

Ohio Supervisors of School Psychologists

(O.S.S.P.)

Meeting Minutes

December 1, 2010

1. Dr. Perry Clark (OSSP Chair) welcomed the group and introduced special guest Dr. Ronald Ross, Executive Director of the State Board of Psychology.
2. Dr. Ross provided a handout to address specific questions with regard to supervision issues. Included were sample forms for registering supervisees with the State Board. At present, there are approximately 275 licensed school psychologists and 3,300 licensed psychologists in the State of Ohio. At a State Board meeting on October 22, 2010, it was determined that interns who are practicing solely within the scope of the school psychology internship through the Ohio Department of Education do not need to be registered as supervisees with the State Board of Psychology. Those interns who would like their internship time to apply toward the pre-doctoral training supervision hours required for licensure as a Psychologist with the State Board must be registered as supervisees with the State Board.

Dr. Ross discussed new guidelines for licensure as a Psychologist which may be used in lieu of the standard post-doctoral internship. Students who wish to pursue this type of licensure via enrollment in a non-APA-accredited/Non-NASP-approved training program must have enrolled prior to June 1, 2009 and must graduate prior to April 2017. Otherwise, all such students must graduate from an APA/NASP accredited training program. The new requirement includes an average minimum of two hours per week of didactic experiences.

Dr. Ross discussed issues of culpability for supervisors when their supervisees are suspected of misconduct. It is imperative that the supervisor recognize the misconduct, work with the supervisee to immediately cease the misconduct, and provide timely communication of the issue to the State Board.

3. Ann Brennan (Director of Legislative Affairs and Professional Relations for the Ohio School Psychologists Association) gave a legislative update. The proposed budget for the State of Ohio is due sometime in mid-March. There is the probability of significant cuts – perhaps as much as 15-20% across many areas. Some federal programs and related funding streams (e.g., IDEIA) must be maintained, but many state-based funding streams are likely to be substantially impacted. There was some discussion that funding streams may revert back to 2009 levels and/or to traditional per-pupil funding mechanisms. The status of budget cuts and its potential impact on ESCs was also discussed. Due to the recent elections, there are now 40 new legislators in the Ohio General Assembly and it may take some time for them to acclimate to budget concerns before them.
4. Barbara Murphy (Consultant with the Office of Exceptional Children of the Ohio Department of Education) gave a legislative update. It appears that the approval of Race to the Top funds for Ohio were not dependent on the use of the Evidence-Based Model. The funds are awarded through a rather complex regulatory network and some school districts have elected to be removed from the process due to a variety of unfunded mandates. The Instructional Improvement System is being implemented—it involves gathering data and linking people to specific resources. Two new professionals have been hired for the purpose of monitoring school districts for regulatory compliance. In addition, school district SPP Profiles were released recently.
5. Possible topics for the meeting were discussed. There was some robust discussion as to staffing issues, including: the degree to which supervisors were able to make workload/building assignments to supervisees, preschool role/function and subsequent staffing patterns, and staffing coverage options when supervisees have extensive absences (e.g., maternity, long-term sickness).

Respectfully submitted,

Robert J. Kubick, Jr., Ph.D.

Secretary – Ohio Supervisors of School Psychologists (OSSP); December 1, 2010