Minutes of the OSPA Executive Board

Members present:

Rob Kubick        President
John Biltz        President -Elect
Janet Brunecz     Past -President
Lynn Brumfield    Treasurer
Krista Hickman    Secretary
Ann Brennan       Director of Legislative Services & Professional Relations
Cheryl VanDenBerge Business Manager
Gayle Vonderembse Maumee Valley Representative, Child Advocacy Committee Chair
Steven Vonderhaar Southwest Representative
Sal Karanouh-Schuler Cleveland Representative, Spring Conference Co-Chair
Sue Johnston      Central Representative, Fall Conference Co-Chair
Jay Bahnsen       Central Representative, Fall Conference Co-Chair
Elaine Semper     Elyria/Lorain Representative, Spring Conf Co-Chair
George Csanyi     Nominations & Elections Co-Chair
Greg Jones        Private Practice Committee Chair
Brian Hill        Guest (Intern for Susan Johnston)
Abby Reed         Guest (Intern for Greg Jones)
Courtney Deackle  Guest (Intern for Greg Jones)
Jeff York         Web Site Administrator
Debra Liddy       North Central Representative
Barbara Scholl    Legislative Co-Chair
Chinnon Jaquay    Maumee Valley Representative
Laura Gabel       Public Relations Committee Co- Chair
Juliette Madigan  Cleveland Representative / NASP Liaison
Wendy Eckert      Cleveland Representative
Mary Ann Teiltelbaum OPA Liaison
Catherine Hanley  Guest (Intern for Lynn Brumfield)
Barbara Murphy    ODE Liaison

Call to Order    10:27

Approval of Agenda
The agenda was approved with the addition of Janet Brunecz to the end of the Committee reports talking about All Hazards and the Mental Health Advisory
Motion: Janet Brunecz
Second: Steven Vonderhaar
Motion Passed

Approval of Minutes of November meeting
The minutes of the November Executive Board Meeting were approved as corrected.
Motion: Jay Bahnsen
Second: Gayle Vonderembse
Motion Passed
President’s Report

Rob Kubick

Discussion of where to meet for the Executive Board meeting on Monday March 26, 2007: the consensus is that we will meet at COSERRC in Columbus.

OISM – Don Sarcusa has an article in the current TOSP. In the next TOSP, some folks from Cleveland will address the behavior/mental health side of OISM. Rob is still looking for a fourth article tying all this together. Several regional associations have told Rob they have been having presentations on OISM.

Committee Involvement – Juliette and Rob at the NASP regional meeting got names of student leaders given to them by NASP. They contacted each student directly and encouraged them to get involved at the state level. Ron asked the committee heads to publicize their committees in TOSP.

NASP Regional Meeting
OSPA is tremendously well represented by Juliette Madigan. Everyone had such great things to say about her. She is well known and respected in NASP.

The Crisis Committee has a vacancy – Bill Stencil is not able to get release time to come and work with us. Chuck Archer was (allegedly) the co-chair. He is not able to serve. Brian Hill (Akron) was working with the committee, so Rob appointed him as chair.

Motion to confirm the nomination of Brian Hill as Chair of the Crisis Committee:

Motion: Debra Liddy
Second: Juliette Madigan
Motion passed

Prepare Curriculum – It is a program sponsored by NASP to train psychologists to be the crisis coordinator for their school districts. The program emphasizes crisis prevention as well as what to do when the crisis occurs. The goal of Prepare is for participants to be prepared to have a crisis, to look at what the district has in place to deal with a crisis, and to be ready to counsel students in regard to crisis situations. NASP sponsors one and two day “train the trainer” workshops. The program is being offered at the NASP conference in New York. A trained trainer can then train others. NASP charges a per-person fee for the materials. There was discussion of OSPA paying the fee for several of our members to train and then come back and train others through the regionals or an OSPA conference.

Consensus: We will do a needs assessment before committing to a program or to funding.

OSPA Historian - At one time an ad hoc committee was meeting and planned to get a digital camera, go to conferences, take pictures, and document. They did a lot of research on places to archive and store things. The effort faded after Lew Sarr’s reign as president. Rob would like to get this started again.

Interns – Rob has been getting suggestions that OSPA should be more welcoming to interns and people who are new to the field. Apparently they are feeling marginalized at the conferences. Discussion/Suggestions:

- IUC should be taking their students around, mentoring and promoting OSPA.
- We want the interns to feel that OSPA is THEIR organization. The professors have a responsibility, but as an organization we need to reach out.
  - A ribbon to attach to name tag, letting us know they are interns/students
  - A letter to them at the beginning of their internship year
  - Do poster sessions at conferences again
  - Regional dinners with their interns. Have people come from OSPA and MASP. Starting and encouraging at a local level.
  - A resource packet for interns that we give them at the conference.
This spring for this year’s interns and then annually in the fall – magnets...pencils...lanyards...

Meet briefly with interns and first and second year practitioners, perhaps an hour before hospitality officially starts (But most people go to dinner at that time.)

Members of the executive board to list themselves and areas of expertise – give it to the interns in the packet – so they’d have names and a concrete resource of people to talk to as things happen

We should post that on the website. Great resource for move-ins and for us “old people”....Veterans.

Have a dinner at the hotel on Wednesday after executive board meeting. Invite the interns. If we do it at fall conference, they are already there for the intern conference.

Mentorship programs for first year psychologists:
- Cleveland had a three year mentoring program, but the impetus died. It included “how do I survive”, networking – let’s sit and talk about problems and concerns, and seasoned veterans who met 1:1 with individuals and met as a group once a month. Second year they talked about specific topics – crisis, connecting community resources. Third year they did presentations to the group and networked among themselves. They generally had 13 or more interns / first year people each year.

Cathy Telzrow will be retiring from Kent State in the spring. OSPA has done something in the past. Cathy is a member of OSPA and was president in 1984. She worked on the Blueprint. There was discussion of submitting her for an OSPA award and if so which; she has already won almost every award OSPA has.

2nd Quarter Treasurer’s Report  
Lynn Brumfield
The association is in good stead. The only upcoming issue will be e-commerce. We’re 5 months into the e-commerce situation. The cost is rising steadily and the billing has been inconsistent.

Motion to approve the second Quarter Treasurer’s report
Motion:  Janet Bruneicz
Second:  Elaine Semper
Motion Passed

Business Manager’s Report  
Cheryl VanDenBerg

Motion to approve 24 new OSPA members
Motion:  Krista Hickman
Second:  Sal Karanouh-Schuler
Motion Passed

Director of Legislative Services and Professional Relations Report  
Ann Brennan.
Ann passes around a very comprehensive Legislative Year end review compiled by ODE staff.

- Budget corrections reappropriations bill – several provisions on community schools, vouchers, twice annual reporting of ADM. One states that PDD NOS is included in the autism scholarship program. Ohio Core is thoroughly reviewed in this. Ann also passes out handout summarizing the Ohio CORE bill. There is a lot more in the bill other than the core curriculum requirements.
- Phys Ed – at the last minute on the floor of the House, they amended the CORE to allow local districts the option to permit students participating in sports, band, and cheerleading to count that as their PE requirement. This went into effect immediately, (90 days after bill passed) even though the CORE doesn’t go into effect immediately.
- Alternative graduation requirement – look at this!
- Partnership for continued learning – will be responsible for recommending a readiness assessment for readiness for college English and Math. May use the ACT or SAT. Due this summer, so keep an eye out.
- College admission requirement – kids who don’t take the CORE will be relegated to 2 year state colleges.
- Drop out recovery programs – any school that has a drop out recovery program (public, community) – those students could go to a four year college (as long as the college will accept them). ODE grants a waiver of the CORE requirements if the program meets the conditions mentioned. Whitehouse Management (the Life Skills Schools) was responsible for getting this provision. The waiver is required regardless of the type of school.
- We are concerned that students can be encouraged to drop out and go to the Recovery program and then they can go to college without meeting the CORE requirements. This is a major flaw/draw. It was pointed out to the legislators, but special interest groups kept it in. Despite the waiver, the state universities can keep the kids out if the kids don’t meet the university entrance requirements.

- House Bill 79 - became a Christmas tree bill with lots of stuff thrown in…community school accountability issues. Clarification of the student acceleration policy. If school boards don’t adopt the state policy, they must submit their policy to the state for approval. Has some language about House Bill 115 – regional service system included in it.
- Special education voucher bill –The IDEIA regulations say that private school teachers do not have to be highly qualified. This makes the proposal more troublesome to OSPA. THIS DID NOT PASS. But it will be re-introduced soon, probably as a pilot program which may increase the likelihood of it being continued.
- Anti-Bullying bill – passed. The effective date is 90 days after the governor signed it, sometime in March 2007. Districts have to adopt state policy or write their own. Definition of bullying has to be the same as the state’s. See Ann’s December 2006 legislative update on the web to see specifically what the policy must contain.

Proposed constitutional amendment re: a thorough and efficient educational system -
The papers are criticizing the proposed amendment because they didn’t cost out what this would cost. The mayors were meeting with the educational groups up to the day before it came out, at which point the mayors backed out on endorsing the amendment. Most of the newspaper editorials have been lambasting the amendment.

OSPA testified at the ODE hearing on the 8 special education forms and Whose Idea. One of the main recommendations was on the ETR – the language that talked about the discrepancy formula. We recommended the language be deleted.

Coming up this year:
The state budget!! Intern funding is in the ODE budget proposal with a 2.5% increase each year over current levels. When the Dayton-Shawnee cohort interns in a few years (09) there will be more interns than the budget can handle. We need to be aware and work on increasing funding for that year. The budget will be tight.

Revision of the special ed rules – the new special ed director, Ed Malone, started this Tuesday. He is trained as a school psych and worked most recently in Alaska. Rob and Ann will meet with him to offer assistance with the OISMs. There is an OSPA taskforce set up to respond to rules revision concerns.

Gifted Rules are being revised. There is discussion of having the children who were subject accelerated to take the Ohio Achievement Test for that subject at the level at which they are accelerated. If that is passed, then do the kids who are behind take the tests at their instructional level? Ann believes the rules deal with identification and screening. Maybe the achievement testing part is something that the gifted association wants to add.
Discussion of value added - concerns re: reliability and validity. Value added is only as reliable as the test it relies on. What is the reliability data for the Ohio Achievement Tests? What is the standard error? What is the correlation between the grades? Some feel it is circular anyway since the tests were written to the standards and the standards were written to the tests. Ann says the state is collecting data. They are seeing peaks and valleys with regard to tests at different levels.

State board of education is seeking legislative changes. Recommendations to legislature include:
- May testing – the week including the first week of May
- Exempt exchange students from citizenship portion of OGT
- Change school entrance date back to September 30 statewide

Statewide health care initiative
Health care advisory board is supposed to make legislative recommendations. Ann hands out recommendations.

Social Workers - A social worker who works in Cleveland brought an issue regarding Cleveland laying off their social work department. Will it be a trend for school districts to lay off entire groups of related service personnel and then contract out for services? Ann brought the situation to the Ohio Alliance of Pupil Services Organizations of which OSPA is a member. Discussion:
- In Toledo they have been cutting down on school counselors and the district is looking at community services. Districts may look at laying off school psychologists and contracting with the ESC or a private contractor.
- The agencies look at the schools as a moneymaker. They get health insurance and free room and board! They don’t have to rent a building for their social workers during the day. A lot of continuity is lost when people from the outside start coming in.
- The one protection we have is that there is a line in the law that requires a school psychologist (certified by the state) according to the ratio.

Committee Reports

Fall Conference
Jay Bahnsen & Susan Johnston
Fall conference 2007 will have speakers on Bullying and on Classroom Management, Susan Swearer and Beth Doll. We have a contract for fall 2007 with Marriott. We are contracted with Marriott for fall through 2008; it is not too early to be looking for 2009. There was discussion regarding the pros and cons of remaining at one hotel for several years versus changing hotels frequently.

Spring Conference Committee
Elaine Semper & Sal Karanough-Schuler
We went to expensive hotel in Cincinnati last year. Low attendance but we still made money. So…are we looking for relaxation, better treatment, luxury…or basic comfort? Spring Conference will be in Columbus in 2008. Elaine and Sal are recommending the Hilton-Easton but the traditional first Thursday and Friday of May is not available. We can have the Hilton Thursday April 17 and Friday April 18, 2008 or Wednesday April 29 and Thursday May 1, 2008.

Motion to reserve the Hilton Easton for spring conference for the dates of April 16-18, 2008:
Motion: John Biltz
Second: Susan Johnson
Motion passed

Research & Technology
Jeff York
Website:
One of the big projects this fall was to get a map posted of Ohio marking out which counties belong to which regional organization. Jeff added web pages for the Northeast and Elyria-Lorain. If you click on a county, it takes you to that website.

Do you belong to the region where you work, where you live, or another?
- OSPA doesn’t care or have a policy. The issue can be in terms of # regional representatives.
- We have 4 or 5 members who are currently dual members in different regions. The data base counts them in both regions.
- If I’m attending both and participating in both, I have a right to vote in both.
Consensus: it isn’t a problem at this time.

Should we look at the geographic boundaries of the regions and consider redrawing the boundaries to make meetings more accessible?
- No, because it took us a year to figure out where the boundaries are.
- Maybe we should check back with our regionals and find out where people are attending meetings and have it ready for discussion at the March meeting.
- Not looking to add regionals, just make it easier to access.
- Southeast and Northwest are so huge geographically that we’d need to make extra regionals in order to make meetings accessible.
- If we find that people from particular counties are going other places, we can change the map to reflect that.
- If people from a county want to go somewhere else, let them do that. OSPA doesn’t need to do that.
- Maybe our boundaries should be shifted to reflect where our members actually are.

Listserve—There was discussion that whatever is posted on the listserve needs to be polite and professional. Remember, whatever is posted is archived for perpetuity!

Who is eligible to be on the listserve? It specifies that it is available for school psychologists and trainees. It does not specify OSPA members only. Should it? Should non-psych, non-invited people be removed? Could we have a read-only option for non-members? In order to subscribe to the listserve, you have to have access to OSPA publications such as TOSP or get subscription information from OSPA members, or have been a member and not paid your dues recently. We promote it as a member service; it is counted as a member benefit. Ann uses it so much for the legislative network. May be we could maintain a parallel list of read only information.
Consensus: Jeff will look into the logistics of doing a cross-check for membership status

Jeff has been asked to consider placing a banner ad on the website and an advertisement in the TOSP. A banner ad usually kicks back some funding for the website. The current policy says ads “generally” will not be considered for the website. Jeff did some research to see what these kinds of ads pay. Some are based on number of people on website who click on the ad, others pay based on number of hits on our site. Putting an ad on our homepage would generate about $50 a year. Putting it on each page would generate $200-300 per year. Is this something we are interested in?
- This might allow the owner of the ad to put cookies on our members’ computers or track who has been on there.
- Pop-ups?
- Jeff thinks we can design how invasive that ad is, and set standards. He looked on NASP and did not see any advertisements on there.
- If we say yes to one, it opens the box to everybody.
- The ad may imply that we endorse their product.
Consensus: Not interested at this time. Jeff will refer them to TOSP, which accepts paid advertisements.

What about binders or goodies from publishers at conferences? We do have publishers approach us for help with conferences. AGS is paying for one day of our speaker this spring – some $2000. 
Consensus – we are OK with that. It is less offensive than the on-line ads.

If we have things to post on the website, please let Jeff know and let him know if he has missed anything. Jeff@ospaonline

TOSP SEND HER STUFF!!! Submit or die!

George Csanyi for Kristine Quallich

NASP Update Juliette Madigan
NASP membership in Ohio is 1052 – a record high! E-pat on the back from Alex Thomas.
Laurice Joseph’s book on reading interventions (published by NASP) is out. Juliette will have some for sale at spring conference and it is available on-line.
The NASP minority scholarship went to an Ohio student. The university faculty member was asked to write about her for TOSP. There was an all time high in the number of applications this year.
NASP elections begin on-line Feb 1 at 8:00am.
NASP Summer Conference – NASP and American Health Institute are holding it at the Mariott Key Center in Cleveland July 9-11, 2007. It is an expensive conference because AHI has to make money on it. There will be an ethics component.
EBSCO – data base program for collecting resource bases, NASP will be making it available for about $45 a year. Look in CQ for more info.
NASP is having a Public policy institute in July at George Washington University in Washington. There will be two different levels of training - One for people who have never been there and one for follow up for people who have been to initial training.

New Leadership Development
At NASP, when you become a member of the executive board, they call you in an extra day, tell you all about NASP, what your responsibilities are, how to read the books they give you, the treasurer’s report, how to find out things – resources. At OSPA, we just say “welcome aboard”. Some times there are gaps. For example, there are times when a regional representative can’t come to a board meeting and they don’t arrange for a proxy. Is this because they don’t know they can do that? Should we put something together for new board members? A handout? A half-hour talk at conference? A CD-ROM? There is also not a lot of direction on how to function as a committee

Autism Eligibility Assistance for School Psychologists
All the recent conversation recently on the listserv got Juliette thinking about what OSPA has done for its membership. Other organizations have developed position statements… She was thinking that we should think about whether we would be interested in assisting school psychologists in the decision making for autism. She feels there ought to be something for those who feel uncomfortable doing it alone and there should be something for those who are comfortable making the decision and explaining it. (Example: parent comes in with a report that says kid is autistic, but we see no need for services.) She is thinking perhaps it would be appropriate for OSPA to do a brochure or position statement.

OPA Update Mary Ann Teitelbaum
- Post-Doc supervision hours were hard to get, so OPA has been working with Ohio Board of Psych to change the sequence so that the supervision can all be pre-Doc.
- OPA endorsed Strickland and they are excited that the first Psychologist governor has been sworn in.
- OPA is involved in technology issues, including developing guidelines for telepsychology. If you are in Ohio and doing telepsychology for a guy in Wyoming, how do you bill? What is the liability? Which state’s laws do you follow?
- Dual relationships – developing new rules for dual relationships. One of the most common complaints to the board about psychologists is divorce situations when the psychologist is working with the child and writes a letter to the court about the mother, even though the psychologist has never met mother.
- Also looking at competencies related to licensure for psychologists.

**Nominations and Elections**

George Csanyi
Regional rep numbers have been sent out to the presidents and the regional reps. Letters to people nominated in the fall were sent out. Letters were not sent to the regional nominating committees. The assumption is that the regional presidents would pass the info on. Need the nominees’ names for regional reps by Feb 9, 2007 back to Cheryl at the main OSPA office. The following regions will be electing representatives this spring: Central, North Central, Southeast, Cleveland, East central, Elyria-Lorraine, and Maumee Valley.

**ALL Hazards Committee**

Janet Brunecz
There was a meeting in January. The November meeting was cancelled because they weren’t sure the group would be continued under the new administration. The armed services have a group – Ohio Cares - that has to do with services available for military people coming back from the war. Call 1-800-761-0868 for a resource booklet for returning veterans. Harold Huffman – University of Findlay – is working on crisis materials. He has developed a DVD on classroom management. One of the school districts in the area has potential new hires go through the DVD and answer the questions on it. That district is using it to determine whether new teachers have classroom management skills.

**Professional policy and advocacy**

Janet Brunecz
Advocate for development and implementation of policies that promote development of school based mental health services.

Senate bill 2 – includes some things about teacher training and professional development for teachers. It might be possible to have something added to bill about teachers having some mental health training. Ann says the bullying bill requires mental health training IF the district has the resources.

Ohio school climate guidelines have come out.

**ODE Update**

Barb Murphy
We have a new director. He met with Barb today and asked her if he could be invited to an OSPA executive board meeting. He read all the SIG information, OSIM and sounds like he’s been around forever and knows what’s what. (George met him and got the same impression.) He’s bringing things together quickly.

Barb is encountering opposition in the field to the name “OISM”. She is using “Integrated System” to get around people tuning out “OISM”. She is seeing that some areas are very strong in OISM, others are not. ODE is holding the districts with OISM grants to supporting that. Good, heated discussion with SERRCs and regional improvement personnel. In some ways she feels the districts get it better than the people at ODE. She thinks the new director is going to be very good. (She thinks he is a member of NASP!)

Intervention standards have significantly improved in her view. She sees a lot of “checklist” mentality. Feels that the improvement in the standards helps promote more of a systems view. ODE hopes to have these out for comments soon.
Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Organization of New Committee for Ohio Scholarship
Valorie Walcott-Mendelson
Tabled for next time, since Val is not here.

Motion to adjourn: 3:01
Motion: Janet Brunecz
Second: Sal Karanouh-Schuler
Motion Passed

Adjournment