills was unable to attend. Misty stated that Penny continues to work on the directory. She will add new members that join at the conference and then prepare it for distribution electronically. Connie Adams expressed concern regarding the format of the last directory. Misty assured the EC that the directory is being completed in Word and will be more accessible. She expressed the importance of the regional representatives and their role in keeping track of the new and continuing members.

KAPS Archives – Summary Reports: Dan Florell reported that we are getting close to a complete set of KAPS newsletters for the archives. He stated that next year the State of School Psychology in Kentucky will be updated. He asked that any ideas for questions for the next survey be forwarded to him. Misty noted that she has used that document numerous times including in Washington when meeting with our legislators. Misty also noted that Dan is requesting the past presidents summarizing their terms and keeping him updated in regards to ongoing business.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

Schedule for Future EC Meetings: Misty asked how the EC felt about the phone conference that was recently held. The EC gave her a positive response. Other meetings may be scheduled that way in the future. Other phone conferencing capabilities were discussed through NASP and Skype. She foresees having at least two more EC meetings this year.

Budget: Susan McGurk proposed a budget for the 09-10 fiscal year. The total budget was reported at \$46,162.50. The budget is attached. Discussion ensued regarding the money necessary for regional meetings. No changes will be made in the budget for now. Another discussion ensued regarding conference expenses now compared to past conferences. Michelle Antle moved to accept the budget. Megan Saylor seconded.

NASP Public Policy Institute Report: Misty thanked the EC for the opportunity to represent our organization at the institute on July 12 – 18<sup>th</sup> in Washington D.C. She and Diane Herrick attended the intensive two day training held at NASP and KAPS was lauded again for our advocacy efforts. She reported on their meetings with legislators. They met personally with Jim Bunning, Brett Guthrie and Mitch McConnell's legislative assistant. They asked them to sponsor a Senate and House resolution about School Psychology Week, and to support the Increasing Student Achievement Through Increasing Student Support Services and the Student Support Act. Diane Herrick added how important it will be for the Universities to continue to instill the importance of advocacy to our students.

Dyslexia Legislation: Connie Adams reported that the bill did not pass. The advocates continue to raise their concerns and KAPS needs to work with them to address their concerns regarding the definition of Specific Learning Disability and Dyslexia. Misty and Kristen Kyriacou are working with the advocates to develop that relationship. Misty has an appointment with her state representative, Linda Belcher, to further discuss the issue and keep the communication lines open. The dyslexia legislation will come back around and we need to take a proactive stance in assisting with the drafting of the legislation.

Advocacy: Connie Adams reported on the importance of being alert in regards to legislation. She emphasized how important it is for us to be advocates in regards to legislation that impacts our profession and the education of students in Kentucky. Misty reviewed the NASP advocacy roadmap (an action plan for legislative advocacy) which includes goals and a checklist that document our plans for legislative advocacy. Misty has submitted our action plan to NASP.

School Psychologist Awareness Week: November 9-14, 2009. Plans are being made to schedule a time to go to Frankfort for the gubernatorial signing of the proclamation in regards to School Psychology Awareness Week.

Regional Alignment Task Force: KAPS recently realigned the regions with the state special education coops. This has caused disproportionality in the members across the regions. Discussion ensued regarding the importance of addressing the disproportionality. Misty proposes the forming of a task force to address the differences across the regions. Dan suggested waiting until after the State of School Psychology in Kentucky report is completed. A motion was made that the Kentucky Valley and the Big East regions be combined into one region known as the Kentucky Valley/Big East Region. The motion was seconded by Catherine Hacker. Ken Epperson will serve as the regional representative until the end of his term.

Membership Drive: Misty discussed membership recruitment and the importance of the regional representatives in that process. Our current membership stands at 285.

KAPS Awards: Diane Herrick reported that there have been issues in regards to some confusion about the award categories. NASP has eight award categories. She suggests that KAPS aligns our award categories to match the NASP categories. Discussion ensued. Carl Myers suggested that the awards may need to be general Best Practice awards and the categories determined after nominations are received. Several commented that the NASP categories might be a way to better publicize the changing roles of school psychologists. Connie Adams moved that the KAPS Best Practices Awards be aligned to the NASP award categories. The motion was seconded by Diane Herrick. Motion carried.

Special Friend of KAPS Award: Sheila Schuster, KPA was selected to receive an award at the KAPS Award Banquet for all of the support she has given the membership of KAPS over the years.

Determination of SLD in KY: Jim Batts reported that he heard that the state was putting together another formal group to address SLD determination. Marty Dunham has been asked to serve on the committee. He reported that the areas of the state differ in their ways of identification of SLD. Misty will be in contact with Toyah Robey to volunteer for the committee. This remains a very “hot topic” in the state and effects school psychologists daily. A survey will be distributed to the membership in regards to this issue.

Dinner hosted by Penny Koepsel, MHS

- The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Angie Chandler  
KAPS Secretary