

# Special Education Advisory Panel Meeting

## Minutes

### September 5, 2014

#### Members in Attendance

Jerry Neal	Tom Bamvakais	Lori Masek
Stephen Barr	Diana Taylor-Soole	Julie Boos
Reta Richmond	Mary Jo Jensen	Amy Wilson
Byron Koster	Shawn Nix	
Lauren Zeliff	Lynnette Creed	

#### Members Not in Attendance

Jennifer Bax	Patricia Kopetz	Misty Perdue
Donna Cash	Cory McMahan	Carrie Ragsdale
Lori Christiansen	Jamey McVicker	Julia Tackett
Pamela Hollingsworth	Kent Medlin	Kelly Zigaitis
Maryellen Koch	John Monroe	

#### Guests

Pam Williams, Coordinator, Special Education Services, Office of Special Education  
Barb Hoelzer, Regional Director, Vocational Rehabilitation  
Madeline Wetta, Project Coordinator, KU Center for Research on Learning  
Barb Gilpin, Assistant Director, Effective Practices, Office of Special Education  
Mary Corey, Director, Special Education Data, Office of Data System Management

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

**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. Tom Bamvakais seconded the motion. Minutes were approved.

**Transition Follow-up and Agency Service Report** – Barb Gilpin, Assistant Director, Special Education Effective Practices and Madeline Wetta, Project Coordinator, KU Center for Research on Learning presented information on transition. They handed out copies of the Transition Interagency Team list as well as an updated MITT Agency Services Report, both available at <http://dese.mo.gov/special-education/advisory-panels/seap/seap-meeting-handouts>. The original intent of the report was for the legislative bill but now the MITT would like to make it more useful and user friendly for the general public.

The following are suggestions and recommendations made by panel members while reviewing the MITT Agency Services Report:

### General Suggestions/Recommendations

- Spell out all acronyms at the beginning of each section.
- Include a link in each of the sections for the office/division indicated.
- Review the reference to unsubsidized competitive employment.
- Add a flow chart or frequently asked questions (FAQ) to each section.
- Provide regional maps for each section.
- Include a Forward Section at the beginning which gives a brief description of each section and list how the different offices/divisions intertwine.
- Include a Glossary.

### Effective Practices and Compliance

- Encourage schools to begin transition plans early (need a model for schools to follow but this may be difficult because of the varied sizes of schools).

### Sheltered Workshops

- Possible new legislation pending which could result in some changes to this section.

### Adult Education and Literacy

- No comments/recommendations.

### Vocational Rehabilitation

- Clarify who the audience is.
- Include eligibility information.
- Include referral information in its own section.
- Include criteria and how to apply.

### Office of College and Career Readiness

- Include introduction about the office and contact information.
- More transition assistance is needed for students with disabilities planning to attend college. Currently, students attending college are responsible for obtaining needed accommodations.
- ADA requires colleges provide needed services for individuals with disabilities.

### Area Career Centers

- Change reference from GED to High School Equivalency (HSE).

### Division of Workforce Development

- Spell out WIOA - Workforce Investment Opportunities Act.

### Division of Behavioral Health

- Provide information re: individual centers.
- Provide link to regional providers and intake.

### Division of Developmental Disabilities

- Provide link to the Department of Mental Health.
- Senate Bill 40 boards (they may be providing some of the services).

### Children's Division

- Might need to clarify foster care population.
- Up to age 26 not 21 based on change in law.

### Division of Youth Services

- Not as reader friendly as rest of document. Make consistent with rest of document.
- Include a description and/or more detail for each item.
- Remove items that are not services.

### Rehabilitation Services for the Blind

- See general suggestions above.

### Governor's Council on Disability

- Does not seem to have good flow.
- Include link to form.
- Mention that individuals must apply.

### Missouri Parent Act (MPACT)

- Add website.

### Centers for Independent Living (CIL)

- List all centers in Missouri along with their website link.
- Repetition in first paragraph.

### Missouri Developmental Disability Council

- Add Partners in Policy Making.

### University of Central Missouri's THRIVE Program

- Add UMSL's program (SUCCEED).

Any additional comments/suggestions should be sent to Barb at [Barb.gilpin@dese.mo.gov](mailto:Barb.gilpin@dese.mo.gov).

Barb also reviewed the status of the items listed in the SEAP Transition Recommendations document which was created from a previous panel meeting <http://dese.mo.gov/sites/default/files/se-seap-special-education-advisory-panel-transition-recommendations.pdf>. The panel will continue to be updated on transition at future meetings.

### **DESE Update (Working lunch)**

- Budget - There is an annual three percent withholding in several areas of the budget which is typical each year. There were also withholdings in the state operated programs, First Steps, Blindness Skills Specialists, and Sheltered Workshops. Received the federal Part B and C funds with no conditions this year.
- Due Process - In 2011-12, there were five due process requests filed by districts. In 2012-13, there were two and in 2013-14, there was one. Most of the due processes are not filed by districts.

- New Directors' Institute - Seventy-nine new directors of special education participated in this year's New Directors' Institute. Thirty-seven second year directors returned for the update portion of the training.
- Staff Changes - Geoffrey Barney is the new superintendent at Missouri School for the Blind. Ernest Garrett is the new superintendent at Missouri School for the Deaf. Opeoluwa Sotonwa is the new Executive Director at Missouri Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. Karen Allan is the new Director of the Special Education Compliance Section. Stacey Preis is the new Assistant Commissioner for the Office of Early and Extended Learning
- State Determination – Missouri received its state determination letter. Missouri was one of fifteen states that made “met requirements” in Part B. The determination process is undergoing significant change. Much of the process will be moving to “performance areas.”
- U. S. Department of Education Visit – The U. S. Department of Education visited Missouri in August at our request. They reviewed where we are in the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) process for both Part B and C.
- IEP Facilitation – Missouri was one of seven states selected by CADRE to go through the IEP facilitation process. Karen Allan is Missouri's contact for this project. A conference call will be held in September with a meeting in Oregon in November. Stakeholder teams will be created soon after.
- Dynamic Learning MAPs – Bonnie Aaron, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled and Tiffani Muessig, Special Education Effective Practices will be providing webinars discussing Dynamic Learning MAPs  
<http://dese.mo.gov/communications/webinar/dynamic-learning-maps-2014>.
- Braided Funding – The Department is trying to help schools legally blend braided funds for early childhood special education. The Department has asked the U.S. Department of Education to review our concept and they seem interested.
- Smarter Balance – There are 504 people across the state currently on the panel and they are looking for more. If districts have individuals that would like to participate, contact the Office of College and Career Readiness.

**Targets for Part B** – The Special Education State Performance Plan (SPP) Indicators and the SPP/APR Baseline and Targets documents were handed out to panel members. Both documents can be viewed at <http://dese.mo.gov/special-education/advisory-panels/seap/seap-meeting-handouts>. Discussion of the targets included a rationale for changing some of the targets and baselines. The panel supported the recommended changes as they perceived the recommended targets were more realistic and more meaningful for looking at real progress of students with disabilities.

The SEAP was presented two sets of targets for Indicator 6, one based on the 3-5 data (including kindergarten) and one with the kindergarten students removed. They gravitated strongly to the data which did not include the kindergarten students since that is a true representation of our early childhood programs.

**Subcommittee Meetings** – A motion was made by Lynnette Creed to not have the subcommittees meet during this panel meeting. Lauren Zeliff seconded the motion. Motion approved.

### **Member Issues/Reports**

The Secretary position for the panel is currently vacant. Lina will send an email to panel

members asking for nominations. Mary Jo Jensen will contact those nominated and prepare a ballot for the next panel meeting.

**Dates for Next Year's SEAP Meetings**

March 6, 2015

June 5, 2015

September 4, 2015

December 4, 2015

**Adjournment** – Shawn Nix made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Lauren Zelif seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.