

**Minutes**  
**CPS Out-of-Family Advisory Group**  
**DCSE Office-Charlottesville**

**November 3, 2005**

**Members Present**

Carol Lane  
Carolynne Stevens  
Kerthy Hearn  
Maria Timoney  
Irv Beard

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Maria Timoney, Chair

**Introductions**

Nan McKenney was introduced as the new liaison representing Child Protective Services.

Peppy Linden was introduced as the new Board Liaison to the group.

Milton Brown, Attorney for the VEA was introduced.

**Minutes**

*ON MOTION DULY MADE (Irv Beard) and seconded (Carolynne Stevens) moved to approve the minutes. Motion carried with all in favor.*

**State Board Request**

The State Board of Social Services requested this committee study the impact of changes to the Code of Virginia 63.2-1511 on Out-of-Family Reports and Findings and provide the Board with a report at their August 2006 meeting.

**Discussion:**

Mr. Brown reported there were 319 complaints last year, of which 52 were forwarded as founded. VEA is concerned about the 200+ complaints there were not forwarded but still had a negative impact on teachers.

He stated that 45 to 60 days to complete an investigation is too long when teachers are left in limbo until a determination is made. He mentioned several cases; one of which led to the suicide of a teacher whose case was later determined unfounded.

Ms. McKenney advised that DSS must investigate when a claim is made. The only response available to out-of-family CPS reports is the investigation track.

Minutes  
CPS OOF Advisory Group  
November 3, 2005

Ms. Timoney shared the committee's past recommendation that regional specialists should be available to handle these out-of-family complaints and advised funds were not available.

Ms. Lane shared her concern that licensed day care programs are held to a different standard than public school as far as teacher ratios per child at school and on the bus.

**Recommendation:**

At the next meeting, Ms. McKenney will provide members with an overview of cases that are being made. to include the type (by setting); type of abuse; locality; length of time to complete; whether the case was referred to law enforcement (how many convictions); age of alleged victim; gender; and gender, race, and age of alleged abuser.

Ms. McKenney was requested to review accepted referrals and screened out complaints. The committee was interested in reviewing if standards are consistently being applied in unfounded reports (reason for screen outs).

Ms. McKenney will provide members with information on how many teachers had physical abuse against them; and how many cases were student on student abuse.

Ms. McKenney was asked to provide members with a copy of the training curriculum used for CPS OOF workers.

Mr. Beard requested that the MOU between schools and social services be reviewed due to the change in the policy.

Members requested and the Chair agreed to speak with Chairman Christopher about changing the report due date to October 2006 to ensure the Board would have 1 year of data versus nine months. The committee plans to hear from local agency personnel as well as school personnel prior to making its report.

**Future Meeting Schedule**

Thursday, April 6  
1-4 PM  
DCSE Office-Charlottesville

**Adjourn**

4:15 p.m.

