

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
IDEA B State Advisory Panel
2500 North Lincoln, Room 215
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105
12:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m., September 15, 2016

MINUTES

Present:

Aaron Bullock, Alicia Blair, Andrea Kunkel, Bonnie McBride, Bryan Young, Cassie Nash, Chris Karch, Cindy Carlton, Cindy Gould, David Bloese, Doris Erhart, Erika Olinger, Heather Hancock, Jamie Lahey *via conference phone*, Janice Morris, Jennifer Collier, Jennifer Karner, Jo Anne Blades, Kathy Wheat, Katy Young, Kaylin Coody, Kim Heard, Linda Whaley, Lori Wathen, Lori Wieder, Lydia Wilson, Malarie Deardorff, Mandy Seward, Marsha Herron, Martin Barry *via conference phone*, Melissa White, Michele Scott, Michelle Keiper, Michelle Koehn, Nancy Goosen, Noel Tyler, Sharon Baker, Sharon Coppedge-Long, Sherri Coats, Tiffany Jenkins, and Traci Cook

Absent:

Ann Trudgeon, Ashlee Robson, Becky Moore, Freida Burgess, Jaci Tolbert, James Martin, Jennifer Robinson, Jordan House, Kayla Bower, Kim Osmani, Latisha Coats, and Linda Jaco

State Department of Education Employees:

Kristen Coleman, Mark Everhart, Mark Sharp, Todd Loftin and Carrie Howell

Visitor: Ms. Bullock

Jo Anne Blades: Welcome

Ms. Blades called the meeting to order @ 9:00 a.m.

Jo Anne Blades: Prior Year Due Process Hearings

Ms. Blades stated that last year they had 16 due process hearing requests. Two actually have gone to hearing; these were the decisions that were rendered during the last calendar year; one due process hearing decision and two appeals. (Handouts were referred to and available)

Todd Loftin: SSIP/Indicator Information, General Supervision System, District Determinations, Child Count, ESSA/IDEA

Mr. Loftin gave an overview and update on information for the SSIP/Indicators, General Supervision System, District Determinations, Child Count, and ESSA/IDEA. (PowerPoint attached)

Mark Everhart: Compliance/Findings/Determinations

We need to always look at each district differently. To do that, we have developed tools such as: self-assessments, improvement plans, assurance statements. We are required by the Federal government to issue a finding anytime a district is not compliant. Our obligation is to always let the district know any finding and we are required to report it and make sure it is corrected whether it is by an assurance statement, or an improvement plan; as an example. We never want to punish a district, rather help them understand why they are non-compliant and assist.

Jo Anne Blades: CADRE

We wanted to inform you about our CADRE Work Study Group. CADRE is the Federal contract with the US Department of Education to assist all states with dispute resolution, which expands from programming down to conflict prevention. The Special Education Resolution Center is one of their exemplary programs, 1 out of 4 in the country they identified, out of 67 states and territories. We have now been approached to do a program with the Oklahoma Parents Center. There were 3 states chosen to participate in this work study group. It will be a 36-48 month progress. We will be doing activities that they have asked us to do with the first activity being to review over our existing website and materials. We have completed that and now they want us to pick 4 activities that they want us to focus on. CADRE will be giving us assistance with this, which is a lot of fun.

Todd Loftin: Membership and Terms

All attendees introduced themselves and stated their title, where they work and/or what position they serve on the panel.

Mr. Loftin stated there is no plan in place at this time for rotation off of established members. In the Guidelines it states membership terms are 2 or 3 years. Mr. Loftin asked everyone to email Carrie or me stating your preference of a 2 or 3 year term.

Todd Loftin: Future Meeting Dates/Location

It was determined the dates for the next four IDEA B Panel meetings will be: December 1, 2016 in Tulsa, March 2, 2017 in Oklahoma City, June 1, 2017 in Tulsa, and September 7, 2017 in Oklahoma City. Oklahoma City meeting location will be determined at a later date. Tulsa meetings will take place at the Tulsa Technology Center, Riverside Campus, Room A144, 801 East 91st Street.

Jo Anne Blades: Subcommittees and Panel Priorities

We will establish subcommittees that will investigate the panel priorities that we establish today. The Panel came up with a list of priorities that we need to focus on – they have been grouped by subject and are as follows.

1. Youth – Self Advocacy Skills & Knowledge

- a. *Transition between all levels – from building to building, from one place to any other place of significant change.*
- b. *Building self-advocacy skills for students.*
- c. *Students need to know more about requesting accommodations in higher education.*

2. Teacher Preparation or Knowledge/Practice (PD)

- a. *Pre-Service training for Special Ed teachers*
 - i. *Deaf-Blind*
 - ii. *Behavioral training*
 - iii. *Reading instruction (dyslexia-multi-sensory)*
 - iv. *Technology*
- b. *Professional Development – UDL, Co-teaching, technology, support for children in regular classes.*
- c. *Professional Development on transition to the workforce.*
- d. *State sharing the National vision or the future visions of education reform to the local school districts. Where are all these changes going?*

- e. *Professional development is needed by different schools at different times. We need professional development that can be accessed at the time a school district needs it. If professional development is given at a certain time, then some schools may not be able to access it and would lose the opportunity to have it.*
 - f. *Special Education is still very segregated – regular ed and special ed are in their own sandboxes. There needs to be more integration between the two. More supports for special education in the regular classroom.*
 - g. *Need Best Practice Guidelines or Guidance Documents created. Examples: retention, working with paras, evaluation process, etc.*
 - h. *Transition – High school to work. More information on WIOIA.*
 - i. *We need equal efforts given to cradle to career, as well as, cradle to secondary education.*
 - j. *Early Childhood – Need professional development on developmental levels.*
 - k. *Dyslexia needs to be addressed more often.*
- 3. Lack of Special Education Personnel**
- a. *There is no emergency certificate for special ed teacher certification.*
 - b. *Lack of appropriate para professional training*
 - c. *Lack of providers of related services training*
 - i. *PT – now will require a doctoral level student and will be extremely difficult to pay at the level that degree would require.*
 - ii. *OT*
 - iii. *Speech/Language*
 - d. *Lack sufficient number of special ed teachers. Retaining*
 - e. *Lack of education services for deaf-blind and sensory disabilities. Need specialized degree.*
 - f. *Need professional development on the IDEA law to everyone.*
- 4. Parent Engagement & Training**
- a. *Professional development on the IDEA law to everyone.*
 - b. *Parent involvement (engagement)*
 - c. *Resources for parents – in the community. Community services. Information about services and how to access those services when you don't have Medicaid.*
- 5. Suspensions and Behavior**
- a. *Behavior*
 - b. *Suspensions*
- 6. State Department Education Management**
- a. *Risk Pool – high cost of serving multiple disabilities. (Tier I and Tier II funding)*
 - b. *Need more MTISS in schools. (Multi-tiered intervention and school supports)*
 - c. *Need SDE to issue their form of “Dear Colleague Letters” for guidance.*

Jo Anne Blades: Adjourn

Motion made to adjourn the meeting, seconded, meeting adjourned @ 4:00 p.m.

cjh