

**State Advisory Committee (SAC)
on the Education of Students/Children with Disabilities
NH Department Of Education
January 7, 2015
Room 15
4:30pm-7:00pm**

Meeting Minutes

In Attendance:

Bonnie Dunham (Chair), Ellen Boudreau, Audrey Burke, Mackenzie Burke, Candace Cole-McCrea, Kestrel Cole-McCrea, Carol Conforti-Adams, Donna Curtin, Jack Curtin, Tom Grinley, Sue Marcotte-Jenkins, Mike Pinard, Janet Reed, Michelle Rosado, Karen Rosenberg, Senator Nancy Stiles, Maureen Tracey

Guest(s): Santina Thibedeau (Administrator, Bureau of Special Education), Lisa Beaudoin, Kevin Maes, Alan Pardy (Executive Director, NHASEA)

Agenda I: Welcome, Introductions and Approval of Minutes

- Bonnie began the meeting at 4:35 pm. Attendees introduced themselves
 - Heidi Cloutier will not be here today
- Bonnie advised the Committee of the documentation that was in the packet
- ***Please review the membership list and let us know if any corrections are needed.***
- Bonnie announced that Catherine Meister sent an e-mail stating that she is resigning from the State Advisory Committee. Catherine did suggest a replacement for herself from the Department of Health and Human Services.
- ***Nomination – Tricia Lynn from the Department of Correction should be at the meeting to be nominated to replace K. Letts as the DOC's recommended representative (K. Letts was unaware that the DOC had already selected a representative, so will not be completing the appointment process for SAC)***
- Review of December Meeting Minutes
 - Corrections to 3rd bullet in Agenda III, should read as:
Governor and Council has approved the funding for Granite State College to implement a teacher preparation program for students who are blind and visually impaired as well as students who are deaf and hard of hearing.
 - Corrections to 5th bullet in Agenda V, should read as: The School Boards and Other Key Stakeholders
 - Spelling of Mackenzie's first name to be corrected: Mackenzie
- Motion to accept/approve by Maureen and seconded by Janet
- Several members abstained as they were not present for December's meeting
- No Public Comment or Nominations

Agenda II: Legislative Update and Updates from SAC Liaisons

- Bonnie:
 - Legislative Update – It is still early in the "legislative season," so mostly just refer to the "legislative update" handout. Two bills that are of likely interest to the SAC are: HB 124 (relative to the implementation of new college & career readiness standards) and HB 126 (establishing a commission to study issues related to students receiving special education services while attending a chartered public school).

LSR # S-0438-R (relative to facilitated individualized education program meetings) will remove "facilitated IEP meetings" from the list of ADR options in RSA 186-C so they are not subject to the ADR confidentiality/no records kept requirements (a copy of RSA 186-C:23 has been provided as a handout).

- Janet Reed has information and handouts about LSR #H-0560-R (relative to use of mixed use school buses by special education students), a topic that SAC has been following for the past few months.
- Restraint/Seclusion Rules – The State Board of Education has scheduled 2 public hearings on the initial proposal for Ed 1200, restraint and seclusion rules. Details, including the date, time & place of the public hearings, & a link to the initial proposal, are included on page 6 of the Legislative Update.
- Distribute and explain handout on Ed 1200 with questions to guide us in developing SAC's comments on the proposed rules (one of SAC's roles is to: "comment publicly on the state plan and rules and regulations proposed for issuance by the state regarding the education of children with disabilities"). At the February SAC meeting we will discuss & vote on each of the issues listed in the document. SAC's public comments on the proposed rules will include our position on each item, and a vote tally for each issue on which SAC members do not reach consensus (a form to help members prep for the February discussion is included).
- Bonnie discussed that the State Board of Education is having two public hearings for the proposed rules regarding restraints and seclusion. The first public comment session will be held on Wednesday, February 18th at 11:30am at the NHDOE. There will be a second public comment session on Thursday, February 19th from 5:30pm to 7:00pm.
- Janet discussed the new legislation for transporting of students with disabilities
 - The SAC members discussed the reason behind Representative Jones bringing forth the new legislations as well as the fiscal and programmatic impact it was having on the private providers. Janet will keep the SAC members updated with what is happening with the bill.
- Karen Rosenberg motioned that SAC should ask the Commissioner to support.
 - Senator Stiles abstained
 - All in agreement
- Janet will find inquire about the public hearing for the legislation of the mixed use school bus and will let Barbara Raymond know
- Santina stated that someone should send in an official letter regarding what the SAC wants the Commissioner to support about the legislation of the mixed use school bus.

Agenda III: Old Business:

- A review of the Commissioner's response to SAC's recommendations regarding the "Full Implementation of IEPs."
 - Sue will provide an overview (PowerPoint, w/SAC recc & the Commissioner's response).*
 - SAC can decide whether to follow up w/further information/recommendations – and if so, how?
- Sue Marcotte-Jenkins presented her Power Point regarding SAC recommendations of failures to implement IEP services
- Karen Rosenberg suggested to having a subcommittee have a conversation with Commissioner Barry.
- Candace & Ellen found the Commissioner's comments dissatisfying.
- Bonnie suggested that a small group of volunteers speak with the Commissioner regarding the failures to implement IEPs and multi-tier groups.
- It was determined that a subcommittee: members; Karen Rosenberg, Audrey Burke, Maureen Tracey, Ellen Boudreau and Sue Marcotte-Jenkins will review this further. Additional subcommittee members, esp. educations, will be solicited by e-mail.
- Bonnie will send out an e-mail regarding this subcommittee.

Agenda IV: Video presentation on Learning Styles, Donna Curtin, SAC member

- Donna Curtin shared the video she developed with regards to different learning styles

Agenda V: Update from the Bureau of Special Education

- Santina updated the group on the new website for Next Steps NH; the website has been being housed by Keene State College; the website had a soft launch and Santina would like to make people aware of the site.
- The Bureau of Special Education helped to fund a three session professional development workshop for school nurses. Santina gave the opening remarks for one of those sessions.

Agenda VI: Subcommittees

Subcommittees meet:

- Secondary Transition
- Children with Disabilities Who Have Absent Parent(s)
- Ensuring that School Boards and Other Key Stakeholders are Well-Informed (including about special education finance issues)

Reports from Subcommittees [**Note: subcommittees did not meet this month due to time constraints**]

Agenda VII: Reports from Subcommittees, with Group Input/Discussion (Skipped)

Agenda VIII: New Business, Emerging Issues, Announcements, Current Events, Public Comment

- Tom Grinley mentioned a presentation on student with parents who are incarcerated that Daniel Ward had presented for his agency. Tom suggests that Daniel conduct his presentation for SAC.

Agenda VIII: Adjourn

- Kestrel made motion to adjourn at 6:40pm, Carol seconded the motion
- Next meeting is February 4, 2015 (snow date is February 11th, 2015)