

MCCPTA Special Education Committee Report

To: Exec Committee
From: Jeanne Taylor
November 2008

I continue to receive sporadic notifications from school PT(S)As that they have found a Special Education Chair.

Providing new incoming chairs with information about the position has been a priority.

I confirmed with Pat Gamage, Business Manager, that we have Rockville High School reserved for our annual Special Education Recognition Ceremony. The date is Monday, May 4, 2009.

I have decided to postpone updating the SPED Chair Directory with an “area of specialty” column. The response was poor, only a handful of people replied. Many of the Chairs are new, they may not feel confident enough to add their names to such a list. Will revisit later in the year.

In the near future I plan to send out an article by E-mail about the difference between Individual Education Programs (IEPs) and 504 Plans.

We held our Annual Kickoff Meeting for the local PT(S)A Special Education Chairs on October 6, 2008. Members from various special education advocacy groups – including a mental health support group, two learning disability support groups, a developmental disabilities support group and others - presented information about their organizations. Our audience heard how advocates from around the county provide support for various special needs populations. About 25 people attended, including speakers. It was an interesting and informative meeting and good to finally meet people in person.

Next month, on December 1, 2008 we will hold our next meeting. Rich Weinfeld, Educational Consultant, will come speak about Best Practices for educating students who are Gifted/Talented & Learning Disabled (GTLTD), Best Practices for working with students who have Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and Mentoring Programs. Rich is a well-known and highly respected author and speaker on issues such as these.

Kay received feedback from the PSA President at Stephen Knolls regarding their CIP needs.