

Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)

MEETING MINUTES

June 7, 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, Anna Dusbiber, Jill Fennessy, Nancy Jaskiw, Maggie Kolk, Kathy Krause, Craig McCalla, Nicole Miller, Wendy Minor, Caryn Pack Ivey, Sara Park, John Patterson, Teri Pettit, Amy Sanderson, Anne-Marie Sladewski, Mark Smith, Nancy Spanski, Ronna Steel, Lori Tavgigian, Amy Trahey

Alternates Present:

Lois Lofton-Doniver for Latika Fenderson, Andrew Shaw for David Tebo, Richard Spring for William Young

Ex-Officio Present:

Janet Kaley, James Thomas, Cynthia Wright

MDE Staff Present:

Teri Chapman, Ashley Kemmer, Deb Maurer, Joanne Winkelman

Facilitator:

Fran Loose

Guests Present:

Tina Cole, Michelle Driscoll, Laura Griffith, Courtney Halbower, Debra Houde

Minutes

I. Call to Order

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

II. Approval of Proposed Agenda

Sara Park moved, seconded by Robert Dickinson that the SEAC approve the June 7, 2017 amended agenda. The vote was taken on the motion. Motion carried.

III. Approval of May 3, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Nancy Jaskiw moved, seconded by Mark Smith that the SEAC approve the May 3, 2017 minutes. The vote was taken on the motion. Motion carried.

IV. Chairperson's Report by Maggie Kolk

a. Today's focus

i. Welcomes and Farewells

ii. Action Items

1. New SEAC Member Organization
2. Elect one (1) new 2017-2018 Executive Committee member
3. Annual Report
4. Challenging Behavior in School Committee Report
5. Assistive Technology Committee Report
6. Grounding Assumptions Committee Report

iii. Information Items

1. MDE Updates
2. Member Reports

b. Reminder of SEAC Norms

V. Self-Introductions (Roll-call)

- a. Current SEAC Delegate Members introduced themselves to incoming members and shared something memorable about SEAC or a hint for new SEAC members.
- b. The 2017-18 incoming SEAC Delegate Members, Alternates and Support Team introduced themselves and shared something they would like SEAC to know about them and/or what they look forward to in their SEAC role.

VI. Presentations by Organizations Seeking a SEAC Seat

- a. Spina Bifida Association of Michigan – Adel DiOrio
- b. Student Advocacy Center – Kathleen Kosobud

c. Williams Syndrome Association – Laura Chesser

VII. Chairperson's Report (continued) by Maggie Kolk

a. Report from Executive Committee Meeting

i. Heather Bird resigned. There is one (1) seat available on the Executive Committee. Nominations for the one (1) seat were taken. Online voting by delegates will take place between June 8 and June 15. Those nominated were:

1. Robert Dickinson
2. Debra Houde
3. Terri Pettit

b. Summary of previous meeting survey/evaluation, value of SEAC survey and State Board of Education meeting. Members referred to SEAC FYI document and Google Docs.

VIII. SEAC Organization and Ex-Officio Member Reports

a. Reports from SEAC Organizations and Ex-Officio 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 June PowerPoint.

- i. Cynthia Wright – Michigan Department of Health and Human Services/Michigan Rehabilitation Services
- ii. Lois Lofton-Doniver – American Federation of Teachers - Michigan
- iii. Jill Fennesy – Michigan Association of School Boards
- iv. Richard Spring – Michigan Association of Teachers of Children with Emotional Impairment

IX. Public Comment

There was no public comment presented.

X. Introduction of Guests by Teri Chapman

a. Sheila Alles, Michigan Department of Education, Chief Deputy Superintendent, expressed she has had a tremendous learning curve over the past four months. The Top 10 in 10 is her one of her responsibilities.

- b. Michelle Fecteau, State Board of Education Member, thanked the group for their commitment. Ms. Fecteau requested input on the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).
- c. Nikki Snyder, State Board of Education Member, has a literacy interest. She believes there is a need for more consistency in reading interventions to support student success.

XI. Recognition of Exiting Members

- a. The following members received certificates for their years of service on the SEAC: Amy Barto, Heather Bird, Michel Lynn DeJulian, Latika Fenderson, Terri Henrizi, Maggie Kolk, Nicole Miller, Wendy Minor, Caryn Pack-Ivey, John Patterson, William Young, Debra Houde, Chandra Jones, Lois Lofton-Doniver, Teri Metros and Richard Spring

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

- a. Federal Updates
 - i. U.S. Education Secretary Betsy DeVos has nominated Kimberly Richey as the Assistant Secretary for the Office of Special Education Rehabilitation Services (OSERS). Ms. Richey is an attorney who specializes in education law and policy development and government affairs. Her nomination must be approved by Congress.
 - ii. U.S. Department of Education has revamped and launched the new IDEA website. The link is available on the June PowerPoint.
- b. Michigan Department of Education Updates
 - i. Top 10 in 10 Metrics
 - 1. State-to-State Comparison Data
 - 2. State Level Data
 - 3. District/School Level Data
 - 4. Information will be posted on the MDE Dashboard
 - ii. Recognition
 - 1. MDE (Early On/OSE), Genesee Intermediate School District and the Gud Marketing Firm have been nominated

for a national award for the work that has been done in the Flint water crisis.

iii. Seclusion/Restraint Guidance

1. Work is taking place to develop and release guidance to the districts regarding the recently approved State Board of Education Policy on the Emergency Use of Seclusion and Restraint.

iv. Tribal Update

1. On June 6, Superintendent Whiston and staff attended an Honoring, Healing and Remembering walk on the grounds of the former Mt. Pleasant Indian Industrial Board School.

c. Office of Special Education Updates

- i. Estimated Fiscal Year 2017-2018 allocations for the IDEA, Part B, Section 611 have been released. Applications are due to the OSE by July 31st.
- ii. SPP Indicator 1 –Graduation proposed change to a 6 year cohort. The change would align to IDEA in serving students up to age 21. This change would raise Michigan’s performance to approximately 62%.
- iii. There will be an SPP Indicator Target Reset for Indicator 2 – Drop Out
- iv. OSE has coordinated with Clinton County RESA to hire 2-3 additional monitors. The posting will be up until June 21st
- v. OSE will be preparing materials to share with the ISD’s to: created a consistent message regarding the role and responsibility of the ISD in the administration of the IDEA grant. The OSE will make these available during the Michigan Association of Administrators of Special Education (MAASE) Summer Institute in August.
- vi. Dianne Easterling will be retiring from the OSE. She has provided support to the department and districts regarding special education funding. Diane is the resident historian

regarding the reason so many of our systems are designed as they are.

XIII. Due Process Hearing Report by Joanne Winkelman

- a. From July 1, 2016 – May 15, 2017 there were 62 Due Process Complaints filed, 16 Expedited, 45 Dismissed/Withdrawn, and 1 Final Decision and Order. There are currently 16 pending Due Process Complaints.
- b. Review of West Bloomfield Due Process Final Decision. The due process complaint was filed by the parent. The Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) ruled for the district. This case was a significant behavior case. The school district showed they had all supports in place.

XIV. Legislative Update by Joanne Winkelman for Caroline Liethen

- a. Senate Bill 38 and House Bill 4137 were signed by the Governor on May 9th. These bills allow a parent or guardian of a child or youth with special healthcare needs to request that child's fingerprints and photograph be taken and included in the automated fingerprint identification system.
- b. House Bill 4166 was referred to the Senate Education Committee. This will repeal 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 ISD's special education program, but were laid off because it was discontinued.
- c. The budgets that have been referred to conference committee where legislators from the House and Senate.
 - i. HB 4313 School Omnibus – higher education and community colleges appropriations
 - ii. HB 4234 MDE Budget
 - iii. HB 4235 State Aid Budget – 2017-18 school aid appropriations budget
 - iv. SB 130 Department Omnibus

XV. Action Item

- a. The SEAC Annual Report including the appendices reflecting Challenging Behavior, Assistive Technology and Grounding Assumptions committee reports were reviewed.
- b. A motion was made by Robert Dickinson and seconded by Nicole Miller to accept the SEAC Annual Report and appendices as final. A roll call vote was taken. The vote was unanimous.

XVI. Member Announcements, Questions, Comments, Take-Aways

- a. Unmet needs recommended for consideration in:
 - i. Behavior in every school, gathering and utilizing resources
 - 1. Transportation concerns with behavior on bus
 - 2. Competing priorities-e.g. define what LRE is for a child with behavior issues
 - 3. Mental health and trauma needs
 - 4. Resources to support staff and community awareness
 - 5. Some students who have a very limited school day
 - ii. General education students first: what that means operationally
 - 1. Identification of students who should be receiving special education
 - iii. Meeting needs of all students in MTSS to access needed resources including meaningful individual evaluations
 - iv. Assistive technology – awareness and effective implementation
- b. Announcements
 - i. The ARC of Michigan Public Policy Conference is scheduled for June 23.
 - ii. The Michigan Reading Association Conference is scheduled for July 12-13.
 - iii. CEC 2018 Conference is scheduled for February 28-March 2 – Holly Robinson Peete is the speaker.
- c. Key Highlights
 - i. Mental health conversation
 - ii. Meet incoming delegates/alternates
 - iii. Farewells and sharing

- iv. State Board of Education and Michigan Department of Education
Chief Deputy Superintendent participation

d. To Do's

- i. Michelle Fecteau requested feedback on the dashboard regarding ESSA. Feedback can be sent to mfecteau@aaupaft.org
- ii. Remember to complete the online meeting survey/evaluation.
- iii. Delegates will receive two (2) voting surveys to be completed.
 - 1. New Organization
 - 2. New Executive Committee Member
- iv. Executive Committee summer planning meeting will take place on July 12.
- v. SEAC New Member Orientation and Retreat are scheduled for September 17-18.

XVII. Adjourn

Richard Spring moved and Kathy Krause seconded to adjourn meeting. The meeting ended at 3:07 p.m.