

MEETING MINUTES

NORTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF THE DEAF

Opening:

The regular board meeting of NCAD duly called and held on Saturday, August 25, 2018 at the Communication Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (CSDHH), 1175 Revolution Mill Drive, Greensboro, NC at 9:44 AM.

Present were:

President – Craig Blevins
Vice President – Donnie Dove
Treasurer – Martina Moore-Reid
Secretary – Jaime Marshall Staley
Western Regional Representative – Laura Herman

Guests:

Jan Withers, NC DSDHH Director
Marcia Fort, EHDI Director
David Rosenthal, EIPA Committee Member

Not Present:

Southeast Regional Representative – Vacant
Central Regional Representative – Christa Butner
Northeast Regional Representative – Linda Nelson

With the approval of the board members present, President Blevins acted as Chairman of the meeting and Secretary Jaime Marshall Staley recorded the minutes.

Meeting Minutes from the last board meeting (6/9/18) was reviewed.

Motion by: Vice-President Dove

Seconded by: Rep. L. Herman

Vote Count: Majority

EHDI Report:

Marcia Fort, Director of EHDI, reports that approximately 120,000 babies were born last year. Nearly 12,000 newborns failed the first infant hearing screening test administered at the hospital. Only 30% of babies will re-take the hearing screening test. NC EHDI is looking into areas on how they can improve the follow-up procedures.

Medicaid covers the purchase towards new hearing aids for deaf children who are between 0 – 21 and they must be Medicaid recipients.

Rep L. Nelson reports that she is on a specific subcommittee on the EHDI Advisory Committee that focuses on what is included in the “Parents’ Information Packet” (packets are given to parents after their infants are detected with hearing loss).

Rep. L. Nelson expressed concerns that there are many resources available, yet it can be confusing for the families.

For the Deaf / HoH Child	For the Parent / Family
<p>Local Children’s Developmental Services Agencies (CDSAs)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NC Infant Toddler Program (ITP) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Early Intervention, Part C <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Director: Jill Singer</p> <p>Note: CSDA have local offices of NC ITP</p> <p>Note: Early Intervention receives federal funding.</p>	<p>Beginnings</p> <p>Director, Diane Doak</p> <p>Professional Staff</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - provides info regarding: choices / services - teach families about IEP/IFSP - teach families advocacy <p>Note: Department of Instruction has a contract with NC Beginnings. DPI gives X dollars to NC Beginnings.</p>
<p>Department of Public Instruction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Exceptional Children Division <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sensory Support and Assistive Technology <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Sect. Chief: Sherri Vernelson</p> <p>Note: Early Learning Sensory Support provides services for children already enrolled in NC Infant Toddler Program (ITP)</p>	<p>Hands & Voices</p> <p>President, Alicia Spencer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Focuses on Parent to Parent Support
	Exceptional Children’s Asst. Center (ECAC)

NC DHHS Report:

Jan Withers, Director of NC DSDHH, explains about an ongoing pilot program where NC DSDHH has partnered up with NC Department of Instruction (DPI): Interpreting Services Specialists from DSDHH Regional Centers across the state have been mentoring K-12 interpreters in various counties. Purpose: to help the K-12 interpreters increase their score on the EIPA (Educational Interpreters Performance Assessment). This “Language Mentoring Program” focuses on professional development and coaching and mentoring in the educational setting.

Jan Withers also shares that NC DSDHH is considering a new program that would provide Family Mentoring. Deaf Adults making home visits, spending time with the parents and the deaf child on improving communication in their home. In a sense, the educators would be considered “Signing Therapists”.

Presidents Report:

Due to a tight schedule as there were numerous topics on the agenda, President Blevins wanted to hear from everyone.

Vice Presidents Report:

Vice President Dove, representing NCAD, serves on the NC Interpreters & Translitterators Licensing Board shares some statistical information on current licensees:

Type of License	Current Number of Licensees	Percentage
Full	339	60%
Grandfathered	51	9%
Provisional	172	31%
Total Number of Current Licensees	562	100%

Comments:

Total licenses lapsed after renewal season: **66** (13 full, 3 grandfathered, 50 provisional)
 Provisional Extension Requests received: **37**

Numbers of years License Held	Numbers of Licensees
New Licensee (Never Renewed)	11
1 Year (Renewed 1 time)	40
2 Year (Renewed 2 times)	23
3 Year (Renewed 3 times)	21
4 Year (Renewed 4 times)	10
5 Year (Renewed 5 times)	9
6 Year (Renewed 6 times)	12
7 Year (Renewed 7 times)	4
8 Year (Renewed 8 times)	1
Total Currently Licensed	131

Secretary Report:

Secretary Marshall is a member of the NCAD's Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment (EIPA) Committee.

NCAD's EIPA Committee Reports:

Members of this Committee are Jaime Marshall Staley, Rachel Ragin and David Rosenthal.

HISTORY OF EFFORT:

- NCAD Board Meeting, August 20, 2016 - Asheville
 - President Blevins mentioned wanting a new law requiring all educational interpreters in NC be licensed
 - He spoke to Julie Adams, NCAD Lobbyist about this
 - State Advisory Group on EIPA Criteria, August 1, 2016 - Burlington
 - Advisory Group proposed the following changes to the Criteria:
 - Language Facilitators be restricted to spoken language only
 - Minimum EIPA score for educational interpreters to be changed from 3.0 to 4.0 (December 3, 2016 NCAD Board minutes says from 3.0 to 3.5)
 - Interpreter Team Supervisors are to be RID certified
 - Educational interpreters are to have at least a 2-year college degree
- NCAD Board Meeting, August 26, 2017 - Greensboro
 - Board approved formation of EIPA Committee
 - Concern was expressed about confidentiality of EIPA scores at DPI & LEA levels
- NCAD Board Meeting, March 3, 2018 - Asheville
 - Announced EHDI established a subcommittee to research and select an appropriate assessment tool to measure language acquisition
- Committee met with Lee Williamson of DSDHH and Antwan Campbell of DPI at DSDHH office on August 2, 2018 to learn about their effort to improve certification level of current EIPA interpreters
 - DPI wants to improve EIPA scores and contracted with DSDHH to begin a Pilot project to mentor a group of interpreters from one region of the state
 - 24 educational interpreters participated initially
 - XX are still involved

- After pairing the interpreters with mentors and working together for a year, the interpreters are being tested to see if their scores improved
- May improve from 3.0 to 3.1 or 3.2
- 2nd Group began the process recently. 29 educational interpreters from another region are participating. They will be tested next year.

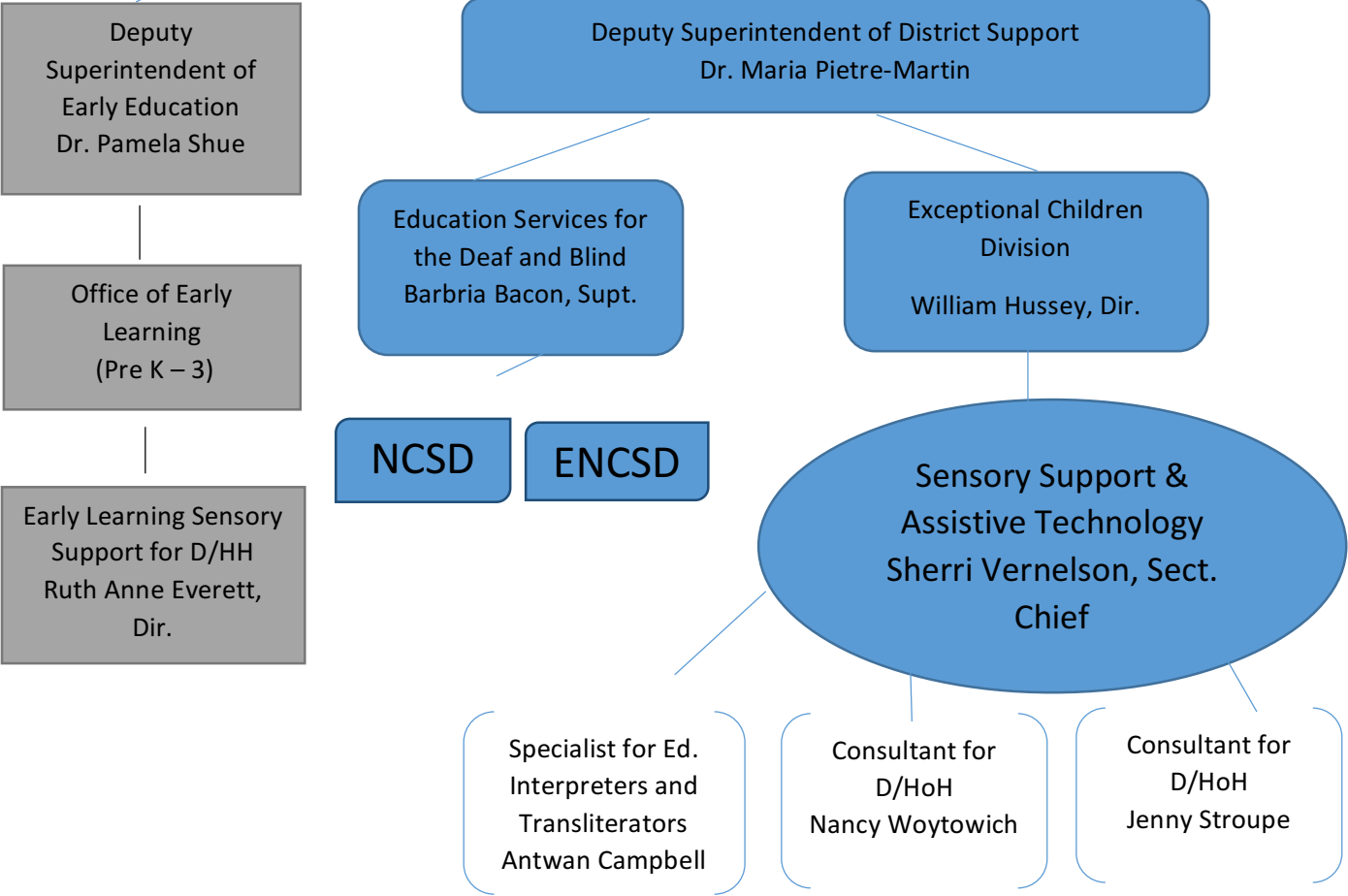
- During NCAD's EIPA Committee meeting (Present: Jaime Marshall Staley, Rachael Ragin, David Rosenthal, Antwan Campbell and Lee Williamson), Antwan noted that:
 - the NC Interpreter Licensure Law still *does not* include K-12 educational interpreters
 - DPI has been training LEAs so they do not violate state and federal laws on:
 - translators (for students who use cued speech)
 - interpreters (for students who use sign language)
 - language facilitators (for students who only use spoken language)
 - Bill Hussey, State Director of Special Education, is retiring November 2018
 - He is working with DPI to recommend changes to the policy and structure of interpreting within the state educational system

- How can NCAD help?
 - contact legislators to support licensure changes by adding K-12 educational interpreters
 - partner with other stakeholders to push for positive changes with legislators

Committee met with Rebecca Planchard, Senior Early Childhood Policy Advisor for DHHS on August 24, 2018 to discuss what data will be collected regarding children with hearing loss and how they plan to use it.

BREAK: 12:55 - 1:26 PM

NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
 Mark Johnson, State Superintendent
Organizational Structure for Deaf & Hard of Hearing



Finance Report:

Motion: We, the NCAD Board Members, accept the financial report submitted by Treasurer Moore-Reid

Motion By: Secretary Marshall Staley

Seconded By: Rep. L. Herman

Vote Count: Majority

AGENDA TOPIC: 2019 NCAD Conference

Motion: 2019 Conference registration fee: \$95 (deadline: February 28).
\$125 (March 1 – April 30).
\$150 (May 1 – at the door)

Motion By: Rep. L. Herman

Seconded By: Treasurer Moore-Reid

Vote Count: Majority

New Business:

Rep. L. Herman shares details about the upcoming NCRID / NCAD Conference scheduled for June 21-22, 2019. Note: Rep. L. Herman is the chairperson for the 2019 NCAD Conference.

Announcements/Reminders:

In honor of Deaf Awareness Month, Governor Cooper is meeting with partners and representatives from the Deaf Community for a proclamation signing and photo shoot on September 5, 2018 at the Executive Mansion. President Blevins will attend to represent NC Association of the Deaf. Treasurer Martina Moore Reid, a NCAD Board Member, will be representing NC Black Deaf Advocates.

Meeting adjourned: 4:09 PM