



ITCA Board Conference Call
May 5, 2003

Board Members on call: Andy Gomm, Ron Benham, Duncan Munn, Mary Jones, Linda Goodman, Stephanie Moss

Consultants on Call: Sharon Walsh, Darla Cohen

OSEP Annual Conference

Stephanie is participating on the planning committee for the OSEP annual conference in November 2003 and sought input from Board members. Consensus was for association members to meet again for a full day on Sunday. There was some discussion regarding the benefit of the wrap up session and why it was less than effective. Linda suggested sessions on fiscal issues, possibly something on parent fees. Andy mentioned several states had teamed up with someone to say "This is what we have learned as a state on those issues important to all of us and here is where we are". He felt that might be useful to the group. Topics suggested included dispute resolution and public awareness.

The group discussed whether ITCA should facilitate early bird sessions and it was noted last year there were no representatives from 619. Stephanie will let the committee know that ITCA is willing to do the early bird sessions if the opportunity were offered to 619 people and perhaps some sessions facilitated together like Transition.

Ron suggested a session on staying in Part C because so many states are considering that but said discussions should keep to "here's where we are and this is what we found out". Linda asked if someone from NASDSE would be planning a session for the 619 coordinators (there was no information about that). Duncan suggested ITCA and NASDSE might do something together. There was agreement that joint time would be good but not on Sunday. Sharon suggested possibly scheduling it during the facilitated afternoon sessions.

Linda asked if ITCA should host a Sunday evening reception again and the group agreed as long as it did not conflict with anyone else's and to be careful arranging it that no one was overlooked and offended. Co-hosting with another group was suggested. Stephanie will explore these issues at the next meeting and give the group a report in June.

OSEP Correspondence

OSEP representatives have suggested that if they responded in writing to a state and copied NASDE, they should also copy ITCA. They asked who should get this

correspondence. It was agreed such correspondence should be directed to both Sharon and Maureen's office. Sharon will follow up with Ruth.

Reauthorization of IDEA

Sharon provided the following update: Reauthorization has been completed in the House but there is no news from the Senate. They are trying to be complete and introduce a Bipartisan bill. Senator Gregg issued a statement immediately following that the bill would be issued prior to Memorial Day and would work with No Child Left Behind principles. Sharon expects a full committee mark up by mid June. It is not clear if the bill can go to the floor by the July .4th recess. With so much on the Congressional plate, a tax bill and all appropriations pending, it is difficult to tell if they will be done by Labor Day.

Duncan asked if there was anything ITCA should do. Sharon indicated that she was not sending Alerts for ITCA member action but was sending copies of DEC alerts to ITCA as an FYI. She asked for guidance specifically if (members) wanted to "pick up the phone" but the reply from several was "We can't". Sharon suggested she would continue to imbed in the updates a paragraph on other organizations and what they were doing. ITCA Board could forward those updates to the membership. All agreed that was fine.

Sharon reviewed the language of the bill to be sure the Board was in agreement about what she should do.

- Family Therapy-OK
- Change Nutritionist to Dietician OK
- Adding Ophthalmologist, Optometrist, vision specialist. Discussion included: "What is medical? This confuses it". OSEP says that just listing it does not mean paying for it.
- Addressing family issues, priorities and concerns? OK
- The DeMint item: optional services with no corresponding change so can't use C dollars. Board said No, keep saying what you are saying.
- A change to read "to provide assurances" not to "document" while in some parts of B they changed the language back to document.-OK
- In 16 subcomponents: Based on scientific research, to the extent practical, everywhere
- Public Awareness amended in several ways: procedures for assisting referral sources, information to parents re: risk factors language and on EI services and 619 services. There is no CSPD reference because Part B's CSPD is gone
- Including transition plan language -OK
- Length and Frequency added to statute-OK
- Service Coordination Services related to Transition-OK
- Including transition plan language -OK
- Based on Research-NO

There was a lengthy discussion of the deletion of higher standards language and deletion of paraprofessional language. There is no "qualified, well trained and well supervised" any more. Sharon asked if Part C should keep our standards-try to paraprofessional language back and the board said YES.

- Assurances to describe policy and procedure for referring child with substantiated abuse and neglect, fetal alcohol or drug use (presumably neonatal intoxication). It's just referral the "for evaluation" is gone.
- Requirement to assure collaboration with Head Start, Early Head Start-OK
- Procedural Safeguards-OK
- New ICC representatives added to table-Homeless folks, who got changes in B too (and still the Indians are not there) Maybe she'll rephrase for flexibility-OK
- Biannual reports now annual-OK
- What about federal FICC being gone? The Board directed Sharon to pursue and cite accountability.

Finally, Sharon said ITCA will continue to advocate for permanent authorization. Authorization is the same as the President recommends.

Board Retreat

The annual Board retreat will be in June in Washington DC. The board requested Sharon to check if they could meet with anyone from OSEP like Ruth or Stephanie Lee. Duncan agreed to drop a note to Stephanie and Sharon will see what she could arrange for Friday so people should try to arrive before 3 pm.

Agenda items suggested included:

- Update on the strategic plan
- Products and Services
- Agenda for the Part C meeting
- Review our plan: what we have achieved and what we need to update
- Reauthorization update

Board Retreat

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June Conference Call

The June 2 call will take place as scheduled. Some agenda items include lots of OSEP issues (focused monitoring; improvement plan, performance plan).

Products

An RFP has been developed for a technical assistance paper on Family Cost Participation. The proposal will be due in June with an expected product completion date of the fall OSEP meeting.

National Survey

Duncan raised the issue of moving the national survey to a web application to promote ease of completion and improved capacity. Board members concurred with the concept. An RFP is to be developed.

Facilitated Conference Call

Duncan asked if we should do facilitated conference call on the reauthorization. Someone asked if it would be web based? Duncan will send an update planning to offer it twice: one day in the morning and one day in the afternoon. It would be sometime after Memorial Day and the board to be available included: Duncan, Ron, Stephanie, Linda, Andy, and Mary.

Next conference call will be June 2, 2003 at 3:00PM EDT.