Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

IDEA B State Advisory Panel

Zoom Meeting

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Wednesday, April 1, 2020

Present:


Absent:

Heather Hancock and Sonya Parsons

State Department of Education Employees:

Abby Johnson, Christa Knight, Todd Loftin, and Ginger Elliott-Teague

Bonnie McBride: Welcome

Bonnie McBride called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m.

Todd Loftin (OSDE): OSDE Updates

Distance Learning Resources

The agency, as well as the Special Education Services department have developed guidance for distance learning. Resources such as a distance learning guidance, frequently asked questions (FAQ), instruction support, and child nutrition are posted on the agency’s website.

- Key Tenets of Distance Learning
  - Keep students at the center – plan for student learning, develop a weekly plan and schedule, and contact families.
  - Design learning equity and access – teach content, deliver flexible instruction, and engage families.
  - Assess student learning – check student learning, make instructional adjustments, and engage families.
Supplemental Fact Sheet Takeaways

In these circumstances, services will be provided differently than they are when school is fully operational. Many accommodations and services can be provided remotely, with the notion that communication with families is the key to ensuring successful distance learning.

This is to ensure that compliance with IDEA should not prevent any school from offering educational programs through distance instruction. As districts must provide FAPE while protecting the health and safety of students, educators, and service providers.

Known Hurdles to Distance Learning

We are doing something we have never done before, and face hurdles such as 1) lack of devices (computers and access to internet), 2) language access issues, 3) family availability, 4) homelessness, 5) licensing requirements for tele-therapy, 6) services for students with severe disabilities, and 7) many others.

Ginger Elliott-Teague (OSDE): End of Year Data Collection and State Systemic Improvement Plan

End of Year Data Collection

The end of year data collection is on track to happen as planned. We will be pulling data from districts on June 30-July 1. There will also be end of year webinar trainings held over the next few weeks.

State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP)

The final report for the previous State Systemic Improvement Plan has been submitted. The next step is to begin planning on the new State Systemic Plan.

Todd Loftin (OSDE): IDEA Part B Grant Application

The grant application for IDEA B is due in May. The draft has been posted on the OSDE website and feedback is encouraged. The budget listed is estimated based on previous budgets. If anyone has questions regarding the draft or grant application, they are asked to contact Todd Loftin.

Todd Loftin (OSDE): Meeting Dates/Location

The next IDEA B State Advisory Panel meeting will be announced within the coming weeks.

Todd Loftin (OSDE): Adjourn

Motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded, meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.