

Special Education Advisory Panel Meeting

Minutes

December 3, 2010

Members in Attendance

Scott Montgomery	Kathleen Harnetz	Russ Brock
Dorothy Parks	Nancy Thomas	Tammy Pence
Patricia Kopetz	Jamey McVicker	Trish Grassa
Denise Buersmeyer	Michelle Hoffmeister	Thurma DeLoach
Jerry Neal	Lori Christensen	Becky Romine
Angela Brown	Steve McDannold	Danny Tipton
Lauren Zeliff	Martha Crabtree	Theresa Valdes
Byron Koster	Donna Cash	

Members Not in Attendance

Kim Bielawski	Melissa Frazier	Susan Sharp
Kris Callen	Mary Kay Savage	Shirley Woods
Doreen Frappier	Pam Schneeflock	

Copies of handouts and presentations for this meeting are available at:

<http://dese.mo.gov/divspeced/Administration/AdvisoryPanel/94142meetings.html>.

Call to Order/Introductions – Scott Montgomery called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Introductions were made.

Approval of Minutes – Jerry Neal made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Steve McDannold seconded the motion. Minutes were approved.

DRAFT Missouri Part B Annual Performance Report and DRAFT Missouri Part B State Performance Plan – Jackie Bruner, Director, Special Education Compliance Section discussed the changes to the draft APR and SPP with the panel members. She asked panel members for their input on the changes to both the draft APR and draft SPP. The SEAP did discuss and did not make any recommendations to the State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report. Both reports are due February 1, 2011, to the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). To review a draft of each, go to the link above. The SEAP did discuss and did not make any recommendations to the State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report. Ms. Bruner will provide clarification for a question concerning dropout rate reporting via an email to the panel.

Due Process Hearing Decisions/Disclosures - The link to the 2009-10 due process hearing decisions http://dese.mo.gov/divspeced/Complaint_System/09-10_DPDecisions.html was sent to panel members prior to the meeting and a hard copy of each decision was available at the meeting for panel members to review. A handout provided a summary of the data in connection to these decisions.

Department Update (provided by Jackie Bruner)

- Assistant Commissioner Heidi Atkins Lieberman left the department at the end of November. Her position is currently vacant. There has been no word on whether an interim will be appointed while the search for a new assistant commissioner is conducted.
- The School-Wide Positive Behavior Supports (SW-PBS) Annual Report for Missouri will be printed and finalized in the next couple of weeks. This initiative is funded entirely by the

Office of Special Education and has continued to grow each year for the last five years. The Office of Special Education anticipates a record number of new schools this year and is emphasizing DISTRICT-WIDE implementation instead of only school-wide implementation which will ensure sustainability. The Office of Special Education is currently funding 24 PBS consultants at the RPDCs along with and several state-wide consultants.

- The Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) notified the Department that the MAP-A Science exam was deficient and not rigorous enough in terms of substance. The Department has worked with stakeholders, including MO-CASE, and has submitted a proposal to correct this. The Department is awaiting word on whether the proposal will be accepted.
- The Office of Special Education will be presenting information on the Missouri Integrated Model (MIM) at the March SEAP meeting.
- Nothing new to report on the Department's budget since the September SEAP meeting.
- Staff in the Office of Special Education are reviewing the unusually high numbers of special education teachers recently identified as "not meeting Highly Qualified requirements" of No Child Left Behind (NCLB). It appears the data is incorrect and that many school districts submitted their documentation incorrectly. The Department is giving districts additional time to correct their data. Office of Special Education staff hope that once the data is corrected, the numbers identified will be closer to what has been seen in past years (approximately 300 in the state verses 1,200). The Department is also working on short-term and long-term solutions to address this highly qualified teacher issue. These include looking closely at the structure of teacher certificates in Missouri.

MAP-A Science Presentation – Jane VanDeZande and Lin Everett, Assessment Section, presented information on MAP-A Science. Go to the link above to review their PowerPoint presentation.

Subcommittees met during the working lunch.

Subcommittee Reports

- **Evaluation** – The subcommittee selected Donna Cash as chair and also discussed their reduced responsibilities as a subcommittee; each decided to serve on a second subcommittee.
- **Rules and Regulations** – The subcommittee selected Jerry Neal as chair. They are going to be reviewing how due processes are handled in other states.
- **Monitoring** – The subcommittee selected Jamey McVicker, as chair. They are interested in MSIP 5 and wanted to know if there was still time to provide feedback in that process. They are also interested in reviewing the current due process and child complaint cases.
- **Programs**
 - A suggestion was made by the Programs subcommittee to include a statement in the next annual report letter officially recognizing Heidi's meritorious service and appreciation for her outstanding service. It would read:

At this time, the SEAP panel members would like to officially recognize Heidi Atkins Lieberman's meritorious service while serving as the Assistant Commissioner of Special Education as well as her outstanding service to the Missouri's Special Education Advisory Panel members.

Heidi will long be remembered for her compassionate efforts to lead our state in meeting the needs of students with disabilities as well as her ability to communicate complex special education issues in everyday language. Heidi was consistently steadfast in her desire for open dialogue with fellow colleagues and educators in the field and embodied an exemplary role model on a daily basis.

Our best wishes are sent her way for all of her future endeavors.

- The subcommittee would like to have someone from the Special Education Effective Practices Section come to the March meeting for some open discussion.
- They would also like to continue to be updated on MAP-A, Early Childhood Special Education, and the reorganization of the Department (how is it affecting performance).
- They suggested having a presentation on the Teacher Certification process (including what is required at the university level).
- The subcommittee indicated they had heard that Representative Sara Lembke was proposing House Bill 40 and they would like an update at the next meeting.
- **Nominations** – There are currently three vacancies in the category of Individual with a Disability/Parent of a Student with a Disability.
- **Public Comment** – The subcommittee selected Patricia Kopetz as chair. The subcommittee has developed an advertisement that will be sent to a variety of groups, parents, advocates, schools, other agencies related to special education. Next they will look at the public comments and determine how to share that information with the entire panel.

Adjournment – Steve McDannold made a motion to adjourn. Trish Grassa seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m.