

# Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)

## MEETING MINUTES

December 6, 2017, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
5708 Cornerstone Drive, Lansing, Michigan

### **Participation**

#### Delegates Present:

Anne Barna, Jim Corr, Robert Dickinson, Anna Dusbiber, Terie Elbers, Jill Fennessy, Kenya Harper-Black, Annette Hobrecht, Michele Israel, Nancy Jaskiw\*, Andy Kowalczyk, Kathleen Kosobud\*, Kanika Littleton, Lois Lofton-Doniver, Sara Park, Heidi Ransom, Amy Sanderson, Denise Simmons\*, Lori Tavgigian, David Tebo, Amy Trahey

#### Alternates Present:

Laura Griffith for Mark Smith, Courtney Halbower, Connie Marks for Laquita Featherstone, John Mertz for Anne-Marie Sladewski, Katherine Mills for Nancy Spanski, Caryn Pack Ivey, Ann Rossi for Janet Kaley, Andrew Shaw

#### Ex-Officio Members Present:

Amy Schelling

#### MDE Staff Present:

Aaron Darling, Ashley Kemmer, Teri Chapman, Joanne Winkelman

#### Facilitator:

Fran Loose

\*Participated via phone.

## **Minutes**

### I. Call to Order

The Vice Chairperson, Sara Park, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

### II. Roll Call

The SEAC Secretary, Aaron Darling, read the roll call. A quorum was present.

### III. Introduction of Guests

Guests were introduced.

### IV. Approval of Proposed Agenda

Jill Fennessy moved, seconded by Rob Dickinson that the SEAC approve the December 6, 2017 agenda. The vote was taken on the motion. Motion carried.

### V. Approval of November 1, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Lois Lofton-Doniver moved, seconded by Lori Tavgigian that the SEAC approve the November 1, 2017 minutes. The vote was taken on the motion. Motion carried.

### VI. Chairperson's Report

- a. Today's focus
  - i. Information Items
  - ii. Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) small group work
  - iii. Input to Family Matters
- b. Results of Significant Disproportionality electronic vote
- c. Due process documents for discussion
- d. Feedback from November business meeting

- e. Report from Executive Committee Meeting

VII. Public Comment

- a. None presented.

VIII. Introduction to LRE by Teri Chapman

- a. LRE is a cornerstone of IDEA
- b. Reviewed the basics of Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) in the LRE
- c. Goal is to ensure access for students with disabilities to a FAPE in the LRE

IX. LRE Small Group Work

- a. Small groups learned more about the dimensions of LRE by doing an analysis linked to SEAC's 2016-2017 Grounding Assumptions
- b. Group discussion reflected issues of definition, what impact effective implementation of FAPE in the LRE looks like in schools, and what challenges interfere with effective implementation.

X. SEAC Member Reports

- a. Reports from SEAC Members regarding their work relative to SEAC's annual priorities and their requests from SEAC relative to the priorities. Details of the following reports are available to members in the Google Docs site, and some are on the November PowerPoint.
  - i. Lois Lofton-Doniver, American Federation of Teachers, Michigan (AFT)
  - ii. Annette Holbrecht, Michigan Association of School Social Workers (MASSW)
  - iii. Anne Barna, Member-at-Large

- XI. Legislative Update & Due Process Decision by Joanne Winkelman
  - a. Legislative update information provided by Caroline Liethen
    - i. HB 4166
    - ii. HB 5126
    - iii. See slides for additional information
  - b. Due Process Hearing Reports – Data shared
    - i. Reviewed redacted due process hearing decision
    - ii. See slides for additional information
  
- XII. Family Matters Topics
  - a. Small group work to identify-high priority issues among proposed future topics. The four top priorities identified so far are
    - i. Positive Behavior & Intervention Supports (PBIS)
    - ii. Transition Planning
    - iii. Functional Behavior Assessments (FBAs) & Behavior Intervention Plans (BIPs)
    - iv. Discipline (Suspension/Expulsion)
    - v. Evaluations
  
- XIII. MDE, Office of Special Education Report by Teri Chapman
  - a. Federal
    - i. Tax cuts and Jobs Act
    - ii. Confirmation Hearing for Assistant Secretary for the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services at the U.S. Department of Education
    - iii. 1% Cap on Alternative Assessment
    - iv. Waiver Submission

- v. OSEP Differentiated Monitoring and Support
- b. State
  - i. Accountability System Development
- c. OSE
  - i. Monitoring for 2017-2018 School Year
  - ii. Significant Disproportionality
  - iii. State Complaint Information
  - iv. OSE Staffing Updates

XIV. Sub-Committee Reports

- a. Bylaws – Sara Park
- b. Membership – Amy Trahey
  - i. Proposed changes in Member Rotation Schedule was reviewed to ensure compliance with IDEA requirement
    - 1. Members please check for correctness
  - ii. Committee members will assist with constituent member engagement and helping organizations identify new delegates that will help SEAC’s membership be more representative of the State.

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

XVI. January Forecast

- a. OSE Updates
- b. Update on 2018-2019 recruiting efforts

XVII. Adjourn

Rob Dickinson moved and Lori Tavgian seconded to adjourn meeting. The meeting ended at 3:00 p.m.

*Next Meeting January 10, 2018 with registration sent 2 weeks ahead.*