

**KAPS EC MEETING
SEPTEMBER 17, 1997
MINUTES**

Attendees: Alan Mullins, Mike Norris, Ruth Bewley, Marty Kent, Susan Burgan, Joe Bargione, Angela Wilkins, Bob Kruger, Shelly Tisdale, Wendy Watts, Laura Dillard, Erin Richardson, Alicia Lateer-Huhn, Angie Chandler, Kathie Harris, Sharla Fasko, Judith Watkins, Bill Pfohl, Marty Dunham, and Karen Dunham.

The Executive Council was called to order by President Alan Mullins.

The minutes from the June EC meeting were reviewed and approved.

Introductions of all present. Overview of the meeting was outlined by Alan. Cards were passed around for signatures to be sent to (a) Jennie Ewald due to recent illness, (b) Harriet Ford on the death of her father, and (c) Sawyer Hunley congratulating for appointment to KDE's task force on dropout prevention.

Angela Wilkins updated the EC on KDE issues. Efforts to obtain renewed funding from KDE for the School Psychology Advisory Council were unsuccessful. Revision of the School Psychology Handbook did not receive any funding support so this issue will continue to be "shelved" until some undetermined future time. Angela regrestfully noted that she will not be able to attend the KAPS Conference luncheon on Friday due to her expected attendance at the School Social Workers conference. Beverly Persley, Director of the Division of Student / Family Support Services will attend in Angela's absence. Angela reported that Commissioner Cody has made an excellent choice in appointing Gene Wilhoit as the new Deputy Commissioner of Learning Support Services. Commissioner Wilhoit is essentially an assistant to Dr. Cody and will make biennium budget suggestions. Angela believes he will be favorable to enhancing support for school psychological services. KDE has created a dropout prevention task force consisting of 18 members (appointed by Dr. Cody) including social workers, counselors, and school psychologists. Sawyer Hunley (Covington Ind.) is a KAPS member selected to participate in this process. Angela further discussed the "educational passport" form for foster children created by staff members from KDE and the Cabinet for Families and Children. The passport provides basic educational information on children placed in a foster setting who will attend a new school. The social worker expedites the passport process to help provide children with an easy school transition. The Partnership for KY Schools is a coalition of interested persons, mainly parents, who want a positive discipline code based on clear and fair rules established at the beginning of the year. Angela desires that school psychologists be well recognized as advocates for discipline advisors. Angela mentioned a brief thanks to Alan, Susan, and Cheryl Pearson for helping conduct the presentation at the KASA conference in July. She then presented gifts to Alan consisting of a "Honey Do" memo pad to be completed by his wife in IEP fashion with goals to be accomplished by Alan at home at regular intervals. A second memo pad was given for the President to keep track of all those KAPS-related projects.

Susan and Joe both expressed concern that school psychologists be active in conducting functional behavioral assessments, and that there will be an increased need for psychologists to learn as much as possible in this area.

NASP Delegate Joe B. reported that NASP recently underwent reorganization of the governance structure as well as restructuring into four regions (instead of the previously-existing five). There are currently two Southeast Region directors on the directors' committee. Joe also mentioned that reauthorization of IDEA was signed into law on June 4. NASP continues to monitor the evolution of IDEA, especially related to specific wording within sections which will have direct impact on school psychologists. Joe also reminded EC members about NASP's web page. Deborah Crockett, from Georgia, is the new NASP President. Next year's NASP convention will be held in Orlando (Disney World) during our Spring Break.

Bob Kruger, head of the Planning and Development Committee, passed out a reporting form he designed which is aligned with the Operations and Procedures Manual. Each EC member received one for their particular KAPS role / office. Forms contain descriptions of the EC member's task and a time line for duties to be completed. The document is for improving accountability and communication.

Connie Adams, legislative committee, discussed KAPS' goal of getting the term "school psychologist" into the Kentucky Revised Statutes under the term educational administrator. KPA sent a recommendation to the State Board of Psychology to "loosen up" the definition of independent practice and frequency of supervision format. Connie encouraged all KAPS members to join SPAN and learn about the Welfare Reform Act. Susan B. reported that school psychologists may be requested to provide input into upcoming development of standards for "home schooling". Connie reminded all regional reps that they need to submit a phone tree. Motion was made that KAPS submit a subscription to the Legislative Record on a weekly basis. Joe B volunteered to receive the report and serve as reporter to the KAPS organization regarding all LR news which is pertinent to KAPS. The motion was seconded and passed.

Angela W discussed consolidated planning which is a new process for all KY school districts to determine areas of need and to submit funding requests. The method consolidates plans required for federal and state programs. The plan requires that programs vital elements, such as needs assessments, top priorities, and programs' resources be developed from a consolidated perspective. Our services can either be enhanced or hurt by this process and Alan pointed out that it is imperative we become involved in this process within our own districts and schools. Alan requested that each regional rep specifically mention this item in their regional meetings at the conference and to consider further discussion of this issue at future regional meetings.

Marty Kent presented the Treasurers' Report. She stated that KAPS had \$13,773.65 in the checking account after depositing a CD, which matured. As of 9-17-97 all invoices had been paid. This statement does not contain any 1997 Conference expenses or Conference and membership dues deposits. KAPS will end up ahead of 9-17-97 assets after the Conference. Discussion took place concerning the possibility of using \$1000 as a "matching fund" for revitalization of the School Psychology Advisory Council. Alan stated we would give this idea serious consideration. Marty also announced that KAPS may want to look into establishing an annual audit procedure just to maintain appropriate tax status and assure accuracy of books.

Alan reported on recent participation, along with Joe B and Shannon Batchelor (KAPS member, formerly a school psychologist and now a director of special education with Todd County), in a state-wide meeting in Frankfort as part of a hand-picked collection of "stakeholders" to begin establishing a plan of action for the state of KY on moving toward compliance with the recently reauthorized IDEA. The meeting lasted two days and was coordinated by Mike Armstrong, KDE Director of Exceptional Children's Services branch, and was attended by a three-person team from the Office of Special Education Programs in Washington, DC. The meeting process focused on comparisons between sections of the KAR's and the new IDEA and attendees shared discussion / concerns regarding some of the major changes. Functional assessments and "developmental delay" being extended to age 9 were major issues discussed by the group. Also, the term "qualified examiners" has been retained in the wording of the new IDEA and the OSEP members alluded to the pressure they received from Kevin Dwyer (NASP) to change that particular wording, they stated that Congress' intent is to help school districts which cannot feasibly employ enough specially-trained assessment personnel. It was considered a major positive for school psychologists and KAPS to be represented on this committee. The purpose of this meeting was to help KDE develop an implementation agreement which outlines the state's process toward successfully adopting the new IDEA law in word and in practice. KDE is expecting to receive the official re-writing of IDEA from the federal government in October. We hope to have updates on this issue at future EC meetings. Motion was made that Alan submit a letter to Mike Armstrong offering that school psychologists be invited to participate in any future KDE - IDEA regulations meetings. Motion was seconded and approved.

Mike N. provided a summary of the ADHD Teleconference Network project sponsored by the UK Medical School. The project is intended to provide current medical research along with the latest educational interventions relevant to ADHD to many rural areas of eastern Kentucky via satellite down-linking from UK. The project is being coordinated by Deborah Burton (parent of an ADHD child and employee at the Medical Center). Bobbie Burcham (KAPS member) has been involved in the early formative stages. Thus far the group has met only once in Lexington to view the UK Medical Center facility and to "roundtable" various ideas and strategies regarding services, implementation, and future directions of the project. The EC requested that Mike write a short summary of this initial meeting as well as any future activities and present at the next EC meeting.

Alan explained that one of his goals for the 1997-98 year was to seek increased communication with other in-state organizations, including possible participation from other group leaders at a future KAPS EC meeting. The purpose would be to investigate potential benefits of increased organizational collaboration as well as areas of common professional concern. He has already met with a member of the Kentucky Counseling Association's Executive Board (Dr. Tom Wagner, Murray State Univ., head of KCA's Interagency Collaboration Committee) regarding mutual interest in this idea.

Mike N. provided a brief update on the 1998 KAPS Conference. Room availability in Louisville is a problem due to other conventions booked around the same time. Mike has tentatively set Sept. 30, Oct. 1, and Oct. 2 as the dates. Location will likely be in the Hurstbourne area, close to I-64. A possible theme (based on survey suggestions collected at the recent conference) involve diversity issues, not just working with minority populations but extended to issues such as role diversity, migrant students, Appalachian culture, etc. Some EC members expressed a desire to include pertinent "meat and potato" issues including IDEA revisions / practices, functional behavioral assessment, or consolidated planning.

Alan and Mike requested that the EC submit suggestions for a one-day training topic to be held in late-February or early-March 1998. Possible locations could be at ECU (in conjunction with the one-day training that the ECU Psychology Dept. will be arranging), in Louisville (as a sort of preparation for KAPS Conference 98), or in Elizabethtown. Bill Pfohl volunteered to work on the details for this workshop.

Regional Reports:

1 - Wendy Watts gave an overview of a new EBD therapy program which is being implemented in the Hopkins County Schools, modeled after a program created by Dr. Gary Alderman (South Carolina). It is titled Developmental Therapy and provides a half-day of fairly intensive therapy to selected EBD students. The students are transported from their home-school to another building in the district to participate in this setting. The program targets elementary and middle school students. The teachers are trained serve as therapists, and the school psychologists provide weekly "coaching" sessions. Currently 16 students are enrolled in the program (8 in the a.m. and 8 in the p.m.) Initially there seem to be good results. It was mentioned that possibly the Hopkins County psychologists could turn this into a workshop at next year's conference.

2 - Laura Dillard reported that the region is scheduled to have a workshop on November 7 with Laura McCullough (KDE) talking about EBD issues. Other Region 2 meetings are tentatively set for February 20th and March 27th.

3 - Erin Richardson reported that the Jefferson County school psychologists presented at their ECE Institute and demonstrated roles outside of evaluation. Case consultations are done monthly in small groups. "Brown bag seminars" are held monthly on various topics. School psychologists were recently recognized for their accomplishments in the system-wide publication Monday Memo.

4 - Alicia Lateer-Huhn reported no activity but that plans were to be made at the regional meeting here at the conference regarding future regional get-togethers.

5 -- Angie Chandler reported that several of their region's schools were represented at an autism institute held recently in their area. Michelle Gadberry and Angie will present a two-hour workshop on Section 504 in their district. Region 5 going to attempt to get Charlie Munz (KSBA) to speak to them about Manifestation Determination.

6 -- Region 6 met last May and are planning a fall meeting. Their practical goal is to develop a list of materials and tests available for sharing among regional members. Kathie Harris also stated that although 33 school psychologists are listed in the region, not all have listed phone numbers and she is working on finalizing an accurate phone list.

7 -- Sharla Fasko mentioned that in her district, the school psychology services are being noticed by the superintendent more now because of medicaid reimbursement for psychological services. Even though the notice is related to money, they feel it is good to at least get recognized and have some importance / value placed on the role of school psychologists. No specific plans have been made yet for regional meetings for this year.

8 -- Region 8 representative, David Muncy, was not in attendance and had not submitted a report of regional news.

Alan brought up an "action issue" of requiring KAPS liasons with other organizations to provide a brief summary of those organizations' activities on a once-per-year basis. The EC will consider having the member liason attend at least one meeting of that organization and submit a written summary for the benefit of the KAPS EC. Bob Kruger may develop an accountability document for each liason. No action was taken at this time. The issue will be reviewed at the next EC meeting.

Alan mentioned that Patsy Thompson and Michelle Gadberry have agreed to chair the PR committee, but that they both have requested significant involvement / assistance from other KAPS members. The EC will devote time during the December meeting to create specific action plans and guidelines for the PR committee. Regional reps are to survey members during regional meetings at the conference for specific items / requests of the PR committee.

Confusion regarding the current status of the Membership committee was addressed. Shelly Tisdale stated that she was willing to remain as chairperson of this committee. There is an immediate need to collect member info for the upcoming printing of the KAPS Directory.

Alan reviewed the upcoming conference schedule and assigned individual members to attend certain workshops for the purposes of writing session reviews along with passing out gifts to all presenters after each session. Timelines for submission of all session reviews and regional reports for the Fall Edition of the KAPS Review is October 3 to Laura McGrail.

The NASP SouthEast Region meeting has been scheduled for November 8 - 10 in San Juan, Puerto Rico. The EC agreed to pay for half of the travel costs for the KAPS President (NASP will pay half) as well as half the cost for the KAPS President-Elect. Joe B. (NASP Delegate) is planning to attend also as his travel costs are paid for by NASP.

Future KAPS meetings: December 12th, regular EC meeting, in Frankfort at the KDE Division for School Nutrition. February 27th or March 6th, a one-day training, and an EC meeting April 24 or May 1 to be held in Bowling Green in conjunction with a joint Region 1-Region 2 meeting.

Meeting adjourned.