



Report on Ohio Coalition for Education of Children with Disabilities (OCECD) for September 18, 2020 OAPSA Business Meeting

I serve as the Representative for OAPSA on the Governing Board of OCECD. I also serve as the Statewide Organization Representative on the OCECD Executive Committee representing OAPSA. I participated in a meeting with the OCECD's Governing Board on May 19, 2020 through a virtual ZOOM meeting. We discussed that at that point most staff members were working from their home (like many others across our nation) and the Executive Office did close as a non-essential business. Staff worked remotely and when the Governor permitted reopening, the office obtained the required PPE and cleaning supplies but limited the number of staff accessing the building primarily because the first floor of the office building is a medical office. Selected staff were going to the office for a limited period of time to do activities such as review the mail, secure audit materials, and to access other resources that could not be reached remotely. Otherwise, staff worked remotely still providing services to assist all during this challenging time. We also discussed the process of developing a continuous improvement plan. Dr. Hickman explained that they had been working diligently to prepare the RFP for the next PTI (Parent Training and Information Center) Grant. She was in process of collecting letters of support from various organizations.

Other previously scheduled meetings were cancelled including the March 24, 2020 for Governing Board and the Executive Committee and the July 14, 2020 Executive Committee meeting. However, business has continued and we decided it was not prudent to hold the traditional Horn, Walter, Burley Awards luncheon scheduled in June 2020 so we cancelled that luncheon. We did request that SST Regions go ahead and submit their nomination information with the plan to publish the information about each nominee on the OCECD website and then mail the award statuette for distribution locally. Also, our executive committee reviewed and approved a final draft of the financial statements once the audit was completed this summer.

Dr. Valerie Riedthaler, Gwenn Spence and I met in June with Dr. Lisa Hickman, the Coalition's Executive Director and Marbella Caceres, the Coalition's Assistant Director, to discuss the letter of support OCECD had requested from us and also discussed some recent trainings. The conversation was very open and honest and everyone agreed well worth the time. OAPSA will be doing a joint presentation with Dr. Hickman and Marbella at the OCALICONLINE. Also, Dr. Hickman will be visiting us at our December OAPSA Conference.

The next meeting for OCECD Governing Board is September 23, 2020.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Stelzer

Executive Director of OAPSA