

Special Education Advisory Committee

MEETING MINUTES

May 4, 2016, 10:00 a.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, Mark McKulsky, Nicole Miller, Wendy Minor, Denyeal Nesovski, Sara Park, John Patterson, Sue Pearson, Amy Sanderson, Ronna Steel, Steven Stoner, Lori Torres, Jennifer Trackwell, Kimberly Witt, William Young

Alternates Present:

Chandra Jones for Caryn Pack-Ivey

Ex-Officio Present:

Teri Chapman

MDE Staff Present:

Meredith Hines, Ashley Kemmer, Deb Maurer, Joanne Winkelman

SEAC Facilitator:

Fran Loose

Guests Present:

Jill Fennessy, Tom Greene, Lois Lofton-Doniver, Michelle Peckham, Holly Sasso, Anne-Marie Sladewski

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 Mark McKulsky that the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the amended May 4 agenda. The vote was taken on the motion. Motion carried.

V. Approval of April Meeting Minutes

Lori Torres moved, seconded by Mark McKulsky that the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the April minutes with the amendment of removing three sentences in the Challenging Behavior report on page 5. The vote was taken on the motion. Motion carried.

VI. Public Comment

There was no public comment presented.

VII. Chairperson's Report

A. Meeting Focus

1. Information: Challenging Behavior in School Committee
2. Action: Changes to Bylaws page 7 to end of document
3. Information: Begin Annual Report Preparation

B. Report from Executive Committee

1. Status of Annual Report:
 - a. The Comment on Minorities document that came out of the Native American Committee is being submitted in writing to the State Board of Education in their May mid-month mailing. This is an informational report.
 - b. Due Process Hearing Reports Received – from July 1, 2015 – April 15, 2016 there were 51 Due Process complaints filed, 4 expedited due process complaints, 24 due process complaints dismissed and 11 withdrawn. Two decision and orders were issued: March 28, 2016

and April 1, 2016. It was reported that the final decisions can be found online after the appeal process.

c. Norms Reminder: Our professional community commits to:

- i. Listening for understanding.
- ii. Asking questions to learn.
- iii. Being present and engaged throughout the meeting.
- iv. Respecting all views and perspectives.

VIII. Michigan Department of Education Reports

- A. OSEP has scheduled a webinar for State Advisory Panels on May 11, 2016 at 3:00 p.m. regarding significant disproportionality.
- B. SEAC Chairperson and Vice Chairperson for 2016-17 are Maggie Kolk and Heather Bird.
- C. State Accountability Structure – This structure is not the Office of Special Education’s style but is the current practice. The Office of Special Education is in the process of restructuring the current practice. The model below will provide coordination and communication.
 - i. OSEP – Federal Grant \$\$
 - ii. OSE – Allocates \$\$ to ISD
 - iii. ISD – Provides \$\$ with conditions to LEA
 - iv. LEA – Expends \$\$ to support FAPE
 - v. Schools - Implementation
- D. Pingora Consultants is working with the OSE on processes for complaints and due process.
- E. The ISD monitors’ meeting in May will help people understand how to use data so appropriate technical assistance can be provided. The OSE is getting input from monitors then going to ISD Directors. The expectation is the new grant will go out on May 23.
- F. The Office of Special Education has several vacancies that are being worked on to fill. The Program Accountability Unit has 3 positions, The

Performance Reporting Unit has 2 and the Michigan School for the Deaf has 1 principal position open.

IX. Ex-Officio Reports

There were no Ex-Officio reports in May.

X. Committee/Work Group Reports and Action Items

- A. Action Item – Bylaws Pages 7-10. Joanne Winkelman provided information on changes made to the Bylaws on pages 7-10. One delegate had concern about removing the Open Meetings Act and a short discussion followed with explaining why this change was made. A motion to accept the changes on pages 7-10 was made by Andy Kowalczyk and supported by Barbara Brish. There was no further discussion. Motion carried.

XI. Summary of Future Agenda Considerations

- A. Final SEAC action items
 - i. Annual report
 - ii. Behavior Committee Report
- B. Exiting Member Recognition
- C. Welcome new members

XII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.