

Meeting Minutes: March 19, 2009

School Employees Health Care Board

Public School Employees Health Care Advisory Committee

Location: 8050 North High Street, Columbus, Ohio

Topic	Discussion	Action
Call to Order		Meeting was called to order by Chairman Loeb's at 9:12 AM.
Attendance	<p><i>The following Board members were present:</i> Stephen Loeb's, Chris Holland, Laurie Klopfer, M. Scott Nisley, Larry Morgan, Bob Hancock, Gary Smiga, Scott DiMauro, R. Reed Fraley. <i>Board members absent:</i> Louis Goorey, Chris S. Mohr, and Steve Clark.</p> <p><i>The following Advisory Committee members were present:</i> Van Keating, Gregg Gascon, Jim Timlin, Kelly McGivern, Brenda Powell, Fred McGraw, David Hamilton, Mark Schwendeman, Janice Walker. <i>Committee members absent:</i> Dan Schall, Ken Blood, Barbara Shaner, Kelly Singleton, Barbara Coriell, Larry Zimmerman, David Manning, and Dan Doyle</p> <p>Staff present: Bruce Gilbert, Cheryl Reeves, Jon Brescia, and Charlotta Ross.</p>	A quorum of the Board was present. There was no quorum of the Advisory Committee present at today's meeting
Review of Meeting Minutes for 2/26/09	Dr. Loeb's noted that the minutes had been developed and circulated however, some changes will need to be made before final.	Minutes to be resent with changes.
Chairman Loeb's remarks	<p>There will be a change in today's Agenda to include discussion on his document entitled <u><i>Proposed Guidelines for Presentations and Submission of Evidence to Board and Advisory Committee.</i></u></p> <p>Members were presented with Senate citations from Senator Widener.</p>	

	<p>Dr. Loebs would like to formally thank Senator Widener for speaking at the conference. Additionally, he would like to thank <i>Medical Mutual</i> for supplying lunch and <i>Joseph James and Associates</i> for the morning coffee.</p> <p>There were approximately 400 in attendance at the conference. They represented 200 – 250 School Districts, in addition to other entities. When companies make assertions or citations from this board so as to insure they are correct, they need to reference our “Best Practices”. Care should be taken so as not to appear to be giving a company an endorsement by the board.</p> <p>The SEHCB will be more visible in the future and looked to for guidance. There is a need to keep our eyes on the mission and goals and to move ahead aggressively.</p> <p>He recognizes and appreciates the efforts by members to attend meetings. They had volunteered over 200 hours per person in the first year, which did not include travel.</p> <p>We are in the middle of health care cost reform.</p>	<p>Would like to note for the record that the board has completed the annual evaluation of the Executive Director.</p>
<p>Remarks by Executive Director, Bruce Gilbert</p>	<p>The School Employees Health Care Board (SEHCB) will not be moving under the Department of Education. They will remain at the Department of Administrative Services (DAS).</p> <p>John Williams sends his regrets at not being able to attend today’s meeting. If there are any questions for him, please send via Bruce. He has attended two seminars; Columbus and Athens. When he asked “What do you know of the SEHCB” many hands went up. He will be in Toledo next week and others later.</p>	

<p>Staffing & Budget</p>	<p>Bruce Gilbert: What if I don't or can't comply.</p> <p>Dr. Loeb: Does Bruce have plans to contact those school districts not in attendance at the conference?</p> <p>Bruce Gilbert: No, will continue with current processes and planned events.</p> <p>Gary Smiga: Has there been any contact made with Anthem and others in order to put them on notice regarding compliance?</p> <p>Bruce Gilbert: School Districts will need to contact their vendors.</p> <p>Fred McGraw (to Bruce): Are you looking to staff up? Will we have a compliance officer, etc?</p> <p>Bruce Gilbert: Will try to increase staff, but cannot make blanket statement that this will happen.</p> <p>Fred McGraw: Since budget is better at Department of Education, would we not be better off there?</p> <p>Bruce Gilbert: I know DAS, but do not know Education. We are looked at favorably at DAS; do not know how we would be received at education.</p> <p>Dr. Loeb: If we have funds in the budget, then the Board should use them to increase staff.</p> <p>Bruce Gilbert: Should talk with Director of DAS.</p> <p>Dr. Loeb: We could bring the budget stats. What was the cost of the conference?</p> <p>Cheryl Reeves: Between \$10,000 and \$12,000.</p>	
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<p>Implementation of Proposed Strategic Initiatives</p>	<p>Scott DiMauro: Where is the budget now?</p> <p>Bruce Gilbert: A couple of hundred thousand unencumbered.</p> <p>Dr. Loeb: Then use funds to increase staff.</p> <p>Bruce Gilbert: I recommend setting up a meeting with the Director of DAS.</p> <p>Bob Hancock: Should also take into consideration the new budget figures for FY2010.</p> <p>Bruce Gilbert: \$1.2 million is the current amount listed.</p> <p>Bruce Gilbert: Regarding education, consultative, and communication components: He has been very busy with seminars and answering questions regarding the Best Practices. Additionally, working to have the web site updated with new information.</p> <p>Dr. Loeb: What is the timeline for written form?</p> <p>Bruce Gilbert: Will have by next meeting.</p> <p>Discussion around the ten seminars being part of the board's outreach and communication plan to reach those school districts who had not attended the conference.</p> <p>Dr. Loeb had asked Bruce to make a Strategic Action Plan. It was sent to Board members only.</p> <p>Dr. Gascon questions if compliance issue has been settled?</p>	<p>Recommended to set up meeting with Director of DAS in order to discuss increasing the staff for the SEHCB.</p> <p>Written form will be provided by Bruce Gilbert at the next meeting.</p> <p>Strategic Action Plan to be sent to Advisory Committee members in addition to the Board members.</p>
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Potential Best Practices	<p>Dr. Loeb discussed potential list of Best Practices and that they should be sent to Bruce Gilbert within 14 days; there are three that were tabled from earlier discussions. He feels there is a significant time to discuss and submit two by April 23, 2009. Step 3 could be completed by May's meeting and Steps 4 and 5 could be completed over the summer. Would hope to have ready in the fall to submit to JCARR. Try to have ready by January 1, 2010.</p>	
Policy Considerations	<p>Dr. Gascon feels it premature to discuss and solicit new Best Practices until compliance and evaluations are completed. Dr. Loeb remains committed to continued solicitation of Best Practices.</p> <p>Mr. Nisley and Mr. DiMauro agree with Dr. Gascon. Additionally, Mr. DiMauro believes how the sub-committee meetings are carved out should be taken into consideration.</p> <p>Discussion regarding policy considerations as Bruce Gilbert has previously provided the document. Ms. Walker and Mr. Schwendeman expressed concerns regarding the school districts understanding what was needed to be compliant and what would happen if they were not compliant. Dr. Gascon suggested that having the vendors could show how they are compliant may be one way to resolve the issue as two thirds (2/3) of the market is controlled by five vendors. Ms. Holland expressed she understood them to want a checklist. Mr. DiMauro and Ms. Walker feel a standardized form should be created and shared with everyone in order to relieve anxiety.</p> <p>Dr. Gascon and Mr. Schwendeman asked what standard guidelines will be used. Bruce Gilbert states there are two things:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What does the statute say? 2. Show me you are compliant. <p>The Ohio revised code (ORC) does define the terms.</p> <p>Discussion continued regarding how to define compliance and how sub-committee is floundering on this issue. Dr. Gascon suggested they form a separate ad hoc committee which will develop outcomes for each "best practice", which would include subject matter experts.</p>	

<p>Financial Disclosure Form</p>	<p>Bruce Gilbert expressed his agreement to this proposal and stated he would assist the committee and bring final product back to the Board. Furthermore, most subject matter experts are already here and should be utilized.</p> <p>Mr. Fraley suggests they try the simplest first and then coordinate through the executive director. Try it once to see if it will work. Also, consider additional staff.</p> <p>Dr. Gascon advises to look at the evaluation data.</p> <p>Each member of the Board must submit Financial Disclosure form. SECHB pays the fee. You may either give to Cheryl or mail. The Ethics Commission can be very aggressive.</p>	<p>Dr. Loeb's will appoint 2 – 3 people to work with Bruce on Eligibility Audit</p> <p>Financial Disclosure Forms due April 15th.</p>
<p>New Business</p> <p>Proposed Guidelines for Presentations and Submission of evidence to Board and Advisory Committee</p>	<p>Dr. Loeb's stated there would be no sub-committee meetings today.</p> <p>Mr. Fraley states the document makes sense, but paragraph three does not address the issues that have been raised; how do we say “no” to others?</p> <p>Mr. Schwendeman asserted they should complete the compliance standards first.</p> <p>Dr. Gascon states that when you allow a group to make a presentation before the Board they may use it as a sales opportunity. Dr. Loeb's responds they have had others in the past and this makes the job for the Board more difficult.</p> <p>Bruce Gilbert stated there has been no policy in the past. Giving people the opportunity to present and listening to vendors may be quite helpful. No Advisory Committee member or Board member has recommended anyone</p> <p>Dr. Gascon again asserts that a disclaimer is needed.</p> <p>Ms. Klopfer agrees with Bruce, but does believe they have something to sell and are looking for the seal of approval. Mr. Hancock states the group is able to discern good info from bad.</p> <p>Mr. DiMauro agrees that the use of a disclaimer may be the way to go forward.</p>	

	<p>Mr. Smiga states that you cannot shut out those who wish to talk with you. Money is going to be made and cannot be stopped. Use of a disclaimer may be the answer.</p> <p>Mr. McGraw states he feels that use of vendors to be inappropriate and unethical.</p> <p>Dr. Loebs says to add anyone who requests will receive and already has the ability to make public comments. Also add disclaimer addressing no endorsements.</p> <p>Dr. Gascon suggests they submit materials first in order to see if they are acceptable i.e. not a sales presentation.</p> <p>Mr. Fraley questions if they must allow competitors equal time?</p> <p>Bruce Gilbert: No one has the right to present to the Board; fundamental fairness issue.</p> <p>Comments were solicited from the public, but none were forthcoming.</p>	<p>Dr. Loebs: Will make changes to document and bring to next meeting.</p>
<p>Executive Session</p>	<p>12:15 PM – 2:45 PM</p>	<p>Motion: 09-014, Unanimous</p>