
**Miami Dade County Public Schools
Division of Career & Technical Education
1450 Northeast Second Avenue Room 817
Miami, Fl 33132**

**Minutes of
HEALTH SCIENCE EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Robert Morgan Educational & Technical
Education Center
Mall Conference Room-First Floor
18180 S.W. 122 Avenue
Miami, Fl 33177**

Thursday, March 29, 2007

11:30 – 2:00 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Beverlin Allen, Chair
Chief Nursing Officer
Sister Emmanuel Hospital

Ronda Mims, Instructional Supervisor
Health Science Department
M-DCPS

Maria Berrones, MA, Instructor
Medical Assistant Program
South Dade Skills Center
M-DCPS

Betty Collins, CMA, Instructor
Medical Assistant Program
South Dade Skills Center
M-DCPS

Virginia Cuthbert, Dept. Head
Miami Lakes Ed. Center

Mary Ellmore, Dept. Head
Homestead Senior High

Judith Garcia, RN, CMA Prog. Director
Medical Assistant Program
Robert Morgan Ed. Center

Elizabeth Hernandez, CMA, BXMO,
Instructor, Medical Assistant Program
Robert Morgan Ed. Center

Paula Porter, Dept. Head
Robert Morgan Ed. Center

Rosalie Poyntz, Dept. Head
Lindsey Hopkins Ed. Center

Nilda Soto, M.D. Medical Advisor,
Medical Assistant Program
Robert Morgan Educational Center
Medical Director, Open Door Health Cntr
Homestead, Florida

Magaly Parets, Curriculum Specialist, HSE
Miami-Dade County Public Schools

Monica Duenas, Med. Assistant Student
Robert Morgan Educational Center

CALL TO ORDER, APPROVAL OF MINUTES, AND INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS:

Ms. Beverlin Allen started the meeting at 11:45 a.m., and she welcomed everyone and asked for introductions. Mr. Cecil Flannigan welcomed everyone present to Robert Morgan Educational Center, and complimented all the members with a lunch made by the students in the culinary department.

Approval of minutes with minor typographical changes and the dates for the Medical Assistant Accreditation visit. Elizabeth Hernandez moved to approve the minutes.

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Mims was giving a report in reference to the NLNAC, and read the letter that was just received from the National League of Nursing. National League of Nursing requires that every instructor should have a Masters in Nursing Education, and Ms. Mims remind everyone that is not possible for us to require the same credentials from the nurses, since having a Masters Degree is not a requirement from Miami Dade County Public Schools.

In the past meeting it was discussed that Ms. Mims and Ms. Allen will draft a letter to Baptist Hospital in referencing to accepting LPN to come to their facilities to do clinicals. Dr. Soto mentioned that perhaps she could make some phone calls in order to inquire as to why and perhaps get more positive results.

NEW BUSINESS

Medical Assistant Accreditation – Judith Garcia, Robert Morgan, Program Director for the Medical Assistant started by giving a report in reference to the visitation coming up in April 19 & 20th, 2007.

She explained how the program operates, which is open-entry, open-exit. It is possible that any of the students can be in different levels at different times, and the teacher becomes a facilitator. There are no final exams, and they are tested and evaluated as they advance through the program. Ms. Garcia mentioned that they have a minimum of 250 clinical hours and that CAAHEP requires only a minimum of 160 hours. Since the program is accredited by the CAAHEP, they can sit for the national certification exam from the American Association of Medical Assistants (AAMA) and become a CMA (Certified Medical Assistant) which gives the student the potential to enter the job market with a higher salary. Also, when the student becomes CMA, they are eligible to be accepted in the transitional program to become RN at Miami Dade College.

Dr. Nilda Soto, the Medical Advisor of the program, mentioned the wonderful experience that she had in the past whenever she had the opportunity to either hire students at her clinic, or observe them during their clinical externship.

The Medical Assistant and the Practical Nursing curriculums were given to all members present, and it was requested that they all send their comments or suggestions at a later time to the District Office.

Ms. Garcia mentioned that the Florida Department of Education has added “Principles of IV Therapy” in the Medical Assistant Curriculum Framework and Student Performance Standards, beginning in 2008. This action now meets the requirements for CAAHEP.

The Medical Assistant Lab and the Nursing Lab were visited and the forms for evaluation of the vocational programs were completed. The members commended both labs, and made the comment that perhaps the size of the lab was small, but it also depends on how many students there are enrolled at the time.

Ms. Mims mentioned how important it is to recruit members to attend the meetings of this Advisory Committee and that perhaps the teachers need to make an effort in order to get other members of the Health Care Provider Industry to attend, since their input is very valuable to all Health Science Programs.

The next meeting place will be announced at a later time, and it will be around the month of October 2007.

Ms. Allen, adjourned the meeting at 2:00 p.m.