

# Special Education Advisory Panel Meeting

## Minutes

### March 8, 2013

#### Members in Attendance

Diana Taylor-Soole	Russ Brock	Donna Cash
Kelly Cogan	Sue Sharp	Doreen Frappier
Carrie Ragsdale	Lori Christensen	Byron Koster
Lauren Zeliff	Deena Ring	Jerry Neal
Dorothy Parks	Patricia Kopetz	Stephen Barr
Julie Boos	Scott Montgomery	
John Monroe	Lynnette Creed	

#### Members Not in Attendance

Jennifer Bax	Wayland Dillard	Laura Moseley
Lisa Bonacker Slattery	Kaia Fields	Lynn Neidigh
Martha Crabtree	Ashley Krause	Sheila Saxton
Thurma DeLoach	Jamey McVicker	Sherry Whorton

#### Guests

Lori Masek (will be replacement for Scott Montgomery for DSS on the panel)

**Comments from the Public** – No public comments.

**Copies of handouts and presentations for this meeting are available at:** <http://dese.mo.gov/se/seap/>.

**Call to Order/Introductions** – Jerry Neal called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Introductions were made.

**Approval of Minutes** – Donna Cash made a motion to approve the minutes from last meeting as written. Scott Montgomery seconded the motion. Minutes were approved.

**Update on MAP-A Presentation** – Mary Wood, Assistant Superintendent, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled (MSSD), presented information on MAP-A. The powerpoint and handout from the presentation are available for review at the website listed above. To view a video on Dynamic Learning maps and for additional information, go to <http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/> and <http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/video/whatislearningmapvideo.html>.

**MAP-A Eligibility and Tiered Monitoring Process Regarding Special Education Compliance** – Nancy Thomas, Assistant Director, Special Education Compliance, presented information on MAP-A eligibility and the tiered monitoring process. To view the powerpoint and handouts, go to the website listed above. To view the Alternate Assessment webinar recording, go to <http://dese.mo.gov/webinar/webinar-02-28-13-SE.htm>.

## Working Lunch

**DESE Update** (handouts available at <http://dese.mo.gov/se/seap/>)

- Stephen provided a handout on information/data on the Part B Performance Plan indicators and the State Performance Plan Targets from 2005-06 through 2012-13.
- An excerpt from the Missouri Assistive Technology 2012 Annual Report was disseminated to panel members. To review the full report, go to <http://www.at.mo.gov/pubs/index.html>.
- The panel provided transition recommendations to DESE after a presentation by Barb Gilpin at the last panel meeting. The status of those recommendations was included in a handout provided to panel members. It was suggested that Missouri Connections provide a presentation at the next panel meeting.
- Currently, there is no budget at the national level. There is a continuing resolution which is last year's budget which keeps getting approved for short periods of time. The current resolution will end March 27. The Department is forward funded which means that whatever budget is adopted, it will not affect the Department until next year. The sequestration reduction will begin with the July 1 budget.
- The state's budget looks as stable as it usually is at this time. Except for downsizing government, the legislators have been consistent in supporting special education for many years. The Office of Special Education has flat funding but has been pretty stable.
- The Part B and Part C State Plans have been approved by the State Board. They should be through the final approval process by June 1 and will be posted in final form on the Department's website at <http://dese.mo.gov/se/stateplan/index.html>.
- The Part B and C applications have been posted for public comment.
- There are 21 states participating in the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium. They have had over two weeks of pilot testing and appear to be accomplishing their goals. For more information and weekly updates on the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium, go to <http://dese.mo.gov/divimprove/assess/sbac.html>.
- There have been recent changes in Speech Language Pathology. For the past several years, districts have relied on speech implementers. The Board of Healing Arts has modified the regulations/process to make it easier for those who have taken a lot of speech classes to be certified as speech language assistants.
- The Office of Civil Rights with the U.S. Department of Education issued new guidance detailing school districts' legal obligations to provide students with disabilities equal access to athletics activities. The guidance letter clarifies existing law and encourages school districts to improve and expand upon athletic opportunities for students with disabilities. The guidance letter can be found at <http://dese.mo.gov/se/se-ls01.28.13.htm>.
- The State Personnel Development Grant is moving forward with approximately 250 buildings participating.

**Subcommittees met from 12:30 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.** – Each subcommittee is charged with certain responsibilities. The panel chair asked each of the subcommittees to review their charges.

## Subcommittee Reports

- **Evaluations** – A draft of the annual report letter was sent to panel members electronically; it must be approved by June 30. The panel discussed the letter and will vote on it at the June meeting.

- **Rules and Regulations** – The subcommittee, in reviewing their charges, decided they needed to refocus. In addition to reviewing items special education related, they would also like to review things that are not necessarily special education but that may impact special education. They also plan to be more diligent in reviewing SELS messages.
- **Monitoring** – The subcommittee felt they needed to do a better job of keeping track of what legislation is pending that might affect special education.
- **Programs** – The subcommittee would like for the Department to notify them when initiatives related to special education are in the development stages so they can provide input.
- **Nominations** – Nomination forms for the election of officers and executive committee members were provided to panel members. All nominations must be sent to Lina by April 1. Elections will be held at the June meeting.
- **Public Comment** – The subcommittee received no public comments from the panel’s email address. They discussed ways to better obtain public comments with one suggestion being the use of Facebook. The subcommittee will discuss this option further before making a recommendation to the panel.

**Member Issues/Report**

- Doreen indicated that “A Night at the Arch” is being held on May 18 in St. Louis for children and adults who are blind or visually impaired and their families and friends (reservations are required). For more information, go to [www.slsbvi.org](http://www.slsbvi.org).
- Doreen indicated the Blind Task Force is hosting their 2013 Summit “For Parents and Educators of Children with Visual Impairment/Blindness: Transition through the Ages-Birth to Adulthood” on April 29 at Stoney Creek Inn in Columbia. For more information, contact Diana Lawson at 573-722-3584 or email [dlcat44@yahoo.com](mailto:dlcat44@yahoo.com).

**Adjournment** – Scott Montgomery made a motion to adjourn. Russ Brock seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.