

# Special Education Advisory Panel Meeting

## Minutes

### December 7, 2012

#### Members in Attendance

Jerry Neal	Thurma DeLoach	Julie Boos
Deena Ring	Sherry Whorton	Sheila Saxton
Diana Taylor-Soole	Martha Crabtree	Donna Cash
Jennifer Bax	Kelly Cogan	Dorothy Parks
Angela Brown	Ashley Krause	Russ Brock
Laura Moseley	Kaia Fields	Stephen Barr
John Monroe	Lisa Bonacker Slattery	Doreen Frappier
Scott Montgomery	Lynn Neidigh	
Byron Koster	Jamey McVicker	

#### Members Not in Attendance

Lori Christiansen	Patricia Kopetz	Susan Sharp
Lynnette Creed	Tammy Pence	Danny Tipton
Wayland Dillard	Carrie Ragsdale	Lauren Zeliff

#### Guests

Geoff Lanham, Missouri Developmental Disabilities Council  
Mary Kay Savage, MPACT

**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** – Lynn Neidigh made a motion to approve the minutes from last meeting as written. Donna Cash seconded the motion. Minutes were approved.

**Show Me Careers Grant Presentation** – Oliver Burnette, Project Director for the Show Me Careers Grant, presented information on the grant. To view the handout and powerpoint presentation, go to the link listed above.

**Due Process Hearing Decisions/Disclosures** – The link to the 2011-12 due process hearing decisions [http://dese.mo.gov/se/compliance/complaint/11-12\\_DPDecisions1.html](http://dese.mo.gov/se/compliance/complaint/11-12_DPDecisions1.html) and a summary of the data in connection to these decisions were 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.

**Discussion of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Services** – Brenda Simmons, Director of Transition Services, Vocational Rehabilitation Services, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, presented information on the services available through VR. Brenda

indicated that not all special education students that apply for VR services will receive them. VR reviews and determines if assistance is needed for that individual to obtain and maintain employment. There is no specific age when a student can be referred to VR; but the referral does need to be based on employment needs. Services provided by VR include: career exploration, career planning and portfolio, individual career guidance and counseling, work experience (job shadowing, apprenticeships, etc.), on the job training, assistive technology, and post secondary education and training. VR works with community transition teams and local districts (each district has a VR counselor assigned to them).

If a panel member feels VR services are not being provided, they may contact Dorothy Parks (573-526-7014 or [Dorothy.parks@vr.dese.mo.gov](mailto:Dorothy.parks@vr.dese.mo.gov)) or Brenda Simmons (417-629-3067 or [Brenda.simmons@vr.dese.mo.gov](mailto:Brenda.simmons@vr.dese.mo.gov)). Stephen indicated panel members should contact Brenda if they have any suggestions on how to develop an active system which would better inform everyone of the VR services available.

### **Working Lunch**

- **DRAFT Missouri Part B Annual Performance Report (APR) and DRAFT Missouri Part B State Performance Plan (SPP)** – The APR and SPP were distributed via email to panel members prior to the meeting for their review. Stephen reviewed with the panel the changes made to each of the indicators. After discussion of these changes, the panel was in agreement with both documents. If panel members have any additional comments, they should contact Stephen at 573-751-5739 or [Stephen.barr@dese.mo.gov](mailto:Stephen.barr@dese.mo.gov).
- **State Plan for Part B** – The State Plan for Part B was finally approved by the State Board at their November meeting. The State Board tabled it at their October meeting because of a last minute email from a constituent raising several questions.
- **DESE Update**
  - **State Personnel Development Grant (SPDG)** – The Office of Special Education was recently awarded another five year SPDG grant. It is in the amount of \$7 million and will be used to implement the school wide initiative.
  - **Senate Bill 595** – SB 595 went into effect August 28, 2012. There have been no glitches.
  - **ESEA Waiver** – The U.S. Department of Education conducted a second teleconference as part of their monitoring of state implementation. The Office of Special Education has been part of those continuing conversations.
  - **Dynamic Learning MAP** – This is the new MAP-A. Individual states are now being visited to obtain feedback on the process and content. Missouri is expected to be one of the next states visited. Training will be provided on how to identify students appropriate for the MAP-A assessment.
  - **Smarter Balance** – Smarter Balance is moving forward with development and testing of technology. They are still reviewing options for supporting blind/visually impaired students.
  - **Teacher Leader Standards and Teacher Preparation Standards** – The standards have been adopted and an RFP has been awarded. It will increase the capability of teachers going into the work force.

## **Subcommittees met from 1:25 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

### **Subcommittee Reports**

- **Evaluations** – Preparations on the SEAP annual report letter will begin at the March meeting. The report must be finalized at the June meeting.
- **Rules and Regulations** – The subcommittee discussed the issue of receiving substantive changes to the Part B State Plan during and outside established timeframes. It was agreed that a great deal of work goes into the State Plan and comments and suggestions are beneficial but sometimes they can be without merit because the person may not completely understand all of the issues involved. The subcommittee suggested the creation of a running questions and answers pamphlet.
- **Monitoring** – The subcommittee would like additional information on due process procedures. They also discussed the accountability portion of MSIP5 and felt it is very broad and cumbersome.
- **Programs**
  - The subcommittee suggested future presentations on the Missouri Family Resource Center and Dynamic Learning.
  - They would also like more information on Smarter Balance. What accommodations are there for students with disabilities? The subcommittee suggested reviewing a sample test. To review a sample test: <http://dese.mo.gov/divimprove/assess/sbac.html>.
  - The subcommittee discussed ways to better open communication between the panel and its constituents as well as between the panel members themselves.
  - The subcommittee felt there are three main issues related to VR services: communication, training, and accountability. They will outline these issues in an email to Brenda Simmons and the panel.
- **Nominations** – Due to Angela Brown moving, she will no longer be able to serve as a member of the panel. This will leave a vacancy in the “Parent of a Student with a Disability/Individual with a Disability” category.
- **Public Comment** – Two emails were received since the last panel meeting. They were shared with the panel. The subcommittee felt the current process is good and will continue using that method to obtain constituent comments.

**Adjournment** – Scott Montgomery made a motion to adjourn. Diana Taylor-Soole seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.