

Special Education Advisory Panel Meeting

Minutes

September 4, 2015

Members in Attendance

Patricia Kopetz	Lauree Head	Lisa Robbins
Brenda Niemeyer	Reta Richmond	Belinda Worley
Jamey McVicker	Maryellen Koch	Rachel Morgan
Lori Masek	Kenneth Lerbs	Kim Gee
Lynnette Creed	Thomas Bamvakais	Christina Booker
Gwen Deimeke	Elisha Ferguson	Cory McMahon
Julie Boos	Diana Taylor-Soole	Matt McTeer
Amanda Kaiser	Lauren Zeliff	Stephen Barr
Amy Wilson	Kent Medlin	

Members Not in Attendance

DeWayne Andersen	Mary Jo Jensen	Jodi Orton
Stacey Anderson	Byron Koster	Laurie Truesdell
Donna Cash	Shawn Nix	

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. Diana Taylor-Soole seconded the motion. Minutes were approved.

Pre-Employment Transition Services (PETS) – Bob Simpson, Director, Pre-Employment Transition Services and Hook Center for Educational Renewal, University of Missouri, presented information on pre-employment training. To review presentation, go to:

<http://dese.mo.gov/special-education/advisory-panels/seap/seap-meeting-handouts>. Stephen asked subcommittees for suggestions of anything that could be done better.

Assessment Update – Stephen Barr indicated the ACT will once again be offered for all 11th graders. Most of the special education accommodations were allowed by ACT. More students from disadvantaged families are taking the ACT. Stephen will have data and more information to share at the next panel meeting.

Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) Assessment – The DLM assessment measures student performance on alternate achievement standards for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities. During the summer, proficiency was established for all levels and will be sent to districts this fall. Seventeen states were involved in this process. This will allow the assessment to be used as a progress monitoring tool for teachers. Hope to make this available for students with disabilities also.

Working Lunch - DESE Update

- Budgets – DESE’s budget has been completed. An increase in funds was requested for Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE). All ECSE expenses are paid at 100 percent. Modifications are being made in an attempt to control escalating costs. The legislature can get rid of ECSE funding if costs increase too fast.
- Transition Team – Panel members were asked to go to the Special Education webpage and look for the Transition Resource information to see if it is user friendly. Feedback is requested.
- The U.S. Department of Education developed Grads360 <https://osep.grads360.org/#program>. A profile for every state is available on this website. Missouri is one of twenty states that “met requirements.”
- Missouri is participating in a learning graduation/post-secondary outcomes collaborative (five teams). The five teams are Results Driven Accountability, which is the largest; Early Literacy; Post-Secondary Outcomes; School Improvement; and, Early Learning Outcomes. Each team will be expected to participate in a couple meetings throughout the year in addition to conference calls/webinars.
- The Administrators’ Conference went good this year. Its focus was on the trauma students deal with while going to school. It gave practical steps schools could use.
- The New Special Education Directors’ Training was held during the summer.
- MOCASE has been looking at “Reinventing Special Education.” They are recommending the state look more at multi-tiered levels and teacher preparation. They also expressed concerns in the area of dyslexia.
- IEP Facilitation - A brochure is available at: <http://dese.mo.gov/special-education/advisory-panels/seap/seap-meeting-handouts>. Illinois is doing a facilitator training and are letting us send our pilot trainers. Pilot districts include: Springfield, Clark County R-I, Reeds Spring, Jackson, Farmington, and North Kansas City.
- The administrative rule changes for ECSE leases will be presented to the State Board in September.
- Since 2002, Congress has tried to pass ESEA though, recently, little has been heard. IDEA will not be changed until ESEA is changed.

Review Bylaws/Role of Executive Committee – Cory indicated the bylaws state the Executive Committee plays a role in the development of the panel meeting agendas. As a member of the Executive Committee, he has not been a part of any meeting to help in the development of the agenda and feels it is an issue that should be addressed. Stephen indicated agendas are created based on subcommittee reports and suggestions they make for future panel topics in addition to items DESE would like to share and/or discuss with the panel. Cory made a motion to change the wording of Article VI, Section V to: “The executive committee shall have input in the preparation of an agenda for all scheduled meetings.” Brenda Niemeyer seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Subcommittee Meetings – Subcommittees met from 1:15 to 1:50 p.m.

Evaluations – No report.

Rules and Regulations – The subcommittee expressed concerns with the new teacher certification process for special education teacher graduates. They would like information from Teacher Certification. The concern is this will decrease the number of individuals wanting to become special education teachers.

Monitoring – The subcommittee discussed the FIEP pilot and is eager for an update at the next meeting. They also discussed due process. Statics will be provided to the panel at the December meeting.

Programs – The subcommittee discussed DLM and the direction of the regular MAP testing. They want to be informed of legislative issues that may impact special education. The subcommittee also discussed special education funding, specifically for students with severe disabilities. Stephen indicated school districts are allocated funds based on historical data, not by the number of students in a particular disability category. Funds remain relatively flat from one year to the next. The part of funding identified as Exceptional Pupil Aid (EPA) was pushed into the foundation formula that is for special education and is allocated based on the formula itself. There is a high need fund that provides reimbursement for districts serving any student with a disability whose educational costs exceed three times the district's current expenditure per ADA amount. DESE will pay all or part of the requested amount based on the total number of requests and the funds available. The subcommittee would like someone from DESE to provide more information on special education funding at a future meeting.

Nominations – No report.

Public Comment – No comments received since October 2014. The panel welcomes and encourages comments from the public regarding concerns or issues faced by students with disabilities. The panel's email address is seapcomments@gmail.com. It is a private SEAP subcommittee email address and is not accessed or monitored by DESE. Any comments received will be shared with the full panel at the next meeting. Comments will not be responded to individually. The panel's web address is <http://dese.mo.gov/special-education/advisory-panels/special-education-advisory-panel-seap>. Panel members were asked to share this information with their constituents. Panel members can use their personal Facebook pages to let people they know about the SEAP public comments page. DESE will advertise through SELS and MOCASE.

Future Panel Meetings

March 4, 2016

June 3, 2016

September 2, 2016

December 2, 2016

Tom Bamvakais made a motion to approve the dates. Rachel Morgan seconded the motion. Dates approved.

Adjournment – Brenda Niemeyer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Diana Taylor-Soole seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.