



Date: May 5, 2004

To: Special Education Directors
Title 1 Directors, Parent Advocacy Groups

From: Barbara Jo Stahl
Staff Development Specialist, Division of Special Education Policy

Re: Minnesota Paraprofessional Consortium Vacancies

The "No Child Left Behind" legislation contains language regarding qualifications for paraprofessionals and it is anticipated that the Reauthorization of IDEA will include similar language. The purpose of the Minnesota Paraprofessional Consortium is to advise MDE regarding activities that prepare, support and recognize the paraprofessional workforce in Minnesota and implement the requirements of "No Child Left Behind." We are asking for your assistance in recruiting prospective Consortium members.

This group represents many organizations, which has occasional openings for new members. Applicants should be knowledgeable of issues, laws and policies pertaining to the roles and functions of paraprofessionals in schools. Persons from diverse cultures and from all congressional districts are encouraged to apply. Members must represent one or more of the following areas:

- Title 1 Paraprofessionals
- General Education Teacher
- Human Resources Director
- Special Education Teacher
- Staff Development
- Principal
- Union Organizations
- Parent (of child with a disability)
- District Staff Dev. Coord./Curriculum Dir.
- Special Education Paraprofessional
- Director of Special Education
- Higher Education – 2yr./4yr.
- Title 1 Director
- Department of Health

As a consortium member, you will be expected to attend 6 meetings throughout the year, support and assist in hosting State and Regional Paraprofessional conferences, assist in information dissemination on best practices and staff development for Minnesota's paraprofessionals. Members of the Consortium shall serve without compensation but be reimbursed for reasonable and actual expenses incurred in attending meetings.

Please pass this information on to anyone who may be interested in applying; if positions are open. Fill out application from website, www.ici2.umn.edu/para. Completed applications should be sent to Barbara Stahl, 1500 Highway 36 West, Roseville, MN 55113.

Barbara Stahl at (651) 582-8659, email: barbara.stahl@state.mn.us