

CEASD
Board of Directors Meeting
Salt Lake City, Utah
October 17, 2009

Members present:

Ed Bosso, President
Ed Peltier
Sydney Dickerson
David Geeslin
Steve Gettel, Treasurer
Robert Hill
Jeanne Prickett, Secretary
Larry Taub
James Tucker, Past President

Members absent:

Claire Bugen
Clark Brooke
Barbara Garrison
Joseph J. Innes
Hank Klopping
Ron Stern
Roz Rosen

CEASD Staff Present: Joe Finnegan, Barbara Raimondo

The meeting was called to order on October 17, 2009 at 8:35 a.m. President Ed Bosso made introductions and welcomed all to the meeting. Changes were made to the agenda.

E Bosso noted that we have reduced numbers present for the Board meeting, just over a quorum, which has been unavoidable. He welcomed the newly elected new member, Larry Taub of Pennsylvania School for the Deaf.

**Approval of Minutes from the Previous Board Meeting
May 1 and 2, Santa Fe, New Mexico**

Corrections were made to the minutes from the May 1 and 2, 2009 meeting. Minutes will be corrected and the revised sent out. J Tucker moved, D Geeslin moved, passed with revisions.

President's Report – Ed Bosso

CEASD President E Bosso gave the President's report. He shared some general comments about the work of the Clerc Center with regard to rebuilding the infrastructure and increasing the Clerc Center's role in facilitating partnerships and collaboration. Ed also stated that he has attended a number of conferences during the past years for the Clerc center and always uses this opportunity to promote CEASD during these conferences. Some of the conferences and meetings attended included: CAID, ASDC, CCSSO, Cochlear Implant Conference, NBDA, and CED

Ed attended and presented at the CAID Conference and reported that CAID expressed interest in working with CEASD.
Ed also attended and presented at the CCSSO Student Assessment Conference.

Ed used the opportunity to talk about the challenges related to access and equity with implementing assessments for deaf and hard of hearing students. Attendance at conferences outside of our field are beneficial.

The National Black Deaf Advocates conference was discussed. The Board considered how we can engage ourselves in diversity concerns and how we can engage the NBDA with us.

The IFSC (Investing in Family Support Conference) was mentioned. This is for "families of children with hearing loss." E Bosso wants to see CEASD represented. Beth Benedict attended on behalf of the Clerc Center and thought it was powerful. Next year CEASD will have representative on the planning committee.

S Gettel thinks EHDI (Early Hearing Detection and Intervention) is also a very powerful conference. We need to be participating in our states and become the first point of contact. The focus of the conference varies, and sometimes it is very medical. The ASL perspective is getting representation, though. It is felt that we need to be submitting papers.

Ed also discussed that the Clerc Center, as part of their Strategic Plan, identified ASL Standards as a priority. The Clerc Center will use an RFP process to facilitate/lead the development of these standards.

James Tucker discussed a web-based ASL curriculum, which Terrylyene has set up (with private donations). More families with deaf babies will have access to ASL instruction via this format.

Ed recognized the New Mexico School for the Deaf for their wonderful success with the 2009 CEASD meeting.

Ed, R Stern and J Prickett reported that the 2010 CEASD Iowa meeting is in the planning process.

Ed congratulated the CEASD National Office for their support and increased communication.

Treasurer's Report – Steve Gettel

CEASD Treasurer S Gettel gave the report from attachments sent to Board members prior to the meeting. He complimented the New Mexico School for the Deaf staff and Ron Stern on the conference profit, which put support for CEASD \$30,000 above what it has been in past. Also, the internet advertising is proving very profitable compared to the initial expense of setup. Membership dues are a little slow. Joe noted that the budget may be out of balance in the spring and explained the factors involved. However, our cash on hand is very satisfactory. One accreditation yielded a little extra profit because the school decided to contract with CEASD for it. J Tucker moved to accept the Treasurer's report, R Hill seconded, passed.

Legislative report - Barbara Raimondo

CEASD Legislative Liaison B Raimondo referred to her handout, sent to Board

members before the meeting. She also gave the following updates:

Secretary of Education Arne Duncan was invited to Maryland to see the Maryland School for the Deaf. A meeting was held with Patty Guard and Ruth Ryder of the United States Department of Education Office of Special Education Programs. Barbara described the discussion. Alexna Posny has been confirmed, so she will be contacted to visit MSD, with the Office of Special Education personnel.

Barbara noted that the Reauthorization of the ESEA (NCLB) is on hold, although it is now time to re-authorize. There likely be a new scope, and it may return to its original name: The Elementary and Secondary Education Act - ESEA.

ARRA funds have been sent out to states, and there is nothing more to report. Some schools for the deaf received ARRA funds, and some did not.

B Raimondo noted that a letter was sent to Senator Tom Harkin (D-Iowa). He introduced a bill for infrastructure funding that includes special schools specifically but the funding not guaranteed.

The Board discussed the South Dakota School for the Deaf situation. It appears to be a moot issue, and they likely need to really examine Outreach. There was a general discussion of schools with significant issues. Several have issues of lack of state support, even some with strong numbers.

Barbara reported on the Joint Committee on Infant Hearing. She wants to see the Deaf Community involved. Barbara is looking at Deaf community involvement at every level and with every group. Jamie noted that MD has strict parameters on representation, and it includes Maryland Association of the Deaf and MSD.

J Tucker mentioned the importance of trying to become connected with each state's SEAC (Special Education Advisory Council, a federally mandated committee under the IDEA in each state). E Bosso emphasized the importance of all relationship building.

The DHHA (**Deaf** and Hard of Hearing Alliance) was mentioned. Board members thought perhaps we need to discuss this group and our participation in it during new business.

Executive Director Report

J Finnegan sent copies of his report out before the meeting. Some things included in his written report were discussed earlier in the meeting. A more in-depth discussion of the National Summit was held for later in this Board meeting.

Advertising on the website has been good.

J Tucker wanted to know what the biggest monthly challenge to operations are. The website is the one, Joe reported, including keeping updated and helping schools know how to use it.

J Tucker mentioned that some of what we post includes CART transcription that is approximately 30-40% inaccurate. Discussion of removing those presentations followed.

Old Business

CEASD Annual Meetings (the recent one and the next one) were discussed.

- 2009 -- The Board members again acknowledged the New Mexico School for the Deaf success.
- 2010 -- Topics might include: Outreach, viability (SOS training was established to address this). Members need to save the date in April for the meeting.

Our contacts with Alexa Posny and Senator Tom Harkin were mentioned again. We hope they will consider our invitations to attend the 2010 meeting, and we need to stay in contact with them, offering opportunities to visit and stay involved with our school programs.

There was a Strategic Planning update discussion, led by J Tucker. Although it is a living document, it looks like it could be ready for a Board vote. Then, it can be brought to the Iowa Conference for a vote of membership. E Bosso noted that we haven't had time to read and not all Board members could attend the Salt Lake City Board meeting to vote. There was a brief discussion of the CEASD Bylaws and voting online, to accommodate the missing members of the Board. We agreed that members should have more advance opportunity to review a final draft. Then, the members in general need 30 days advance notice before any vote. We don't want it to be delayed by almost 18 months until the Hawaii conference. J Finnegan will check the CEASD Bylaws about specific parameters for votes. There was mention of the Plan including a focus on developing leaders-is that what it should be, or not?

The Coalition of Private Schools for the Deaf recently met. They discussed sustainability of their schools. The new administration situation of the Scranton State School for the Deaf was mentioned: the school moved under WPSD. The topic of training new leaders was considered by this group, also.

We revisited the topics of the CEASD Bylaws and Strategic Plan as part of Old Business. Everyone will have an opportunity to read the new Strategic Plan draft (Board) and then vote so that it will be ready to submit to members.

National Summit

The Summit will be held again before the Iowa conference. Its dates are the 21st of April in the evening to the 23rd at noon. Our CEASD Board meeting will be abbreviated and coordinated around it. The Summit has a new Coordinator this year. Carol Massanari is not doing it any longer. The Summit has been moved to PEPNet, through the University of Tennessee. Marcia Kolvitz will coordinate the Summit; she has a deafness background. The role is more of Coordinator for the planning activities, and doing it at no cost to the Summit. Joe filled us in on the planning details to date. There was a question whether the Summit would be held, but it will. There still is a question about the Summit going to Hawaii's 2011 CEASD meeting. The topic had not been finalized for their meeting for 2010.

J Prickett moved to add \$5000 to the CEASD budget to support the National Summit this year, and revise the current budget. E Peltier seconded, and the motion passed.

Viability of Deaf Schools:

The "SOS: Save our Schools" training was discussed. First, a small group met at Gallaudet under Jay's support to lay out the issues and topics. The training was

thought important not so much for those in distress currently, but for those who need to be proactive to avoid future challenges. Regional meetings/workshops were planned for CEOs and assistants who might succeed current leadership to ensure a "succession plan" in each school. The planning committee was established. Joe Fischgrund, Joe Finnegan and Larry Siegel worked on the committee, with Jay supporting the planning. The first inservice was scheduled for the Midwest Superintendent conference (Minnesota School for the Deaf in November, 2009). Twenty-one schools were invited. CEASD partnered with GLI/BLI (Burstein Leadership Institute of Gallaudet University), and the focus was leadership development.

CEASD Committee Restructuring

E Bosso presented a PowerPoint that showed the Board Liaisons and Chairs, (if there is one), for each committee. Board Liaisons are needed because some chairs are not on the CEASD Board, although they lead committees. Discussion about the committees themselves followed. The Educational Policy and Practices Committee was considered, and H Klopping suggested discontinuing this committee because we do have a Legislative Liaison/policy expert. However, several members thought the committee is important and we need to consider "best practices." It was noted that if we can get the structure established, we can have annual committee meetings at the conferences. We will consider having it included in conference planning this year and if it is, disseminate very actively to membership so they can elect to participate.

New Business

The Board discussed the 2011 Conference in Honolulu, Hawaii. S Dickerson gave details: the meeting will be held at the Pacific Beach Hotel (Waikiki) and the charge will be \$135 per room per night. The Board meeting will be held Thursday April 21. We will have opening ceremonies on Friday night (Good Friday). The banquet will be held on Saturday night. Discussion followed about the dates and possible conflicts with Easter and Passover, but Board members generally felt the dates will be satisfactory.

We discussed how to protect our schools from budget cuts, which must be a proactive agenda. The Board discussed strategies for developing the relationships; one specific way includes legislative coffees where we could meet our local legislators in the state capitols. We all need to have strategies in our toolkit; COSB has prepared a draft notebook of such concepts. There is interest in CEASD doing the same. Board members could develop the information for CEASD.

Barbara Raimondo explained some of the potential issues in the ESEA Reauthorization that is anticipated soon, and D Geeslin volunteered to organize an effort to review/revisit the issues with NCLB. Evaluation/assessment is a big issue. Some schools have been impacted negatively and some have not. Lee Shiver from Georgia surveyed 70 schools through CEASD, with only 16 responses (results were not available in the Board meeting).

There was a discussion of the DHHA letter that we recently had sent to us. Some CEASD Board members were not pleased with the wording of the letter. Several members noted, however, that essentially our issues are the same with other DHHA member groups, although there may be a few philosophical differences, so we should not leave the group. J Tucker moved to sign onto the most recent letter, and J Prickett seconded. The motion passed.

Committee reports:

Accreditation – It was reported that our accreditation business is “slow at the moment.” This could be due to the economy. There are a few visits scheduled. A brief discussion of accreditation followed.

Residential – No report was available at this meeting.

Honors and Awards – S Gettel has sent an email to all of us regarding honors and awards. E Bosso reminded us to nominate folks for the awards.

Annals – J Prickett reported on the meeting at Santa Fe with the Joint American Annals of the Deaf Committee (JAAC) that includes the Editor, Dr. Donald Moores, and representatives of CAID. Dr. Moores will retire this year, and we will advertise for (and interview as appropriate) a candidate for the editorship of the American Annals of the Deaf. This was the main topic of the JAAC meeting; the committee wanted to ensure the same kind of high quality editorship as we have enjoyed for the AAC under Dr. Moores.

CED - It was announced that CED will meet in February.

DHHA - Topics related to CEASD’s participation in DHHA were already discussed earlier in the meeting.

Government Affairs – B Raimondo gave her report early in the meeting.

Diversity concerns – These were discussed briefly earlier, without specific recommendations beyond getting involved with the NBDA group, and cultivating diverse leaders for special schools and programs.

J Tucker reminded the Board about the coming ICED meeting and urged us all to consider attending. He will give a plenary panel presentation with John Luckner giving a contrasting view of mainstream programming. The topic is “Community.”

L Taub moved to adjourn the CEASD Fall Board meeting, and R Hill seconded. The vote was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Prickett
Secretary