

Michigan's Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)

Meeting Minutes

November 7, 2018, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

4039 Legacy Parkway, Lansing, Michigan

Participants

Delegates Present:

Anne Barna, Caterina Berry, Justin Caine, Donna Case, Rob Dickinson, Jill Fennessy, Mary Finnigan, Michelle Frederick, Kenya Harper-Black, Jennifer Headley-Nordman, Annette Hobrecht, Charlie Hollerith, Debra Houde, Nancy Jaskiw, Kathleen Kosobud, Kathy Krause, Kanika Littleton, Lois Lofton-Doniver, Rebecca McIntyre, John Mertz, Teri Pettit, Shalika Robie, Lily Shulding, Mark Smith, Lori Tavigian*, Kara Tiethof, Amy Trahey

Alternates Present:

Lisa Bacsikin for Chandra Madafferi, Amy Barto, Eileen Brandt for Melisa Burch, Michelle Driscoll, Rebecca Gibson, Laura Griffith*, Courtney Halbower, Katherine Mills for Nancy Spanski, Caryn Pack-Ivey, Anne-Marie Sladewski, Sarah VanderBaan

Ex-Officio Members Present:

Belle Bodell*, Laura Chang, Teri Chapman, Christine DeWildt, Jennifer Hirst, Melissa Isaac, Pam Kies-Lowe, Sara Orris, Sara Park, Ann Rossi, Amy Schelling, James Thomas, Cynthia Wright

Members Absent¹:

Terie Elbers, Jessica Murphy

MDE Staff Present:

Aaron Darling, Ashley Reed, Joanne Winkelman

Guests Present:

Erica Anderson, Jaiwana Brooks, Gregory Harris Sr. and Dorothea Nicholson

¹ Neither the delegate nor the alternate was physically present, nor did they participate by phone.

Facilitator:

Fran Loose

*Participated via phone.

Minutes

Call to Order

The Chairperson, Teri Pettit, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Approval of Proposed Agenda

Justin Caine moved, seconded by Rebeca McIntyre that the SEAC approve the November 7, 2018 agenda. The vote was taken on the motion. Motion carried.

Approval of October 4, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Rob Dickinson moved, seconded by Amy Trahey that the SEAC approve the October 4, 2018 meeting minutes. The vote was taken on the motion. Motion carried.

Roll Call by Aaron Darling

1. A quorum was present.

Public Comment

Jaiwana Brooks, Erica Anderson, and Dorothea Nicholson offered public comment.

Chairperson's Report by Teri Pettit

The chairperson reviewed the agenda and today's focus

She summarized a report from Executive Committee Meeting

1. Adjusted time schedule being tried today

Aaron Darling provided Google Drive update per meeting evaluation requests

Enhancing SEAC Communication Strategies

1. Reminders of Enhancements to date
2. Communication Opportunities template shared with members
3. In role-alike groups, members identified strategies working effectively in communicating to constituents about SEAC work and getting input from constituents to SEAC. Then they addressed those strategies needing enhancement

SEAC Member Reports

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.

1. Organizational Representatives
 - a. Katherine Mills for Nancy Spanski, Down Syndrome Association of West Michigan (DSAWM)
 - b. Kathleen Kosobud, Student Advocacy Center of Michigan (SAC)
 - c. Lois Lofton-Doniver, American Federation of Teachers Michigan (AFTMi)
2. Member At Large
 - a. Anne Barna
3. Ex-Officio Update
 - a. Amy Schelling - Educator Preparation Institutions (EPI)

Finalizing SEAC 2018-2019 Norms

1. Small group work identified 2018-2019 SEAC Norms, then finalized by the Executive Committee
 - a. Come prepared for the meeting
 - b. Be present throughout the meeting, listening as passionately and respectfully as you wish to be heard.
 - c. Focus on our advisory role on behalf of children with IEPs with open, solution-oriented conversations.

Sub-Committee Reports

1. Bylaws - Nancy Jaskiw, and Lois Lofton-Doniver Co-Chairs.
 - a. Nancy shared a proposed Procedure that aligns with Bylaws.
 - i. Procedure re: participation in small group work
 1. During small group work, all alternates will be invited to join the work. This will help them be prepared to vote if their delegate is absent when the issue comes to the table for a vote.
 2. Other members of the public attending the meeting will have the opportunity to hear the results reported out by the small groups.
 - b. For feedback from the Committee of the Whole. The Executive Committee will review any feedback received and vote on implementation.
2. Membership Committee - Jill Fennessy
3. National State Advisory Panel (SAP) Website Committee - Rob Dickinson

4. SEAC Mission Review Committee – Anne-Marie Sladewski and Jennifer Headley-Nordman
5. Family Engagement - Caryn Pack-Ivey, SEAC alternate & representative to MDE Family Engagement work group

MDE Office of Public and Governmental Affairs, Legislative Update by Caroline Liethen

1. HB 5707 and HB 6401 Teacher and Administrator Evaluations
2. MDE Educator Evaluation Policy Positions
3. Experienced-Based School Administrator Certificate
4. HB 6291 Area Career and Technical Education Programs
5. HB 6314 Public Innovative Districts
6. HB 4421 (S-2) Substitute Teaching
7. Mental Health

Sub-Committee Work

1. Bylaws - Nancy Jaskiw and Lois Lofton-Doniver Co-Chairs
 - a. Committee members are Michelle Frederick, Nancy Jaskiw, Amy Trahey, Rebecca Gibson, Laura Chang, Sara Orris, Pam Kies-Lowe, Rebecca McIntyre, Michelle Frederick, Sarah VanderBaan, Nichole Moore, and Lois Lofton-Doniver.
 - b. Support of two to four alternates for members-at-large for equity with organization and agency representatives in light of the attendance expectations.
2. Membership Committee - Jill Fennessy, Co-Chair
 - a. Committee members are Belle Bodell, Jill Fennessy, Kenya Harper-Black, Annette Hobrecht, Kanika Littleton, Teri Pettit, and Nancy Spanski, Teri Chapman
 - b. Revised the notice of attendance letter with a possible attachment to be included.
3. National State Advisory Panel (SAP) Website Committee - Rob Dickinson, Chair
 - a. Committee members are: Aaron Darling, Justin Caine, Donna Case, Rob Dickinson, Charlie Hollerith, Kathleen Kosobud, and Eileen Brandt
 - b. Requested a copy of Michigan items for the national website
 - c. Want to review the SEAC website invitation for the public to join meetings
 - d. A call will be scheduled in January of 2019 for follow up.

4. SEAC Mission Review Committee – Anne-Marie Sladewski and Jennifer Headley-Nordman Co-Chairs
 - a. Committee members are: Lily Schulting, Kathy Krause, Lisa Bacsikin, Caryn Pack-Ivey, John Mertz, Kara Tiethof, Melissa Isaac, and Kirsten Matthews.
 - b. As a backdrop to determining whether an update to the SEAC Mission makes sense, committee members are learning more about SEAC’s role relative to the State Board of Education and the U.S. Department of Education and what they require of us.
 - c. A call will be scheduled after Thanksgiving.

MDE Office of Special Education (OSE) Report by Teri Chapman Director of Office of Special Education

1. Federal Update
 - a. Laurie VanderPloeg has been appointed as the new director of the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP)
 - b. Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) Letter to Lipsitt
 - i. There is no formula to calculate compensatory education as IDEA inherently focuses on the individual needs of a student
2. State Update
 - a. State Determination Update and Timeline
 - b. Support for Michigan Department of Corrections services to students with IEPs
3. Office of Special Education (OSE) Update
 - a. Support to Intermediate School Districts (ISDs)
 - b. Components of General Supervision and IDEA Accountability Systems
 - c. Types and Levels of Monitoring
 - d. New name for Michigan Special Education Mediation Program (MSEMP) is now Special Education Mediation Services (SEMS)
 - e. Free afternoon of fun, sensory-friendly activities on November 9 at the Outdoor Adventure Center in Detroit, Michigan

Due Process Update and Hearing Reports Received by Joanne Winkelman

1. Due Process Case No.: 18-005075 review and discussion
2. Shared recent activity

November Forecast by Teri Chapman, Director of Office of Special Education and Teri Pettit, SEAC Chair

1. Meeting date is December 5, 2018 at Lansing Community College - West Campus
2. Core agenda items:
 - a. Presentation on Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) initiative - Jodi Spicer, DHHS
 - b. One new due process hearing decision
 - c. Learn more about state and local determinations
 - d. Receive member reports

Member Announcements, Questions, Comments and Take-Aways

1. Participants are encouraged to complete on-line meeting evaluation
2. Comments and Take-Aways
 - a. For December 5
 - i. Read due process case and complete notetaking organizer prior to December 5th to identify unmet needs
 - b. On January 9, more in depth information about Michigan's Read By Grade Three Law with Kim St. Martin
 - i. Request to include getting the media involved to help parents understand Michigan's Read by Grade Three Law
 - c. Perform legislative updates more slowly with more question time
3. Communicate with your constituents about Take-Away issues
 - a. Take Away Issues
 - i. Share Grand Valley State University information and data with constituents
 - ii. Share compensatory education information and purpose with constituents
 - iii. Consider innovation districts and the implications for possible segregation of subgroups such as the homeless population
 - b. To Do
 - i. Learn more about Public Innovation Districts (PIDs)

- ii. Use State department timeline for addressing determination by the U.S. Department of Education
 - iii. Use Family Matters resources
 - iv. More lead time to read documents (registration and agenda sent two weeks ahead of the meeting; Asks and Updates sent 1 week ahead of the meeting)
 - v. Continue to promote the positives in public education
 - vi. Examine how personal curriculum can be a better tool
4. Complete online meeting evaluation (via SurveyMonkey)
 5. Member Announcements - none received

Adjourn

Nancy Jaskiw moved and Lois Lofton-Doniver seconded to adjourn meeting. The meeting ended at 2:41 p.m.