

Special Education Advisory Panel Meeting Minutes June 5, 2015

Members in Attendance

Jerry Neal	Byron Koster	Lauren Zeliff
DeWayne Anderson	Amy Wilson	Mary Jo Jensen
Pat Kopetz	Ken Lerbs	Shawn Nix
Julie Boos	Cory McMahon	Jodi Orton
Donna Cash	Laurie Truesdell	Stephen Barr
Lori Masek	Lauree Head	Kim Gee
Lynnette Creed	Diana Taylor-Soole	Kent Medlin

Members Not in Attendance

Thomas Bamvakais	Maryellen Koch	Reta Richmond
Lori Christiansen	Matthew McTeer	Pamela Hollingsworth
Gwen Deimeke	Jamey McVicker	Carrie Ragsdale
Elisha Ferguson	Brenda Niemeyer	

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

Approval of Minutes – Diana Taylor-Soole made a motion to approve the panel minutes as written. Cory McMahon seconded the motion. Minutes were approved.

Facilitated IEP (FIEP) Update - Karen Allan, Director, Special Education Compliance, presented an update on the Facilitated IEP (FIEP) process (powerpoint available at <http://dese.mo.gov/special-education/advisory-panels/seap/seap-meeting-handouts>).

Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) Update – Tiffani Muessig, Assistant Director, Special Education Effective Practices, presented an update on Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) (powerpoint available at <http://dese.mo.gov/special-education/advisory-panels/seap/seap-meeting-handouts>). Panel members interested in receiving weekly DLM email updates should email Nancy Keating at nancy.keating@dese.mo.gov.

State System Improvement Plan (SSIP) Update – Stephen Barr presented an update on the State System Improvement Plan (SSIP) (powerpoint available at <http://dese.mo.gov/special-education/advisory-panels/seap/seap-meeting-handouts>). To review the Part B Phase I SSIP, go to: <http://dese.mo.gov/special-education/state-performance-plan>.

Working Lunch - DESE Update

- The legislative session ended in May. House Bill 42 regarding transfer students passed but, at this time we are unsure if the Governor will sign or veto.

- The Missouri Interagency Transition Team posted a resource guide on the web at <http://dese.mo.gov/sites/default/files/se-ep-mitt-interagency-transition-team-projects-profiles.pdf>.
- The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) waiver is an annual process which affects Title I and Title II. Should know later this month if waiver will be fully approved.
- After reviewing comments received during the public comment period for proposed changes to early childhood education leases, it was decided the proposed changes were too significant. The administrative rule was redrafted and went to the State Board for their review in May. The 30 day public comment period for the new proposed rule will begin in July.
- DESE's Top 10 by 20 Plan will be sent to the State Board in June.
- The 2014-15 school year was the first year the ACT was done statewide. Will provide data at the next panel meeting on students with disabilities that took the test.
- Reauthorization of the ESEA – The Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee unanimously passed a reauthorization bill for the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) on April 16. The bill, the Every Child Achieves Act (ECAA) of 2015, is intended to overhaul the last ESEA reauthorization (also known as No Child Left Behind). The bill will be forwarded to the full Senate for consideration.

Subcommittee Meetings – Subcommittees met from 12:35–1:05 p.m.

Evaluations

- The annual report was sent to the panel after being reviewed at the last meeting. No changes were recommended. Donna Cash made a recommendation to approve the annual report letter as written. Cory McMahon seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Rules and Regulations

- The subcommittee supports FIEP but felt there were a few items that should be addressed: potential or perceived conflict of interest especially within same district or nearby district; neutrality is key (define neutral party); selection process should include a way to assess applied knowledge and experience; possible preconceived bias regarding DESE (DESE is funding); and, marketing is very important.
- The subcommittee also discussed an issue Byron noticed in an area of the state. He indicated some districts do not feel when an amended IEP meeting is called, that a meeting notice and the mandated IEP participants are needed. Byron has experienced this in more than one district and wanted to determine if other have experienced this also.

Monitoring – The subcommittee discussed FIEP and felt the following items would need further discussion: start small - check on need before growing too big; marketing is important especially so parents know they have the right to ask for a facilitator; and, recommend a flow chart for parents.

Programs – The subcommittee also discussed FIEP and felt the following items needed further discussion: a formal definition of FIEP is important; facilitators should not be from the same district they reside or work in; neutrality must be clearly defined; definition of the difference between mediation and facilitation; facilitator must make it clear they are employed by DESE; marketing is very important; explore ways of getting information to parents; consider creating a

flow chart; include information in procedural safeguards; create a clear definition of facilitation; start with only a few facilitators – could they train others; and, review selection process.

Nominations - No report.

Public Comment

- No public comments have been received since the last panel meeting. The subcommittee suggested the possibility of DESE including a link to the public comment webpage on the Procedural Safeguards.
- The subcommittee is in favor of FIEP with these items needing further discussion: no legal representation present; inform both parties of who will be at the meeting; training for facilitators; recommend Lee’s Summit be considered as a pilot school; and, evaluation form should be concise, online, and pre-meeting.

Possibility of Adding P&A Representative to Panel Membership - At the March meeting, Byron Koster made a motion that P&A be recognized similar to a state agency within the Missouri SEAP bylaws. Thomas Bamvakais seconded the motion. The item was then tabled for further discussion at the June meeting. Currently, P&A does not have a permanent seat on the panel but other states do have P&A represented on their advisory panels. If P&A is added, one additional “Parents of Children with Disabilities and/or Individuals with Disabilities” representative would have to be added. Motion passed approving P&A to be added as a permanent representative on the Special Education Advisory Panel.

Elections

Chair – Pat Kopetz

Vice Chair – Kent Medlin

Secretary – Lynnette Creed

Executive Subcommittee

- Byron Koster
- Cory McMahan
- Lauren Zeliff
- Jodi Orton

Adjournment – Cory McMahan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.