

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION

May 27, 2003

The meeting was called to order at 5:40 p.m. by Mr. Burnett, chair. Those present were Ms. Cox, Dr. Haughey, Ms. Phelps, Dr. Sirotkin, Dr. McLaughlin, Dr. Wright, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Ikheloa, and Mrs. Rose (recorder).

Overview of Classical Review

Dr. McLaughlin gave the history and genius of the *Special Education Classical Program Review* that was presented to the Board on October 25, 1999. She reviewed the draft report that outlined the results of an activity undertaken by the Continuous Improvement Team (CIT) to identify measurable indicators of special education program effectiveness. The following list of indicators met the test of validity and stability for inclusion in Phase I: (1) characteristics of the population, (2) performance and participation, (3) mental health and behavior, and (4) instructional environment. After the report is finalized, there will be four recommendations to move the indicators into a meaningful accountability system.

Data from the report was discussed with questions about overidentification of African-American males in special education, age of coded students for emotionally disturbed and/or learning disabled, tests for mental retardation, "labels" for disabilities, data on free and reduced meals linked to coded disability, mobility of special education students in and out of programs, attendance by disability and intensity, least restrictive environment (LRE) and correlation to CTBS, *No Child Left Behind* act and special education teacher certification in content areas, collaboration of special and general education teachers, staff development for special education teachers, staff development and curriculum, early intervention, special education as a route for support services for children, and natural movement to inclusion.

Ms. Cox asked for copies of the letters sent from the CIT to Dr. Weast.

Future meeting date:

June 23, 2003, at 5:30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.