

## Postsecondary Education Support meeting minutes 6/2/11

### Attendees:

DSSH Administration: George Smylie

### Workgroup members:

Tim Eastman

Andrew McDermid

### Members of the public:

Greg Howe

The meeting started at 4:15 PM

George informed us that at our next group meeting in Seattle we will have only a few minutes to give a verbal report on our subcommittee meetings and that a full written report is still required.

There was discussion on how we should move forward with revising the statute that a child must attend an educational facility "Full Time." Members discussed whether or not to add a minimum number of credits to be required or use whatever is required by the educational facility. Members present agreed that it should say "on a full time, per term basis as required by the educational facility."

One person inquired whether a court could regard full time work and part time classes as meeting the requirement as attending school full time. We were informed that that has never been seen by the experience of one of the attendees.

There was discussion as to where there was a statute that required a parent to petition the court before a child turns 18 or graduates from high school. We were informed at the last work group meeting that there is no statute for that. We were informed that there has been a presumption in the Order of Support where a court can reserve the right of the parents to petition the court at a later time before the child is 18 or graduates but there was no clear knowledge if that is written in any statute. Members in the subcommittee feel that this is an important issue that should be written in our statute. Possibly section (1)?

There was discussion on the consensus item in regard to when PSES is automatically suspended, how long and how many times it should be allowed to be suspended.

All attendees agree that if the amount is suspended because of not being in "good standing," that the payment should stop for the next payment when it is determined by the educational facility that the adult child is not in good standing and will only continue the next required payment after the adult child proves he or she is in good standing in accordance with the school's requirements. If the amount is suspended because of any other reason, the amount should be suspended for the upcoming payment and will continue to be suspended until the adult child is in compliance with the requirements that caused the suspension of payments.

A majority of attendees feel that the suspension should automatically be terminated if the payment is suspended more than once. This is in conjunction with most colleges' financial aid

requirements. One attendee feels payment should start and stop as many times as necessary until the adult child reaches the age of twenty three.

On the issue paying PSES to the other parent; the majority of the attendees feel that the requirement that allows a court to pay any amount of the education support to the other parent should be removed and that we should allow payment to adult child "only." If the adult child is living with the other parent, the adult child can pay the other parent just as if he or she were living on his or her own. One attendee feels that there may be cases when the other parent may need the money to pay bills and may not get their adult child to give them their required payment.

We will start working on the revisions in a draft form and distribute it to the subcommittee members to edit as needed.

Please read the Josephson case on the DSHS website?

Our next PSES meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 6/8/11 at 4:15 PM