

# Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)

## MEETING MINUTES

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

### **Participation**

#### Delegates Present:

Lisa Azzou, Amy Barto, Jim Corr, Robert Dickinson, Latika Fenderson, Jill Fennessy, Nancy Jaskiw, Maggie Kolk, Andy Kowalczyk, Kathy Krause, Craig McCalla, Nicole Miller, Wendy Minor, Caryn Pack Ivey, Sara Park, John Patterson\*, Heidi Ransom, Amy Sanderson, Anne-Marie Sladewski, Mark Smith, Nancy Spanski, Ronna Steel\*, Lori Tavgigian, David Tebo, William Young

#### Alternates Present:

Melisa Burch for Anna Dusbiber, Teri Metros for Michel DeJulian, Sarah VanderBaan for Teri Pettit

#### Ex-Officio Present:

Connie Marks, James Thomas, Cynthia Wright

#### MDE Staff Present:

Ashley Kemmer, Deb Maurer, Joanne Winkelman

#### Facilitator:

Fran Loose

#### Guests Present:

Patti Chen, Tina Cole, Michelle Driscoll, James Gallant, Laura Griffith, Courtney Halbower, Lois Lofton-Doniver, Katherine Mills, Debbie Rock, Michele Tucker

\*Participated via phone.

### **Minutes**

#### I. Call to Order

The Chairperson, Maggie Kolk, called the meeting to order at 10:05 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

Nicole Miller moved, seconded by Wendy Minor that the SEAC approve the May 3, 2017 agenda. The vote was taken on the motion. Motion carried.

V. Approval of April 5, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Jim Corr moved, seconded by Jill Fennessy that the SEAC approve the April 5, 2017 minutes. The vote was taken on the motion. Motion carried.

VI. Chairperson's Report

a. Today's Focus

- i. MDE Update
- ii. Reports from organizations
- iii. Committee Work

b. Report from Executive Committee

- i. Announcement of 2017-2018 Executive Committee Officers
  1. Mark Smith – Chairperson
  2. Sara Park – Vice-Chairperson
- ii. Summary of previous meeting survey/evaluation

c. Member electronic survey and brief discussion regarding SEAC value to members and perceived value to state.

d. Action Item: Fran Loose reviewed the amended Bylaws language in Section III. A (Committees-Executive Committee) Number 3. Quick Turnaround Advice to the State Board of Education (SBE) or the Michigan Department of Education (MDE): When there is a request from the SBE or MDE for time sensitive feedback, and there is not a SEAC Committee of the Whole business meeting prior to the deadline, the executive committee will provide a response and feedback on behalf of the SEAC with a majority vote of support. As time permits,

the Executive Committee will seek electronic input from Committee of the Whole Members. A roll call vote was taken. Amendment passed.

e. Reminder of SEAC Norms

VII. Public Comment

a. James Gallant, of Skandia, Michigan provided comments on the State of Michigan's current responsibilities under the Developmental Disabilities Act of 2000.

VIII. MDE, Office of Special Education (OSE) Report by Joanne Winkelman

a. Federal Submissions

i. The Annual Performance Report was submitted Friday, April 26 reflecting initial feedback from the Office of Special Education Programs.

ii. The federal application for the State IDEA grant funds was submitted on Monday, May 1. The IDEA flow through grant application will be distributed mid-May

b. Seclusion/Restraint Guidelines

i. A writing team of 10 professionals representing multiple perspectives was selected.

ii. Various groups will be sought to obtain feedback and input.

iii. The final guidelines should be released late summer 2017.

c. Ongoing Sub-recipient Work

i. OSE Leadership Team is meeting with ISD Superintendents in early May.

1. May 2 in the Upper Peninsula

2. May 5 in Big Rapids

3. May 11 at Calhoun ISD

ii. The ISD Directors of Special Education are scheduled to meet on May 10 in Lansing.

d. Michigan Special Education Reform Task Force Report

i. Parent information is coming soon. This information will support parents, guardians, and educators with more resources and options.

- e. Michigan School for the Deaf
  - i. Criteria is being developed for placement considerations for students with cognitive disabilities, multiple disabilities and behavior challenges. There will be schoolwide PBIS training beginning in the spring of 2017.
- f. Office of Special Education Information Desk Data
  - i. The data continues to show an increase in calls the information desk receives each quarter.
- g. Office staff updates include:
  - i. Performance Reporting Unit – Julie Trevino, SPP/APR Coordinator
  - ii. Program Accountability Unit – Jeff Hall, State Complaint Investigator
- IX. Due Process Hearing Report by Joanne Winkelman
  - a. From July 1, 2016 – April 15, 2017 there were 57 Due Process Complaints filed, 16 Expedited and 35 Dismissed/Withdrawn. There are currently 22 pending Due Process Complaints.
- X. SEAC Legislative Report by Joanne Winkelman with information provided by Caroline Liethen
  - a. Senate Bill 38 and House Bill 4137 were presented to the Governor for signature on April 27. These bills allow a parent or guardian of a child or youth with special health care needs to request that the child's fingerprints and photograph be taken and included in the automated fingerprint identification system (AFIS) and the statewide network.
  - b. House Bill 4166 was passed by the House on April 27 and referred to the Senate. This bill repeals Sections 1742 and 1743 of the Revised School Code requiring school special education programs to give preference in hiring to individuals who worked for an Intermediate School District's special education program, but were laid off because it was discontinued.
  - c. The budgets are on their way to conference committee where legislators will work out the differences for final passage.

XI. SEAC Organizations' Reports

- a. Reports from SEAC Organizations regarding their work relative to SEAC's three annual priorities and their requests from SEAC relative to the priorities. Details of the following reports are available on the May PowerPoint.
  - i. Lori Tavgigian, Michigan Speech, Language, and Hearing Association (MSHA)
  - ii. Nancy Spanski, Down Syndrome Association of West Michigan
  - iii. Amy Barto, Learning Disabilities Association of Michigan (LDAM)
  - iv. Maggie Kolk, The Arc Michigan
  - v. Wendy Minor, Michigan Council For Exceptional Children (MCEC)

XII. Sub-Committee Reports

- a. ByLaws – Fran Loose forecasted the development of the bylaws and procedures logs and re-organization of the procedures document to more clearly align with the bylaws. Members were invited to contact Sara Park or Fran if there were items they believe the bylaws committee should address during the coming school year.
- b. Assistive Technology – Joanne Winkelman reported Nancy Jaskiw and Laura Griffith are putting final touches on document content. The report will be final for the June meeting.
- c. Challenging Behavior – Maggie Kolk reported the committee reviewed draft document and have some clean up and clarification questions from Amy Schelling. The report will be final for the June meeting.
- d. Grounding Assumptions – Anne Marie Sladewski reported the committee completed work on context, concept and semantics of the report. As the work becomes more clarified the graphic will be more complete. The graphic should be complete by the September SEAC Retreat.

XIII. Member Announcements, Questions, Comments and Take-Aways

- a. SEAC members can share conference announcements with Deb, Ashley or Fran for inclusion in the SEAC FYI next month.
- b. Organizational reports have been helpful this year.

- c. May 8<sup>th</sup> begins Teacher Appreciation Week.
- d. Remember to read and respond to your committee's draft report this coming week. Then review all committee reports and draft SEAC Annual Report when you receive it one week before the June meeting. Each will be an action item for approval in June.

XIV. Forecast and Reminders

- a. June Forecast
  - i. MDE/OSE updates
  - ii. Committee work finalizing reports
  - iii. Annual Report
  - iv. Recognize exiting members
  - v. Welcome new 2017-2018 new members
  - vi. Recommend 2017-2018 annual priorities for Executive Committee consideration.
  - vii. September 18 Retreat Forecast

XV. Adjourn

Kathy Krause moved and William Young seconded to adjourn meeting. The meeting ended at 2:30 p.m.