

# Special Education Advisory Panel Meeting Minutes June 3, 2016

## Members in Attendance

Patricia Kopetz  
Brenda Niemeyer  
Lauree Head  
Amy Wilson  
Byron Koster

Thomas Bamvakais  
Lisa Robbins  
Shawn Nix  
Lauren Zelif  
Lori Masek

Lynnette Creed  
Cory McMahon  
Stephen Barr

## Members Not in Attendance

Stacey Anderson  
Christina Booker  
Julie Boos  
Donna Cash  
Gwen Deimeke  
Kim Gee

Mary Jo Jensen  
Amanda Kaiser  
Maryellen Koch  
Matthew McTeer  
Kent Medlin  
Rachel Morgan

Jodi Orton  
Reta Richmond  
Diana Taylor-Soole  
Belinda Worley

## Guests

Leah Clausen, MPACT

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

<http://dese.mo.gov/special-education/advisory-panels/seap/meetings>.

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

**Approval of Minutes** – Thomas Bamvakais made a motion to approve the panel minutes as written. Lauren Zelif seconded the motion. Minutes were approved.

**Facilitated IEP (FIEP) Update** - Karen Allan, Director, and Cheryl Thompson, Supervisor, Special Education Compliance, presented an update on the Facilitated IEP (FIEP) process (powerpoint and FIEP brochure available at <http://dese.mo.gov/special-education/advisory-panels/seap/seap-meeting-handouts>). Karen and Cheryl asked for input from the panel regarding the FIEP selection process, marketing, and how parents and districts should make the decision of when to use the FIEP model. Panel members provided the following comments/questions:

- How can this be presented to parents as a positive thing? Do not want parents thinking the facilitator is connected with the school.
- How to contact parents to let them know this is available and they can initiate?
- Need to spread the word to constituency groups.
- Could the brochure or a blurb be added to routine items parents receive from school such as Procedural Safeguards?
- Concern expressed that people were not aware of the bidding deadline (bids due by 3:00 p.m. on June 10, 2016).

- What are the requirements to become a facilitator?
- Is the student involved? Educate the student so they are aware of the FIEP.
- Send brochures home when scheduling an IEP meeting or include a blurb on the IEP notification.
- Why would someone want to use the FIEP process?
- Does everyone that asks for an FIEP get it?

**Transition Update** – Barb Gilpin, Assistant Director, Special Education Effective Practices, presented an update on Transition (powerpoint available at <http://dese.mo.gov/special-education/advisory-panels/seap/seap-meeting-handouts>). Panel members were asked to provide suggestions on how to include parents and how to get other agencies to use the competences in their employment efforts. More information about the MO Post-Secondary Success Program can be found at <http://researchcollaboration.org/page/mo-postsecondary-success>.

**Subcommittee Meetings (Working Lunch)** – Subcommittees met from 11:50 a.m.–12:40 p.m.

**Update and Demonstration of Online Resources Available to Schools** – Thea Scott, Director, Three-tiered Model Coordination, presented an update and provided a demonstration of online resources which are available to schools (powerpoint available at <http://dese.mo.gov/special-education/advisory-panels/seap/seap-meeting-handouts>). MTSS website: <http://www.moedu-sail.org/about-mtss/>.

### **Rules and Regulations**

The subcommittee discussed:

- Transition plans as part of an IEP specific to verbage used in the IEP. They felt that instead of saying “I will do…” that terms such as “I want to” or “I intend to” should be used. Felt there was fear of repercussions should those items not succeed.
- Whether the payment for FIEP facilitators is made based on a set reimbursement rate or determined by the area/region of the state the service is provided?
- Concerns regarding the implementation of FIEP such as, who will select the facilitator, what information will be shared with the facilitator (do they get information from the parent and from the school), will facilitator see just the last IEP or previous IEPs, and could SEAP panel members be involved in the FIEP training?
- The status of the IEP amendment pages in the model forms. All forms have been revised.

### **Evaluation and Monitoring**

The subcommittees discussed:

- How best to get the word out about FIEP. They suggested getting the information to superintendents because they need to be on board with the process.
- Due process decisions posted on DESE’s website.

### **Programs and Public Comment**

- The subcommittees discussed concerns related to the FIEP facilitator bid process. Did not feel it had been advertised adequately.
- The subcommittee suggested adding independent living to the transition. Need to make sure students are receiving those skills.

**Nominations** - No report.

### **DESE Update**

- Not sure which version of the dyslexia bill will be signed by the Governor. Dyslexia is not a special education category but does affect whether a student is eligible for special education services. Will report additional information at the next panel meeting.
- Highly Qualified Teachers has been removed from federal legislation. The Office of Special Education (OSE) will modify the Part B application because of this change. The amended Part B application along with an assurance will be sent to the U. S. Department of Education. OSE will also be revising the Part B State Plan to remove HQT.
- The state budget was passed with an additional million dollars for salaries for staff in state operated programs (MSB, MSD, MSSD). The additional money does not close the gap with school district staff but does make them a bit more competitive. The Governor still needs to sign off on the budget.
- ESSA with the U. S. Department of Education has a 60 day comment period. The biggest issue is the MAP-A participation issue.

**New Business** – Patricia indicated Cory will be representing the panel at the Employment First State Leadership Mentoring Program (EFSLMP) Stakeholder Summit. He will provide a report at the September panel meeting.

### **Elections**

**Chair** – Patricia Kopetz

**Vice Chair** – Lauren Zelif

**Secretary** – Lynnette Creed

### **Executive Subcommittee**

- Byron Koster
- Julie Boos
- Cory McMahon
- Laura Head

**Adjournment** – Byron Koster made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.