

Special Education Advisory Committee

MEETING MINUTES

January 6, 2016, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
5708 Cornerstone Drive, Lansing, Michigan

Participation

Delegates Present: Heather Bird, Barbara Brish, Jim Corr, Paulette Duggins, Latika Fenderson, Maggie Kolk, Andy Kowalczyk, Kimberly Love, Craig McCalla, Teri Metros, Nicole Miller, Wendy Minor, Denyeal Nesovski, Caryn Pack-Ivey, Sara Park, John Patterson, Ronna Steel, Lori Torres, Jennifer Trackwell, Vicki White, Kimberly Witt, William Young

Alternates Present: Donald Hubler for Mark McKulsky, Tom Greene for Steven Stoner

Ex-Officio Present: Laquita Featherstone, Janet Kaley, Amy Schelling, Teri Chapman, Benjamin Williams, Cynthia Wright

MDE Staff Present: Rashelle Bowerman, Meredith Hines, Jayme Kraus, Caroline Liethen, Deb Maurer, Oren Christmas, Julie Trevino, Lisa Wasacz, Joanne Winkelman

Guests Present: Michelle Driscoll, Lois Lofton-Doniver, Laura Guzman, Jennifer Huisken LaPointe, Michelle Peckham, Holly Sasso, Mark Smith

Facilitator: Fran Loose

Minutes

I. Call to Order

Maggie Kolk called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

II. Roll Call

The SEAC Secretary, Meredith Hines, read the roll call. A quorum was present.

III. Introduction of Guests

Guests were introduced.

IV. Approval of Proposed Agenda

Barbara Brish moved, seconded by Jennifer Trackwell that the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the January 6 agenda as amended. The vote was taken on the motion. Motion carried.

V. Approval of December 2, 2015 Meeting Minutes

Lori Torres moved, seconded by Barbara Brish that the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the December minutes. The vote was taken on the motion. Motion carried.

VI. Public Comment

None presented.

VII. Chairperson's Report

A. Committee work

- a. State Performance Plan Indicator 7 target recommendations,
- b. Native American students with IEPs,
- c. Personal Curriculum, ideas to advise OSE relative to needed transition coordinator training,
- d. Expanded bylaw/procedure work re: potential 2016-2017 membership changes.

B. Information on the State Systemic Improvement Plan.

C. Report from Executive Committee Meeting

- a. Membership Changes – new members, Janet Kaley, Teri Metros
- b. Need quorum for afternoon voting, approximately 2:30.
- c. Status of Annual Report
 - i. Implemented 2 membership procedures.
- d. Summary of last month's Survey/Evaluation

- i. Every member should respond to the 1st question, even those who were absent from the meeting.
- e. Due Process Hearing Report Received – From July 1- December 17, 2015 there were 29 Due Process complaints filed, 1 Expedited, 12 Dismissed and 9 Withdrawn.
- f. Norms Reminder: SEAC members commit to:
 - i. Listening for understanding.
 - ii. Asking questions to learn.
 - iii. Being present and engaged at meetings.
 - iv. Respecting all views and perspectives.

VIII. MDE, Office of Special Education Report

- A. Reviewed Superintendent's Having Michigan become a Top 10 Education State in 10 Years. There are currently 7 goals being addressed.
- B. Reimagining with Michigan School for the Deaf. Conducted a series of Structured Dialogues with a diverse stakeholder group.
 - a. Days 1 and 2 IDEAL: What do you visualize an IDEAL model of what the Michigan Department of Education's School for the Deaf 'ought to be' to deliver an extraordinary educational experience that leads to successful career and college-ready student outcomes?
 - b. Days 3 and 4 BARRIERS: What are BARRIERS to realizing the Michigan Department of Education's School for the Deaf ideal model, as defined in Co-Lab 1, to deliver an extraordinary education experience that leads to successful career and college-ready student outcomes?
 - c. Days 5 and 6 ACTIONS: What specific ACTIONS, if adopted and implemented, can overcome barriers to approximate the ideal vision leading to the Michigan Department of Education's School for the Deaf ability to deliver an extraordinary educational experience that leads to a successful career and college-ready student outcomes?

- C. US Department of Education Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) coming for on-site visit February 10-11, 2016. This will give OSE the opportunity to demonstrate increased inter-office collaboration and to learn about new federal expectations for April 1 SSIP report.
- D. The Governor's Task Force to Reform Special Education that is headed by the Lt. Governor Calley had its last meeting on December 22, 2015. The final draft will be distributed to committee members on January 5th or 6th. The final report is to be delivered to the Governor on January 11, 2016.
- E. The OSE is redefining the state complaint process as part of General Supervision. Pingora Consulting will work with staff and consumer stakeholders on January 25 and 26, 2016.
- F. There are three new job posting in the OSE office, with emphasis on recruiting individuals with ISD and LEA experience.

IX. Information Item: State Systemic Improvement Plan

Jennifer Huisken LaPointe provided information on the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP). The framework and phases of development were discussed along with the MDE Vision, Barriers and Actions. The SSIP is also looking at how to develop internal processes to help all Michigan students succeed. Stages of collaboration were discussed.

X. Ex-Officio Member Reports

- A. MDE Legislative Liaison Report on the Legislative Process – Benjamin Williams, Caroline Liethen
 - a. Drafting & Introduction of Legislation
 - b. Consideration & Passage of Legislation
 - c. Enactment of Legislation
 - d. The Budget Process
 - e. Participation in the Legislative Process
 - f. How to follow Committees
 - g. Find and Track Legislation

- B. Department of Corrections – Laquita Featherstone reported that 16 of their schools are special education sites.
- C. Department of Health and Human Services – Community Health, Foster Care – Janet Kaley
 - a. Can now collaborate more easily with Medicaid. Youth services covers children in foster care. Agency has education planners that go to 50 counties and work with students who are experiencing challenges such as students in foster care who are changing schools, have health care issues, trauma services, etc.
- D. Michigan Rehabilitation Services – Cynthia Wright
 - a. Workforce Investment Opportunity Act was reauthorized in June 2014 and regulations should come in 2016. Planning is beginning for the new pre-employment transition requirement that they must spend 15% on services while students are still in secondary education. For instance, Project Search is expanding business partnerships in Michigan. Also, the DNR provides work experience to youth in the summer.

XI. SEAC Committee/Work Group Reports and Action Items

- A. Action Item: Bylaws Challenge #3 (Uneven SEAC member annual turnover 6 new members in Fall, 2016, 11 new members in Fall, 2017, 14 new members in Fall, 2018). Amend SEAC bylaws to reflect that when a member vacates a position, the person filling that vacancy will complete the term of the person being replaced (rather than beginning a new three year term). For those current members directly affected by this change, they would be offered an opportunity to apply for a consecutive full three year term after completing the current partial term. The vote was unanimous in favor of the recommendation.
- B. Action Item: Bylaws Challenge #4 (Going to the SBE every month for approval of replacement delegates or alternates or notification of new Ex-Officio members). Amend SEAC bylaws to reflect that the OSE will go once, or possibly twice a year to the SBE. Those SEAC newly appointed

delegates would fully participate in SEAC dialogue and planning but would not have voting privileges until the semi-annual or annual communication occurs with the SBE. Alternate members do not have voting privileges, so the possible delay in formal mid-year appointments would typically impact one or two members. Ex Officio members are administrative appointments and need not go to the SBE at all. The vote was unanimous in favor of the recommendation.

- C. Action Item: Bylaws Challenge #5 (Five month, March-May, procedure for electing next year's Executive Committee). Now that all SEAC members routinely have access to email communication and have begun to vote online with the support of CEN surveys, we recommend amending the SEAC bylaws/procedures to vote online rather than by US mail, reducing the necessary time involved. One amendment was added to Challenge #5 to include the use of paper ballot if it is requested by member. The vote was unanimous in favor of the recommendation.
- D. Action Item: SPP Indicator 7A1 (percent of preschool children who entered or exited the preschool program below age expectations in each Outcome, the percent who substantially increased their rate of growth by the time they turned 6 years of age or exited the program). Michigan's most recent performance was 87.73%. The MDE proposed: 2016=87.00%, 2017=87.5%, 2018=88%. The SEAC voted to amend the 7A1 target recommendations to 2016=88%, 2017=88.5%, 2018=89%. The vote was unanimous.
- E. Action Item: SPP Indicator 7A2 (percent of preschool children who were functioning within age expectations in each Outcome by the time they turned 6 years of age or exited the program) targets. Michigan's most recent performance was 54.98%. The MDE proposed: 2016=55.70%, 2017=55.80%, 2018=55.90%. The SEAC voted to amend the 7A2 target recommendations to 2016=55.10%, 2017=55.20%, 2018=55.30%. The vote was unanimous.
- F. Action Item: SPP Indicator 7B1 (percent of preschool children who entered or exited the preschool program below age expectations in each

Outcome, the percent who substantially increased their rate of growth by the time they turned 6 years of age or exited the program) targets.

Michigan's most recent performance was 89.28%. The MDE proposed: 2016=88%, 2017=88.50%, 2018=89%. The SEAC voted to amend the 7B1 target recommendations to 2016=89.30%, 2017=89.40%, 2018=89.50%. The vote was unanimous.

- G. Action Item: SPP Indicator 7B2 (percent of preschool children who were functioning within age expectations in each Outcome by the time they turned 6 years of age or exited the program) targets. Michigan's most recent performance was 56.34%. The MDE proposed: 2016=56.20%, 2017=56.30%, 2018=56.40%. The SEAC voted to amend the 7B2 target recommendations to 2016=56.40%, 2017=56.50%, 2018=56.60%. The vote was unanimous.
- H. Action Item: SPP Indicator 7C1 (percent of preschool children who entered or exited the preschool program below age expectations in each Outcome, the percent who substantially increased their rate of growth by the time they turned 6 years of age or exited the program) targets. Michigan's most recent target was 87.85%. The MDE proposed: 2016=87%, 2017=87.50%, 2018=88%. The SEAC voted to amend the 7C1 target recommendations to 2016=88%, 2017=88.25%, 2018=88.50%. The vote was unanimous.
- I. Action Item: SPP Indicator 7C2 (percent of preschool children who were functioning within age expectations in each Outcome by the time they turned 6 years of age or exited the program. Michigan's most recent target was 59.17%. The MDE proposed: 2016=59.30%, 2017=59.40%, 2018=59.50%. The SEAC voted to amend the 7C2 target recommendations to 2016=59.30%, 2017=59.50%, 2018=59.70%. The vote was unanimous.
- J. Information Item: Native American Students Update – Barbara Brish stated the workgroup is looking at racial/ethnic subgroup data and has lots more learning to do in this area prior to offering recommendations/public comment.

- K. Information Item: Personal Curriculum Update – Wendy Minor and Joanne Winkelman reported that the workgroup is looking at how ISD’s can support transition coordinators in supporting implementation of personal curriculum for students with IEPs. There’s concern regarding the number of districts which have no personal curriculum in place. The workgroup wishes to continue its work on Personal Curriculum implementation.

- XII. Member Questions/Comments/Announcements
 - A. Perspectives of Members-at-Large and organization/agency representatives – None given
 - B. Topics for future Committee of the Whole or Sub-Committee or Executive Committee Consideration
 - a. Tom Greene shared concern about teachers working with violent students. He wonders if there are rules, guidelines or regulations. He isn’t sure if SEAC is the correct committee to discuss this ongoing problem in the schools.

- XIII. February Agenda Forecast – All day Committee of the Whole
 - A. M-STEP learning presented by Linda Howley
 - B. Presentations by potential new SEAC organizations and vote on recommendations.

- XIV. Process Check: Online Survey/Evaluation
 - A. Chairperson Maggie Kolk reminded members to fill out the online survey that is received electronically this afternoon.

- XV. Adjournment
 - A. The meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.