Minutes of the OSPA Executive Board Meeting  
May 3, 2006

Members present:
Janet Brunez  
President
Rob Kubick  
President Elect
Krista Hickman  
Secretary
Proxy for Jill Payne  
Northwest Representative
Lynn Brumfield  
Treasurer
Ann Brennan  
Director of Legislative Services & Professional Relations
Cheryl VanDenBerge  
Business Manager
Elaine Semper  
Elyria/Lorain Representative, Spring Conference Co-Chair
Jay Bahnsen  
Central Representative, Fall Conference Co-Chair
Susan Johnston  
Central Representative, Fall Conference Co-Chair
Juliette Madigan  
Cleveland Representative, NASP Liaison
Laura Gabel  
Public Relations Co-Chair
Sal Karahouh-Schuler  
Cleveland Representative, Spring Conference Co-Chair
Sharon Rieke  
Southwest Representative
Eunice Miller  
Southwest Representative
Nina Andrews  
North Central Representative
George Csanyi  
Nominations Co-Chair
Greg Jones  
Private Practice Chair
Brenda Stevens  
Professional Development
Catherine Csanyi  
Guest
Vicki Williamson  
Guest, School Psych Sugarcreek Schools
Alex Thomas  
Guest, NASP Membership Chair
Valorie Walcott-Mendleson  
Psychologist Extraordinaire
Marianne Teitelbaum  
OPA Liaison
Reuben Mosidi  
Nominations and Elections Co-Chair

Call to Order  
4:45

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda: Juliette Madigan
Second: Eunice Miller
Motion Passed

Approval of Minutes of March meeting as corrected
Correction – Representative Peterson – Take out “Bill”, it’s not his name

Motion:  
Jay Bahnsen
Second:  
Sal Karanough-Schuler
Passed

President's Report  
Janet Brunez
Janet attended NASP and attended the Crisis Prevention session. They will be updating and providing trainer of trainers workshop. Juliette and Janet are now trained to provide training.

All Hazards Advisory Committee meeting Lew Sarr attended for Janet. The major concern of this committee at this time is the “bird flu”. Seems that the best way they can find to reduce the spread is to close the schools. The Ohio Citizens Corp made a presentation.
Ohio Cares group – sponsor to the National Guard, Ohio Drug & Alcohol – they are out there. Next meeting is May 18.

Ann & Janet met April 24 with Ohio Alliance of Pupil Services Organization – major concern was shortage of providers. Talked about ratios. A few days later the OSPA listserv brought up school psych ratios. Janet points out that our current ratio of 1:2500 is legislation and is hard to change. Discussion:

- Ann gives the reason it was codified into law. At that time OSPA lobbied to get our ratios into the Ohio Revised Code, because the movement was to have no ratios, no limits. There is no support at ODE or legislature for reducing anyone’s ratios now due to funding. We are the only pupil services provider with ratios addressed in the Ohio revised Code, rather than in polices and procedures.
  - Juliette suggests Ann put this info on the website, since the issue comes up annually.
- Other service providers – nurses, social workers, etc – would like to have ratios in ORC, since currently they may, not must, be provided.
- Alex Thomas says Ann is right about the ratio. It used to be 1:3000. Was changed to 1:2500 (for funding purposes) at a time when there was a danger of removing school psychologists completely. The actual ratio in Ohio is about 1:1800.
- Some districts with very low ratios bring down that ratio.
- The law says schools have to hire school psychologists at a ratio of 1:2500. Most school psych’s actual funding comes from a variety of sources.

Ann is going to invite some ODE members to our next meeting.

There is pending California legislation regarding pupil support – it requires school districts to come up with a comprehensive plan for pupil services. Doesn’t require any particular services or that people be hired to fulfill the plan. Requires collaboration plan and plan to serve students at risk. The idea of a comprehensive plan is a good one.

Years ago when the standards were revised, we wanted to have something like this in the new standards. It was in the draft, the one that was completely changed at the end. The language of the draft was opposed by school administrators and school boards and the Ohio School board’s lawyers advised them to delete everything that went beyond IDEA standards.

There is legislation now up for students to be able to carry their own meds and Epi-pens. This concerns the nurses.

Janet attended the NCOSPA meeting last Friday and toured the Mid-Ohio Conference Center in Mansfield, Ohio. They have conference space for up to 800 and can provide catering (no hotel attached).

Janet will be reading OISM (Ohio Integrated System Models) grants May 18. Janet feels that the OISM model is a good system. Rob will have info at the planning conference in June.

Treasurer’s Report

Lynn Brumfield

Third Quarter report:

The intern conference line shows a negative balance because of the difficulty returning “extra” money to ODE the year before. Financially, we are looking good so far this year.

Motion to approve the treasurer’s report as corrected: Sue Johnston
Second: Elaine Semper
Passed
Motion to approve new members: Juliette Madigan  
Second: Sharon Rieke  
Approved

Director of Legislative Services and Professional Relations Report  Ann Brennan.

State health insurance plan.  
Capital Appropriations bill – extends the deadline of the school employee health care board.  
Due Dec 31 instead of this summer and recommendations due by end of January  

Core curriculum – Governor has introduced. There are two bills in the legislature now. Ann has articulated the requirements. The bill is troublesome because of the time table. Sept 15, 2010. There is an opt out provision for parents and kids. To go to a state 4 year college, must have that curriculum. Recommends a college readiness test. The troublesome thing for state educational organizations is the time table is too short to build capacity for all high schools to meet these requirements, particularly in math, science, and foreign language. Example – for the whole state of Ohio there are 12 Physics teachers and 40 foreign language teachers graduating from schools in Ohio. Be aware that this bill is on the fast track to pass by the end of May.  
Discussion:  
• How can a small school district begin to meet these requirements?? There aren’t enough periods in the day for the teachers to teach them.  
• Maybe through relationships with colleges? The bill says that high schools have to offer these courses.  
• The bill will eliminate or reduce the remedial courses colleges can offer. Colleges will have the options to waive the curriculum for some students. Will need to have a waiver policy – which will be the same for all colleges.  
• Pretty much a done deal – the house, senate and governor have all agreed.  
• See it being a major funding issue.  
• A huge capacity in finding and paying for the people. Indiana is the only state that has one of these laws. They took 11 years to phase it in.  

TEL Amendment – Tax Expenditures Limitations Amendment – will devastate school funding.  
Limits the amount of money state government can raise and limits money that local entities can raise and requires that the majority of REGISTERED voters – greater than 50% approve any increases. Only two districts in the state of Ohio would have met this requirement in the past 5 years. Please educate friends and colleagues.  

Alternative route for licensure – NCSP – the educator’s standards board – Ann will meet with their committee in September and recommend NCSP as an alternative route for licensure in Ohio.  

HB 431 – special ed voucher bill – will be up for testimony in May.  

Committee Reports  

Spring Conference Committee  Sal Karanouh-Schuler and Elaine Semper  

As of Tuesday we had 212 registered for Thurs, 164 for Fri, 34 for Ethics.  
2007 Spring Conference will be in Beechwood - Dawn Flanagan on Cross Battery assessment.
Nominations and Elections

Election Results:
- Pres elect – John Biltz
- Treasurer - Lynn Brumfield
- Secretary – Krista Hickman

Representatives:
- Kent-Akron - Heidi Devore and Kris Prough
- Northwest - Nancy Ruhe
- Southwest - Jackie Jackson-Dean and Sharon Rieke
- Maumee Valley - Chinnon Jaquay
- Cleveland – Wendy James

Public Relations

They are excited about the Stranger Safety DVDs available for sale at the conference. The DVDs are by John Walsh of America’s most wanted and Julie Clark, the Baby Einstein video lady. About ½ hour long. Interesting and entertaining. Under $20.

NASP Update

California was great. But she loves New York! Next NASP conference is at the Hilton Hotel in NYC March 27 – 31, 2007.

Alex Thomas, membership chair of NASP, has been riding her tail to increase NASP members from Ohio. We have 900 some, the goal was 1032. NASP has more Ohio members than OSPA has. Juliette has membership forms for 2006-07. She gave away a chance at a free membership at the spring conference (paid for by Juliette personally).

Children’s Fund Auction – our items did not do well, but the auction raised $17,000. She’s not sure how. Janet suspects that some of the money was donations, rather than auctions. Lynn said OSPA paid more for our items than NASP got from them. Maybe we should just donate the money, unless the Cavalier’s do well and we can bring an autographed LeBron James shirt. There will be an auction next year. It was the auctioneer’s first year (Alex Thomas did not do it this year.)

NASP Minority scholarship - $2000 collected at the reception and $38,000 at the conference. Two scholarships were given out this year for $5000 each. (Forty applicants this year) There will be five scholarships given out next year. We had two applications from Ohio this year, neither exactly met the qualifications – they were too “wealthy”. “Minority” for the scholarship = Hispanic, African American, Native American. Central region protested that we should include Asian Americans.

Discussion:
- What about Appalachians? NASP did not consider them as a minority.
- Goes back to the question “What is a minority”. The whole issue of poverty came up when the OSPA committee looked at this issue 15 years ago. When colleges are counting minority for students they look at things other than skin color that lead students to have an atypical background and experience.
- We could continue to support the national scholarship. We could also support a student in Ohio – we would have to have a vehicle to do that – a committee to over see, read the applications, be sure that we have the tax and financial stuff tight.
- Ohio has invested a lot in the NASP minority scholarship for little payback.
- IUC might be interested in being involved in a discussion of this. Most of the school psych students have TAs and have some form of stipend.
- The NASP committee also speaks to undergraduate students to recruit them into school psych programs. They have been focusing on California and New York. There has been a disconnect between this committee and our member – Antoinette.
- It was made clear several years ago that NASP wasn’t very in tune with the kinds of contributions that Ohio is making and that there was a political coalition that was
operating and overlooking us. How could the committee overlook Antoinette???

Yah, CA and NY have issues, but we have schools in this state that are sinking.

Julliette rode down with Cindy Reigard and was astounded at the neediness of some Ohio schools. She met with a fellow from Texas who couldn’t believe the condition of the school buildings in Ohio. Maybe we should raise money and send $1000 to NASP and keep the rest in-state.

- There are foundations that administer grants and scholarships. They invest the money and read applications. Maybe we could get involved in one of these foundations. We need to look at how we sustain the concept.
- Illinois has their own minority scholarship for the state. Maybe we should talk to them about how they do it. We have some different minority concerns, such as migrant workers in northern Ohio. We have a lot of need in Ohio. Maybe we need to tell NASP we are thinking of revolting. (Yes, we are very revolting in Ohio!)
- Suggestion that we not send any money to NASP.
- Question - of the 40 applicants, is there a disparity in where the applicants are from? Juliette doesn’t know. That information wasn’t given. The fund was started about 10 years ago. She doesn’t know how long they have been giving scholarships. The applicants who didn’t make it are informed why they didn’t get it. Juliette will take this discussion back to the regional NASP meeting.

Valorie Walcott-Mendelson thanked Juliette for the article she wrote. Valorie had lost track of the fact that OSPA has collected and donated $8000 over the past few years. She wonders how NASP is investing this money. She is familiar with a scholarship (in her husband’s name) that is getting a 14% return on the money. Juliette will check on this and get back to us.

Training issues: Antoinette is on the NASP training committee. Talked about coming up with a white paper for technology, training for school psych trainers. There are 78 openings for trainers in the country!!

NASP School Psych summer conference – Chicago and Atlantic City, NJ.

NASP has info on how to advocate for NCSP parity at school district level with national teacher board certification.

May is mental health awareness month – be sure to get checked out to see if you are still sane!

NASP Children’s Fund – gave $13,500 to school psychs for projects related to Hurricane Katrina. Susan Latery from Louisiana spoke powerfully about how the money was sent to her to use Carte Blanche. She was able to use that money to generate more and to handle situations that no one else could help with – e.g. rent a room and buy paper for a group working on helping two schools; paid for water so that the workers would have water; put together posters to use during de-briefing of school kids. Susan received about $7000 and somehow spent, turned it into $21,000. NASP also gave money to one of those “I” states (Iowa? Indiana?) for help after the tornados.

OPA Update

Mary Ann Teitelbaum

- The OPA board endorsed Strickland. OPA endorsed him because he was a psychologist and an educator.
- Medicare, only about 35% actually goes to providers – the rest disappears into administrative costs.
- APA has materials on Bullying on their website. Google American psychological organization
- Prescription privilege remains an issue.
• Liability for state associations on listserves for use of copyrighted materials, for libelous or slanderous statements, comparing how much they charge for services (potential price fixing).
• Medical Mutual and Anthem fight in Cleveland a few years ago – medical mutual reduced psych units to $60 from $90 overnight! With no recourse, they had their income cut by 30%.
• Issues with patient information being sent electronically. What will be protected and how? Important for people who work in hospitals – progress notes – there will be no private notes.

Unfinished Business

Revision of Constitution Rob Kubick & Janet Brunecz
No additional feedback to amendments
Motion to revise the constitution: Lynn Brumfield
Second: Jay Bahnsen
Motion passed

Regional map – Erich has not been able to add the regional map yet. He’s trying to make it possible to click on an area of the website and people will get information about the region, presidents name etc.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Ohio School Psychologists Association is to serve the citizens of Ohio by working collaboratively with all learners, families, educators, and others to address the learning and mental health needs of children and youth.

Should we add it to constitution or the operations manual? If we are going to add it to the constitution, we need to have a vote from the membership with 10% of the membership on site during the vote. Consensus: it belongs and fits in the operations manual.

Motion to insert the mission statement into the operations manual – Jay Bahnsen
Second – Juliette Madigen
Motion approved

Question about OSPA accepting credit cards - Still in the works. Not ready yet. There are a lot of details to work out. We will be able to use cards on site at the fall conference and possibly for membership if we can get it in on time. Cheryl will have to call them all in.

OPA and the Cleveland Psych Association have begun a relationship with some credit card company and they get a kick back.
  – This is a way to raise money when people use their credit cards on other sites.
  – Ohio Special Olympics did this and only raised a few thousand dollars.
  – It costs us to do business as a credit card entity.
  – Janet received an e-mail from a person who sold jewelry and wanted OSPA to provide information to members to go to her website and buy jewelry and OSPA would get a kick back. She didn’t feel it was appropriate and didn’t plan to bring it to the board.
  – It would be interesting to know how much OPA is getting from this. They also offered a very good rate to private psychs to use their card in their offices

New Business

There will be a summer meeting with executive board looking at OISM models on or about the first week of August.
The OISM is a framework based on a tiered system of supports for academic and behavioral supports for all students. There are several components. It is becoming so big because this is the model ODE is using for districts in academic emergency, watch, etc. The state is planning to move it out to all districts. The framework provides a well substantiated, researched base model for academic and behavior intervention. Mental health for school success is involved now. Some colleges and universities are receiving grants to teach pre-service people the model. The SERRCs now have two goals and two goals only – the OISM and compliance. They are to do NO other work. 19 other states are using a similar model and a number of foreign countries.

1. What is a tiered model? Response to intervention is primarily general education
2. Understanding how to implement the model at building and district level and how the school psych can facilitate and be a leader in implementing the model.
3. OSPA is a partner to roll this out throughout the state. OSPA will be a visible partner with ODE.

George Csanyi is one of three leads in the state. They split the 16 SERRCs among the three and put them in charge of helping roll it out and being sure it is being implemented appropriately. George feels that school psychs are appropriate people to be involved in this. He feels the model makes sense and is best practice. Akron has adopted the OISM as district policy and Cathy Telzrow rolled their statement out to NASP.

**Motion to Adjourn:** Sal Karahouh-Schuler  
**Second:** Sharon Rieke  
**Passed**

Meeting adjourned at 7:05