

Special Education State Advisory Committee (SESAC)

General Meeting March 21, 2015

MINUTES

Present

Kelly Meissner-Chair
 Dorie Flynn - by WebEx
 Kathy Barazotto
 Marjorie Guldán
 Ty Blackwell-by WebEx
 Neal Lichter
 Marcella Franczkowski-by WebEx
 Rachel London
 Angela Smith
 Marjorie Guldán
 Martha Goodman
 Jamie Stoner

Absent

Dawn Koplos
 Rhonda Creecy-Co-Chair -excused
 Carol Strootman
 Yvonne Hu Cotto
 Dawn Koplos
 Sarah Wayland
 Brian Fausel
 Maura Taylor
 Valerie Ashton-Thomas – excused
 Kathy Kaufman- excused
 Leanne Carmona-excused
 Michelle Stewart-excused

Staff Present

Carmen Brown

Guests

Gary Richardson - MSDE
 Deborah Nelson-MSDE

Meeting began at 10:10am with Introductions of all members present and on the phone

Topic	Minutes from January & February
Discussion	Change Dorie Flynn’s spelling for minutes.
Recommendations	Both months’ minutes motion, seconded, and accepted with the above.
Action	
Follow-Up	
Topic	Introductions – Angela Smith DHR
Discussion	Welcome to new representative for the Department of Human Resources
Recommendations	
Action	
Follow-Up	
Topic	Federal Application – PART B
Discussion	Gary Richardson introduced the topic and summarized the purpose and process of the Federal Application. Gary spoke briefly about ESSA and assurances required in NCLB regarding qualifications of teachers. Question about certification for the requirements for teaching special education. SESAC offered to support if it would be helpful. Discussion about the previous requirements for “highly qualified” certification. Question and brief discussion about CEIS (Coordinated Early Intervention Services) funding for disproportionality. Question and discussion about parentally placed private school students and how the data is obtained as well as its relation to the CEIS funding. Question about the appropriation of

	federal funding and clarification on funds that pass through directly to the LSS per formula as well as discretionary funding.
Recommendations	
Action	
Follow-Up	Kelly will write a letter of review and support. Independent follow up on individual questions.
Topic	Project AWARE – summary/overview
Discussion	Deborah Nelson presented a summary of the federal grant and spoke of its connection to Special Education. Deborah provided statistics, myths as well as a review of Youth Mental Health First Aid Training occurring statewide.
Recommendations	Recommendation to look specifically at the training and how to engage staff regarding children with developmental disabilities.
Action	Project AWARE could apply for a DDCouncil small grant to expand training.
Follow-Up	SESAC members can contact Carmen directly for a link to Project AWARE training.
Topic	Legislative Update
Discussion	Rachel and Carmen summarized 2016 legislation related to Special Education and the disabilities community.
Recommendations	
Action	
Follow-Up	Pathfinders has a summary of ABLE resources and will forward it to the SESAC.
Topic	Review of Mtg with Marcella re: recommendations
Discussion	Kelly summarized the discussion with Marcella surrounding recommendations from SESAC.
Recommendations	SESAC agrees that driving the Transition Plan to guide the IEP discussion is critical to the IEP process. There was a suggestion and discussion of creating a parent input workgroup to develop recommendations to better the on-line IEP. Examples of recommendations might be: name at the top follows through the document, at age 14-start the IEP discussion with transition, email address on the cover sheet.
Action	Discussion with Marcella
Follow-Up	In the next Executive team with Marcella, SESAC will recommend that requiring the Transition Plan to guide the IEP discussion is critical to the IEP process.
Topic	Discussion with Asst. State Superintendent Marcella Franczkowski
Discussion	Marcella reviewed Braiding of Funds as it guides the blending of services in MD. She reviewed Birth-Age 3 (IFSP), Ages 3-4 (Extended IFSP), Ages 3-5 (IEP), and Ages 3-21 (IEP) funding. Discussion of Discretionary vs Passthrough funding, the assignment of dollars, and the expectations in order to access the discretionary funding. Focus on family engagement/partnerships, and secondary transition.
Recommendations	
Action	Suggestion of having a parent workgroup for the IEP – At age 14 immediately start with transition, email address on the cover sheet, name population.
Follow-Up	

SESAC Mtg adjourned at 1:05pm.

Future Mtg Topics: McKinney Vinto – Valerie Ashton-Thomas, ESSA – Mary Gable, MLL introduction – Chris Swanson, On-Line IEP, Testing in HS/and process for Bridge Projects, SECAC Survey, SECAC Action Plan/Training

FUTURE SESAC Meeting dates: April 11, May 16, June 14