

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SPECIAL EDUCATION AD HOC COMMITTEE**

January 19, 2006

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m. with the following people present: Steve Abrams (chair), Sharon Cox, Charles Haughey, Roland Ikheloa, Glenda Rose (recorder), Patricia Kelly, Gwen Mason, Vickie Strange, Carey Wright, Darlene Merry, and Don Kress.

**Intervention Plans**

Ms. Mason presented packets to the committee outlining the intervention plans for reading and math. These materials are for students to achieve grade level proficiency, and there are strategies for staff to support schools not making Annual Yearly Progress (AYP).

The committee was interested by why there were so many interventions and whether there was a data that proved one intervention was better than the others. Staff replied that the interventions are linked to the least restrictive environment (LRE). Also, intervention varies with the students depending on student profiles.

The committee asked if the interventions were appropriate for regular education students/ Staff replied that regular education students receive the same interventions depending on their academic needs.

The committee inquired about a trigger to provide interventions when a school is not meeting AYP. Is there a system to review student performance? Staff explained that each community superintendent reviews AYP, and every school has an intervention plan. The plans include providing more intense services until success is achieved.

The committee thought the parents would be comfortable if they were aware that tiered interventions are available in all schools. Staff replied that part of the professional development was to involve parents. The committee asked staff to follow up to ascertain that communication with parents is a priority. Staff assured the committee that community superintendents check with principals on parental involvement and communication as part of their supervisory visits.

**Monitoring Systems and Technology**

Staff reviewed and explained the following systems:

1. Monthly Special Education Data System (SEDS)
2. Monthly Trends in Non-public Enrollment Report
3. Newly coded Special Education Students Quarterly Report
4. Disproportionality Reports
5. Least Restrictive Environment Reports
6. Home School Report

## 7. Encore! On-line Individualized Education Program

### **Professional Development**

Staff reported on the training to improve communication between the school system and the increasingly diverse parent community, including those who are deaf and hard of hearing. Special education services are frequently associated with complex processes and language. Therefore, clear, effective practices, and procedures are necessary to enable school teams and parents to work together to improve student achievement for students with disabilities. Staff has developed for principals a guide for conducting meetings in a positive tone. Staff thought that the training/awareness piece should be evident in the spring of 2006. The committee thought there should be a survey to determine effectiveness of the strategies. This must be followed by oversight and evaluation.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.