

Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)

MEETING MINUTES

March 1, 2017, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
4039 Legacy Parkway, Lansing, Michigan

Participation

Delegates Present:

Amy Barto, Heather Bird*, Jim Corr*, Michel DeJulian, Anna Dusbiber, Latika Fenderson, Jill Fennessy, Terri Henrizi*, Maggie Kolk*, Andy Kowalczyk, Kathy Krause, Craig McCalla, Nicole Miller*, Caryn Pack Ivey, John Patterson, Heidi Ransom, Anne-Marie Sladewski, Mark Smith, Nancy Spanski, Lori Tavgigian, Amy Trahey,

Alternates Present:

Tom Greene for Steve Stoner, Deborah Kadish* for Ronna Steel, Mary Meldrum for Wendy Minor

Ex-Officio Present:

Janet Kaley, Amy Schelling, James Thomas*

MDE Staff Present:

Teri Chapman, Ashley Kemmer, Deb Maurer, Joanne Winkelman

Facilitator:

Fran Loose

Guests Present:

Laura Griffith*, Courtney Halbower, Katherine Mills, Barbara Brish

*Participated via phone.

Minutes

I. Call to Order

The Office of Special Education Director Teri Chapman, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

II. Roll Call

The SEAC Secretary, Deb Maurer, read the roll call. A quorum was present.

III. Introduction of Guests

Guests were introduced.

IV. Approval of Proposed Agenda

Tom Greene moved, seconded by Amy Trahey that the SEAC approve the March 1, 2017 agenda. The vote was taken on the motion. Motion carried.

V. Approval of February 1, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Jim Corr moved, seconded by Mark Smith that the SEAC approve the February 1, 2017 minutes. The vote was taken on the motion. Motion carried.

VI. State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) Phase III by Jeff Diedrich and Jennifer Huisken LaPointe

- a. State System Improvement Plan has data and infrastructure analysis that guided selection of coherent improvement strategies to increase the State's capacity to lead meaningful change with Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) to improve results for ALL children.
- b. Works with the Superintendent's Top 10 in 10 focus area framework.
- c. MDE mission statement: For every learner, an inspiring, engaging, and caring learning environment that fosters creative and open-minded thinkers who believe in their ability to positively influence Michigan and the world beyond.
- d. The systemic infrastructure only works if everyone works together and all students have access to it.
- e. Active implementation formula: Effective Innovations x Effective Implementation Methods x Enabling Contents = Educationally Significant Outcomes
- f. Transformation Zone: you partner with ISDs and LEAs to help figure things out collectively so the MDE can be in support. P-20 is 12-15 people within the MDE who meet regularly.

- g. State Transformation Specialist - two MDE staff hired to work with the Chief Deputy Superintendent.
- h. The SSIP: Changing the Role of MDE – The plan will address the MDE shift in its role to support local improvement effort. The S-iMR is a component that we track over time to see if things in the system are improving for students.

VII. Chairperson's Report

- a. Today's focus
 - i. MDE Update
 - ii. Report from one organization member
 - iii. Committee Work
- b. Action: Nominations for 2017-2018 Executive Committee will be accepted later today and online voting will occur.
- c. Report from Executive Committee Meeting
 - i. See SEAC FYI
- d. Reminder of SEAC Norms

VIII. Public Comment

- a. None presented.

IX. MDE, Office of Special Education Report by Teri Chapman

- a. MDE State Board of Education Policy
 - i. The MDE State Board of Education legislative committee will review the proposed policy on Friday, March 3, 2017. The point of emphasis is...seclusion and restraint are PROHIBITED except in the case of emergency to: ensure the safety of the student and/or staff.
 - ii. If policy is approved at the March 3 meeting it will go to State Board on March 14.
- b. Support for Positive Behavioral Intervention Supports (PBIS) and Crisis Training
 - i. Four ISDs were selected to receive support and implementation of PBIS – Lewis Cass, Ingham, Charlevoix-Emmet and Eastern UP. There is funding for five years.

- ii. Next year there will be another application process and select 5-7 more ISDs. This will continue until all ISDs have been included.
 - iii. There will be money for Crisis Training for everyone. This will help ISDs have persons in buildings trained in Crisis Training.
 - c. Special Education Events
 - i. Some staff members traveled to Marquette on February 23-24 for the UP Conference. Two school visits took place at this time. The schools visited were: Gwinn Community Schools and MARESA Transition, Peer-to-Peer Program, Early Middle College and Youth Recovery Program.
 - ii. Several staff members from OSE will attend the March 1-3 Michigan Council for Exceptional Children State Conference in Grand Rapids.
 - iii. On March 15-17 the Michigan Transition Services Association Annual Conference will take place in Frankenmuth.
 - d. State Support Structure to Ensure a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE)
 - i. The shared obligation to ensure the provision of FAPE requires a system(s) to be in place:
 - 1. Ensure that all member districts know the requirements of IDEA.
 - 2. Verify that member districts are implementing requirement correctly.
 - 3. Support identified area of improvement.
 - e. Ongoing Work with ISDs will take place at the March 8 ISD Special Education Director planning meeting.
 - f. There are several staff positions available within OSE. If members know someone who would be interested in any of the positions they can find more information on the State of Michigan Civil Service Website.

X. Due Process Hearing Report by Joanne Winkelman

- a. From July 1, 2016 – February 15, 2017 there were 40 Due Process Complaints filed, 9 Expedited and 25 Dismissed/Withdrawn. There are currently 15 pending Due Process Complaints.
- b. Seven Due Process Complaints summaries were highlighted:
 - i. Summary Case 1 – On February 6, 2017 the Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) found good cause to extend the 45 day timeline.
 - ii. Summary Case 2 – On February 13, 2017, Respondent objected to the sufficiency of the complaint, it was not sufficient nor had it been properly served. Petitioner was provided more time to file an amended complaint.
 - iii. Summary Case 3 – On February 3, 2017 at a prehearing it was determined that the issue re: a Manifestation Determination Review (MDR) had been resolved and the hearing would not need to be expedited.
 - iv. Summary Case 4 – On February 8, 2017, parties stated that a formal resolution session had not been held, but mediation is scheduled. Issues were determined and an extension of the 45 day timeline was approved.
 - v. Summary Case 5 – On February 6, 2017, the parties stated they have continued to negotiate and a mutually agreed upon consultant has been completed and that there were some questions pertaining to the report. The hearing dates were adjourned and prehearing continued.
 - vi. Summary Case 6 – On February 7, 2017, petitioner withdrew the request for hearing.
 - vii. Summary Case 7 – On February 6, 2017, parties filed a stipulation for dismissal.

XI. State Board of Education February Meeting by Fran Loose

- a. See the SEAC FYI

XII. Nominations for 2017-2018 SEAC Executive Committee

- a. Many members were unable to attend this meeting, online nominations are offered through March 3, 2017. Online voting will occur after nominees have been notified.
 - i. Heather Bird
 - ii. Jim Corr
 - iii. Nancy Jaskiw
 - iv. Mark Smith
 - v. Ronna Steel
 - vi. Lori Tavigian
 - vii. Amy Trahey

XIII. SEAC Ex-Officio Legislative Report by Caroline Liethen

- a. Senate Bills 36 and 38, Fingerprinting for Special Needs Children, was passed on February 9, 2017 and referred to the House Judiciary Committee.
- b. Bills to create the Deaf, Deafblind, and Hard-of-Hearing Children's Educational Bill of Rights are still expected to be reintroduced by Representative Howrylak.
- c. House Bill 4166, Special Education Employment Preference, was introduced on February 7, 2017 and referred to the House Education Reform Committee.
- d. The Fiscal Year School Aid Budget provides over \$1.4 billion for special education services.
 - i. There is \$1.6 million to assist ISDs with implementing the Michigan Integrated Behavioral and Learning Support (MiBLSi).
 - ii. The special education and vocational education millage equalization formula is revised based on updated taxable values estimates for 2017.

XIV. SEAC Organization Report

- a. Report from SEAC Organization regarding their work relative to SEAC's three annual priorities and their requests from SEAC relative to the priorities. Details of the following report are available on the March PowerPoint.

- i. Kathy Krause, Michigan Association of Nonpublic Schools (MANS)

XV. Sub-Committee Work-Brief Reports re: next steps for April/May completion of reports

- a. Assistive Technology –Mark Smith
- b. Challenging Behavior – Amy Schelling
- c. Grounding Assumptions – Fran Loose

XVI. Meeting Take-Aways

a. Highlights

- i. Tom Greene, MEA Alternate is retiring in March.
- ii. Jen Huisken LaPointe and Jeff Diedrich's update on SSIP Michigan's work and what we are learning from it was very helpful.
- iii. The reminders on seclusion and restraint.
- iv. Understanding that some districts may have restrictive policies affecting use of assistive technology.
- v. Reminder of ESSA public comment through March 16.

b. To Do's – Look for the following online surveys.

- i. Complete the meeting survey.
- ii. Respond to Executive Committee nominations survey which will be sent via survey gizmo.
- iii. The April RSVP will be sent early to determine if the SEAC will have a quorum in April due to many districts being on spring break.

c. April Forecast

- i. Announce 2017-2018 Executive Committee
- ii. Committee work continues

XVII. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.