

# Special Education Advisory Panel Meeting

## Minutes

### September 6, 2013

#### Members in Attendance

Jerry Neal	John Monroe	Lisa Bonacker Slattery
Stephen Barr	Shawn Nix	Maryellen Koch
Dorothy Parks	Donna Cash	Carrie Ragsdale
Wayland Dillard	Sue Sharp	Doreen Frappier
Lynnette Creed	Lauren Zeliff	Reta Richmond
Lori Masek	Martha Crabtree	Diana Taylor-Soole
Kelly Cogan	Patricia Kopetz	Kelly Zigaitis
Kent Medlin	Lori Christiansen	
Jamey McVicker	Byron Koster	

#### Members Not in Attendance

Jennifer Bax	Ashley Krause	Deena Ring
Julie Boos	Gretchen Meinhardt	Sheila Saxton
Kaia Fields	Lynn Neidigh	Sherry Whorton

**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** – Jamey McVicker made a motion to approve the minutes from last meeting as written. Doreen Frappier seconded the motion. Minutes were approved.

**TheSource Website** – John Stains, Supervisor, Special Education Effective Practices Section presented information on TheSource website <http://thesource.northcentralrrc.org/>. This website is a new design of the Missouri Resources (MORE) website. TheSource is intended to provide useful, relevant, and quality resources for special education professionals and other interested parties. The website provides the latest information on the special education outcome indicators in the State Performance Plan (SPP) specified by the U. S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) and is designed to provide assistance to results teams who are seeking information to improve outcome data. To review the powerpoint and/or handouts used in today's presentation, go to the website listed above.

**Missouri Transition Planning - Resource Locator** - A subcommittee of the Missouri Interagency Transition Team (MITT) created a list of resources beneficial to parents and/or individuals with a disability. Go to <http://dese.mo.gov/se/seap/> to review the list. MITT partnered with the Governor's Council on Disabilities (GCD) to develop a disability portal <http://disability.mo.gov/MITT.htm>. Stephen asked each of the subcommittees to review the resources and website and provide feedback during their subcommittee reports. The Governor's Council also provides a searchable resource by region/county.

**Multi-tiered System of Support (MTSS)** – The U.S. Department of Education has been promoting MTSS in a variety of ways. DESE reviewed their list of initiatives and realized there were similarities. DESE is looking at how to provide an efficient system that will help schools in the long term (process for looking at data and making decisions, using effective practices, and using available resources). How can DESE make this process better? MTSS is similar to the Missouri Integrated Model (MIM) but is more focused. MTSS is not just for special education students but is intended for all students (Section 504, regular education, etc.).

### **Working Lunch - DESE Update**

- Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) has created a poster that will be sent to all school districts as a reminder of the VR services that are available. VR is also working with MPACT.
- Information has been sent to districts reminding them that October is Disability Awareness month <http://disability.mo.gov/disability-history-month-tool-kit.htm>.
- Special Education will receive federal funding again this year. There was a minor condition with Part C (First Steps Program) related to a fee issue which is being resolved.
- There are some changes being made to the Part C State Plan. A SELS message will be sent regarding the comment period.
- Missouri met all requirements for approval of the Part B APR/SPP and the Part C APR/SPP.
- State budgets remain relatively flat.
- October 1 is the beginning of the federal fiscal year. Congress must pass a proposed budget by that date. The most likely scenario is passing a continuing resolution.
- The Office of Special Education provided a lot of training opportunities during the summer including the New Special Education Directors' training, Dropout Prevention, Transition Institute, and Positive Behavior Supports.
- The U. S. Department of Education is shifting from a compliance driven model to a results accountability driven model. Phase I ends February 2015 and requires the state to complete its data analysis, identify an area of focus for improvement, identify infrastructure, and develop a theory of action). Beginning February 2016, will develop infrastructure, provide supports for districts, and complete evaluation plan. Beginning February 2017, states will provide results of evaluations.
- Awareness training is being provided for Dynamic Learning Maps (previously MAP-A). More intensive training will be provided later this year.
- Stephen participated in a recent panel which is developing an alternate access assessment for students with severe cognitive disabilities that are non-English speakers.
- A student transfer policy has been put in place for the Riverview Gardens and Normandy school districts [http://dese.mo.gov/documents/Transfer\\_Guidance.pdf](http://dese.mo.gov/documents/Transfer_Guidance.pdf).
- The Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP), an Early Childhood standardized assessment, was created by the California Department of Education and WestEd.

**Subcommittees met from 1:00 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.**

### **Subcommittee Reports**

- **Evaluations**
  - The subcommittee started discussing this year's annual SEAP report.

- Transition Resources:
  - Include a link to the DESE Homeless webpage.
  - Add best practice links from others school districts.
  - Who is responsible for updating the web links?
- MTSS:
  - Would like to see more parent involvement in the beginning.
  - Students should be involved when age appropriate.
  - Who are the designated experts?
- **Rules and Regulations**
  - Transition Resources:
    - Add OSEP, legal services, career centers, Touchpoint, Division of Mental Health, Early Childhood, First Steps, and job fairs.
    - Condense list.
    - Provide resources to implement in the district.
    - What training is available?
- **Monitoring**
  - Transition Resources:
    - Concern with the continuation and keeping it updated.
    - Distribute to DMH, doctors, hospitals, etc.
    - Suggest schools contact VR with the names of students they should reach out to.
    - Procedural safeguards.
    - Identify best practices.
  - The subcommittee is interested in information on First Steps and reviewing their corrective action plans; Vocational Rehabilitation progress; and, Transition progress.
- **Programs**
  - The subcommittee would like to have a presentation from someone with Developmental Disabilities on the programs they offer.
  - Transition Resources:
    - Transition discussions should start younger than age 14.
    - More parent involvement.
    - Provide training for parents on advocacy.
    - Provide educational tools to parents to help them help their child.
    - RPDC needs training resources lists.
  - MTTs:
    - Include Division of Developmental Disabilities on all categories and all ages.
    - Missouri Family to Family website.
    - Needs to be accessible for all disabilities.
    - Independent Living Centers have resources available.
    - Include Rehabilitation Services for the Blind.
- **Nominations** – There are currently five parent/individual openings.
- **Public Comment** – Two public comments were received.
  - One comment was regarding a medically fragile student and the district using a bidding process to provide the student with a nurse. Stephen indicated that staffing decisions are made by the district. The district must provide a qualified health provider. The Office of Special Education does not have authority over this issue.
  - The second comment came from a panel member after receiving information from a friend. The comment concerned the Hearing Commission and possible bias. The

Hearing Commissioners are appointed by the Governor's Office. The Office of Special Education does not advise the Hearing Commission. As a reminder, the public comment email is intended for the public to use to submit their comments and concerns. Personally identifiable information should not be included. These emails will not be individually responded to but will be shared with panel to show examples of issues concerning the special education community.

**Next Year's Meeting Dates (all in Truman Building Room 400)**

March 7, 2014

June 6, 2014

September 5, 2014

December 5, 2014

**Member Issues/Reports**

Donna Cash reported that McKinney Vento funded eight grants: St. Joseph, Hickman Mills, Independence, Warrensburg, Sedalia, Ferguson Florissant, Hollister, and St. Louis City.

**Adjournment** – Diana Taylor-Soole made a motion to adjourn. Donna Cash seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.