



*National Association of
Early Childhood Specialists in
State Departments of Education*

NAECS-SDE Business Meeting

San Francisco, CA

June 7, 2013

Renee DeMars-Johnson, President, opened the business meeting at 2:15 p.m. and announced that the minutes from the 2012 annual meeting had been reviewed by the executive committee, but were not posted on the association's Web site for review by the members prior to this year's meeting. This omission caused no vote for approval of the minutes to occur. The minutes from 2012 will be posted, along the 2013 minutes, on the association's Web site soon.

John Pruette, Treasurer, obtained two volunteers to assist him reviewing the financial books and confirmed that the books are reconciled and the association is in good shape fiscally. The 2013 meeting is paid for. Lindy Buch moved to accept the audit report with Cecelia Fisher-Dahms seconding and the motion to accept was approved.

The results of this year's election were announced by Renee: Sallye Longshore was elected to serve a second term as secretary and Amy Corriveau was elected treasurer. Both were elected unanimously.

Accomplishments from this year: Penny Milburn, past-president, chaired the by-laws revision committee and the amended version was passed. Renee DeMars Johnson chaired the new leadership development committee which solicited members who reviewed potential candidates for the slate of officers. Renee reported that a new member placed her name in nomination for the secretary position, but it was decided that the person needed more time in the organization before serving on the executive committee. Sallye Longshore and Connie Casha, communications committee co-chairs, announced that the Reading Corner had been revitalized with a Web discussion around the Pre-K Debates being scheduled in May, but due to technical difficulties, having to be re-scheduled later in the summer. Steve Barnett, one of the editors of Pre-K Debates, will lead the book's discussion, along with some of the book's authors. It was also announced the follow-up book for the Reading Corner will be *How Children Succeed* by Paul Tough. Penny Milburn and Gayle Stuber led the policy committee in drafting the association's Kindergarten Power Statement, which after almost three years of work, was accepted and posted.

A possible next public policy work agenda would be drafting a “core for the core” around pre-K learning standards. Much discussion was generated around this idea and taking into consideration of national conversations. There were many suggestions concerning looking at the work of California and Michigan in aligning standards and also connecting standards to the systems approach of linking the “core” to assessment and evaluation. It was also noted not to lose sight of infant-toddler outcomes. The next step might be to ask Gayle to be aware of conversations around the President’s “Preschool for All” proposal and enlist additional letters of support from the grassroots. It was suggested and agreed that our association partner with CEELO and tap into their resources prior to moving forward.

The states’ Early Childhood Advisory Councils was discussed in terms of our members’ involvement in their state councils and the future of these councils as the funds run out. Also discussed was our role in the assessment of the councils and review of their effectiveness and new opportunities in the states.

Next steps: Our by-laws mention having a membership support committee. In the past we have held regional, cluster meetings but we could do this through technology which opens doors to connecting to members. It was also noted that the listserv and reading corner can support members. It was suggested and agreed that the communications committee would work to compile the questions/needs and responses from the listserv and draft a compendium for posting on the Web. We could also use the listserv Q and A to drive periodic webinars to keep members up-to-date on current issues, such as the discussion surrounding Kindergarten Entry Assessments.

Renee then thanked the work of Deb Adams and the program committee for their exceptionally hard work in putting together the annual meeting. She thanked John Pruette for serving two terms as the association’s treasurer and thanked Sallye Longshore for serving as secretary. Thanks also went out to Penny Milburn for serving as past president, working on the by-laws and public policy committees, and for serving as the facilitator for the 2013 Light Award dinner, which included a special thanks to Jana Martella for all of her dedication to the association.

To further honor Jana’s work with the association, Lindy Buch moved and Cecelia Fisher-Dahms seconded, extending a lifetime NAECS-SDE membership to Jana. The motion was approved.

As no further business was brought to the group, Connie Casha moved to adjourn the meeting with Sallye Longshore seconding. The motion was approved and the meeting adjourned at 3:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sallye R. Longshore

Secretary