

COUNCIL ON SPECIAL EDUCATION
April 15, 2016
MINUTES

Department of Public Instruction, Room P41
125 South Webster Street
Madison, WI 53703
608-266-1781

Members in attendance: Dara Atandare, Patricia Becker, Judy Braun, Elsa Diaz-Bautista, Meredith Dressel, Regena Floyd-Sambou, Pam Foegen, Nicole Hansen, Sue Larsen, Jennifer Mims-Howell, Anna Moffitt, Santiago Navarro, Jerry Nicholson, Wendy Overturf, Julie Quigley, Caroline Rossing, Tricia Thompson, Carla Witkowski

DPI staff in attendance: Carolyn Stanford Taylor, Scott Brown, Anita Castro, Patti Williams, Terry Ehiorobo, Amy Owen, Daniel Parker, Christina Spector, Paula Volpiansky, Kathryn Bush

10:00 – 2:30 BUSINESS MEETING #309

Room P41

1. **Public Appearances:** None.
2. **Welcome recently appointed members**
3. **Minutes of Meeting #308:** Approved as drafted.
4. **Correspondence/Chairperson's Report**
 - a. Wendy Overturf, Carla Witkowski, Judy Braun, and Jennifer Mims-Howell will serve on a small group to increase participation at the public forum scheduled for October 10, 2016.
5. **Council Member Reports and Issues:** None.
6. **IDEA Complaint Findings & Decisions and Due Process Hearing Findings & Decisions:** DPI clarified that the table of complaint decisions Council received were the issues that were investigated, not the findings. If Council is interested in the findings, they can review the decisions online or the attached print out. DPI's complaint webpage was emailed to the group.
7. **Department of Public Instruction Report: Information and Discussion**
 - a. **DPI staffing:** Amy Owen, Consultant for Data Analysis was introduced to the group.
 - b. **State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP):** Scott Brown provided an update on Results Driven Accountability (RDA) work through the SSIP. The RDA improvement strategies DPI is working on are coordinated district improvement planning, professional learning resources, connecting compliance to results, and coaching. We are using implementation science, assisted through the University of North Carolina's State Implementation and Scaling up of Evidence-based Practices (SISEP) Center to learn more about implementation and ensure the SSIP is rolled out in a way that will lead to more sustainability.
 - c. **Annual Performance Report (APR):** Patti Williams and Amy Owen presented the Annual Performance Report Summary chart that reflects what was submitted to the Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP).
 - d. **Indicator 8 parent survey questions:** Daniel Parker presented background information on the parent survey/Indicator 8. He is in the process of revising the survey questions and solicited input on the questions from the Council members. Daniel will send some additional questions via email to the Council. If any groups are interested in providing additional feedback on the parent survey, they should contact Daniel. Daniel will provide a follow up on this at the July meeting.
 - e. **Assessment:** Patti Williams provided a brief update that Forward Exam testing is on schedule across the state. Additionally, the I-7 District-Wide Assessment form has been updated to

include a prompt that allows IEP teams to consider whether the new civics graduation requirement is appropriate for the student, and a place to document any needed accommodations.

- f. **Group discussion:** SICC/SAP webinar on Engaging Stakeholders in SSIP Evaluation Planning. General discussion about increasing stakeholder input in the process, which Wisconsin is doing. Caroline provided notes on the webinar via email and print outs.
- g. **Wisconsin Sample Special Education Forms:** Anita Castro presented on the Council's input on the Results Driven Accountability enhanced special education forms. Information about how the Council's input was included in revisions was also described. DPI hopes to finalize these forms by early May, so if Council members have feedback they should contact Anita Castro next week.

8. Special Report: Students with Disabilities, Open Enrollment, and the Special Needs Scholarship:

Paula Volpiansky provided background information on open enrollment. In 2015, we saw a number of changes to the open enrollment program that affect students with disabilities and will go into effect during the 2016-17 school year. Cost estimates will no longer be provided and students with disabilities can no longer be denied open enrollment based on undue financial burden. Paula also gave basic information about the special needs scholarship program, which will be new during the 2016-17 school year. Families will be able to apply for this program once the open enrollment decisions are finalized on July 1, 2016. When a student moves to a private school, they do not have the same rights as students with disabilities in public schools. Eligible students are current Wisconsin residents with an IEP/ISP in effect, enrolled in a public school in Wisconsin for the entire previous year.

9. Special Report: Wisconsin School Mental Health Framework: Kathryn Bush presented information on the mental health framework embedded within a multi-level system of support (MLSS). She introduced the three different service delivery models. She also shared a video on the way mental health issues are being addressed and the framework used in the LaCrosse School District. Kathryn also shared a video of a student to emphasize the importance for students to build meaningful relationships with school staff. Key to providing successful services for students is collaboration. Sue Larsen reminded us of opportunities for continued collaboration through her role at the Department of Health Services.

10. New Business

- a. **Nominations for 2016-17:** Term members of several Council members expire on July 1. Please solicit nominations from your communities as soon as possible. Christina will be contacting Council members to make sure she is counting roles and terms properly.
- b. **2016-17 Meeting Schedule:** Meeting schedule for next year has been distributed.
- c. **Representative to focus group on school resource officers working with students with disabilities:** Council suggested including trauma-informed care and culturally responsive practices when making these considerations. We would like one Council member to participate in our initial meeting in late May. Pam Foegen said she could participate on behalf of the council.
- d. **Twice Exceptional:** Stacey Skoneing is asking Council if there is any data on twice exceptional students in IEPs. Council members do not believe this data would be included in student IEPs, because the IEP is written to meet the disability related needs and do not include talented and gifted programming. Suggestion was to connect with curriculum coordinator in Middleton, Chrys Mursky at DPI, and/or Wisconsin Council for Administrators of Special Services (WCASS). Caroline will provide this information to Stacey.

11. Unfinished Business

12. Announcements

- a. Next meeting date: July 15, 2016, 10:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. (Department of Public Instruction Room P41 – 125 S. Webster St., Madison; 608/266-1781).

13. Public Appearances: None.

14. Adjournment