

# KANSAS SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

*Dedicated to the Education of  
"ALL"*

## KANSAS

## SEAC



## Annual Report

July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011

Special Education Services  
Kansas State Department of Education  
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# Secretary's Report

The overarching focus of Kansas special education services is to improve outcomes for students with exceptionalities and their families. Services for students with exceptionalities in Kansas are continuously improving because of the dedication and commitment of many exemplary teachers and administrators who are supported by concerned and invested parents who work in partnership with the schools. The primary motivation for individuals to accept appointments to Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) is the focus on quality improvement in the Kansas education system, particularly as it relates to students with exceptionalities. The SEAC members voluntarily meet on a regular basis, study issues of significance, provide a representative advocacy function, and advise the Special Education Services team and Kansas State Board of Education on matters of special education services. This report summarizes the activities and accomplishments of SEAC for the 2010 – 2011 school year.

SEAC continues to function as an advisory panel to the Kansas State Board of Education. SEAC advises the State Board in five key areas as required by the implementing regulations of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and by Kansas Statutes. Those areas include:

1. Advise the State Education Agency (SEA) of unmet needs within the state in the education of children with exceptionalities;
2. Comment publicly on any rules and regulations proposed by the state regarding the education of children with;
3. Advise the SEA in developing evaluations and reporting on data to the secretary under Section 618 of the Act;
4. Advise the SEA in developing corrective action plans to address findings identified in Federal Monitoring reports under Part B of the Act; and
5. Advise the SEA in developing and implementing policies relating to the coordination of services for children with exceptionalities.

SEAC has represented its constituencies well during the past year and has been productively engaged in fulfilling its legal commitments and mission on behalf of students. SEAC's 2010 – 2011 accomplishments are wide ranging. To summarize, SEAC has been involved in these activities of importance:

- Review testimony and make recommendations to Kansas Board of Education regarding Emergency Safety Interventions (ESI)
- Provide oversight of the implementation of IDEA and state regulations through review of the Kansas Integrated Accountability System (KIAS) and focused monitoring, due process and formal complaints
- Provided input to OSEP in preparation for the Verification Visit
- Review and comment on the Kansas Annual Performance Report (APR), and State Performance Plan (SPP) submitted to OSEP
- Study and advise priority areas such as: Early Childhood, Least Restrictive Environments, secondary transition
- Promote use of Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS)
- Participate in 2<sup>nd</sup> annual combined meeting with State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC)
- Study practices impacting disproportionate representation
- Review and comment on Kansas Technical Assistance System Network (TASN) Projects
- Provide forum for public comment on disability issues
- Monitor and review state and federal legislative issues

SEAC serves a valuable role in representing the stakeholders in Kansas regarding special education services. There is no question that because of SEAC investment in the future, students with exceptionalities will have a better chance of fulfilling their lifelong dreams. The State of Kansas is fortunate to have an active and involved SEAC.

Colleen Riley,  
Director Special Education Services  
Secretary of the Kansas Special Education Advisory Council

# Introduction

The Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) held seven meetings during the 2010 - 2011 school year. The January meeting was a two day meeting and included members of the Kansas State Board of Education (KSBE). The February meeting was a conference call specifically held to receive public comment on Priority Area 1.

The SEAC priority areas for 2010 - 2011 reflected the following areas:

- Priority Area 1: Advise the Special Education Administrators (SEA) of unmet needs within the state in the education of children and youth with exceptionalities;
- Priority Area 2: Comment publicly on any rules and regulations proposed by the state regarding the education of children and youth with exceptionalities;
- Priority Area 3: Advise the SEA in developing evaluations and reporting on data to the Secretary under Section 618 of the Act;
- Priority Area 4: Advise the SEA in developing corrective action plans to address findings identified in Federal Monitoring reports under Part B of the Act; and
- Priority Area 5: Advise the SEA in developing and implementing policies relating to the coordination of services for children and youth with exceptionalities.

## Kansas Special Education Advisory Council

The major responsibilities of the council are to advise, consult and provide recommendations to the Kansas State Board of Education regarding matters concerning special education services. The SEAC is composed of individuals in, or concerned with, the education of children with exceptionalities. The council performs such duties as specified by law, statute or regulation and as outlined in the Kansas SEAC manual. Much of the work is directed through the Special Education Services team.

The primary role of the council is as an advocate for achieving excellence, equity and lifelong learning opportunities for all students in Kansas. As such, it is committed to representing individuals with diverse and changing educational needs. The role of advocate presupposes a sensitivity and responsiveness to these needs. This responsibility leads the SEAC to support the vision and mission of KSBE, the Division of Learning and Innovative Services (DLIS) and the Special Education Services (SES) team.

### **Vision**

Schools will work with families and communities to prepare students with exceptionalities for success.

### **Mission**

The mission of the Kansas State Board of Education is to prepare Kansas students for lifelong success through rigorous academic instruction, 21st century career training, and character development according to each student's gifts and talents.

### **SEAC Goal**

The Kansas Special Education Advisory Council will advocate for an educational system that achieves excellence, equity, and lifelong learning for students with exceptionalities in Kansas.

### **SEAC Beliefs**

The Kansas Special Education Advisory Council is committed to lifelong learning. SEAC believes that:

- Partnerships increase collaboration for better services.
- Visionary leadership is essential for appropriate services to meet the needs of all students.
- All child and family service systems must be provided in an integrated and collaborative manner.
- Education is an evolving process that requires innovation, continuous growth, as well as evaluation.
- The needs of individuals with exceptionalities in a diverse community must be met.

## Council Membership

The 2010 – 2011 SEAC was composed of eighteen individuals concerned with the education of children and youth with exceptionalities and includes the state director of special education. Nine members of the council are individuals with disabilities or parents of children with exceptionalities. The 2010 - 2011 membership included:



### *State Advisory Council for Special Education FY 2010-11*

Council Member	Address	Phone/Email	Representation	Board Region	Appointment Expires
Luanne Barron	Kansas School for the Deaf 450 E Park Street Olathe KS 66061	913-791-0513 text: 913 375 0477 <a href="mailto:Lbarron@kssdb.org">Lbarron@kssdb.org</a>	State Official *	3	June 2014 (2nd term)
Terry Fehrenbach	ESSDACK/USD 312 Charter School Principal - Pleasantview Academy 5013 S. Dean Road Hutchinson, KS 67501	W 620-921-5569 H 620-694-7674 <a href="mailto:terryf@essdack.org">terryf@essdack.org</a>	Public Charter Schools*	7	June 2014 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Janice Frahm	1553 County Road T Colby, KS 67701	785-462-7388 cell: 620-779-2884 <a href="mailto:jfracm@st-tel.net">jfracm@st-tel.net</a>	LEA Official *	5	June 2012 (2 <sup>nd</sup> term)
Lesli Girard	Families Together, Inc. 501 SW Jackson Suite 400 Topeka, KS 66603	785-233-4777 cell: 785-608-7455 <a href="mailto:lesli@familiesaltogetherinc.org">lesli@familiesaltogetherinc.org</a>	Parent Training Center	4	June 2012 (1 <sup>st</sup> full term)
Bill Griffith	Southeast KS Education Service Center Lansing Correctional Facility PO Box 2, Mailbox 13 Lansing KS 66043	913-727-3235 ext 57521 cell 913-702-4611 <a href="mailto:bgriffith6@kc.rr.com">bgriffith6@kc.rr.com</a>	Adult Corrections	1	June 2012 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Penny Hoffman	823 West 5 <sup>th</sup> St. Larned, KS 67550	620-285-7364 <a href="mailto:phoffman@usd495.k12.ks.us">phoffman@usd495.k12.ks.us</a>	Juvenile Justice	5	June 2014 (2nd term)
Larry Katzif	Director of Students & Community Development North Lindenwood Support Center 315 N. Lindenwood Olathe KS 66062	W 913-780-8201 cell 913-530-7091 <a href="mailto:lkatzifnsc@olatheschools.org">lkatzifnsc@olatheschools.org</a>	Homeless Children	3	June 2014 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Katherine Kersenbrock-Ostmeyer (Past chair)	Northeast Kansas Education Service Center 703 West Second Oakley, KS 67748	785-672-3125 cell: 785-443-2479 <a href="mailto:kko@nkesc.org">kko@nkesc.org</a>	Vocational, community or business organization concerned with provision of transition services *	5	June 2013 (2 <sup>nd</sup> term)
Karen Kroh	Archdiocese of KCKCS 12615 Parallel Parkway Kansas City KS 66109	913-721-1570 cell: 913-669-1357 <a href="mailto:kkroh@archkckcs.org">kkroh@archkckcs.org</a>	Private Schools	1	June 2013 (1 <sup>st</sup> full term)
Shawn Mackay	9555 W 123 <sup>rd</sup> St Overland Park KS 66213	913-993-7150 <a href="mailto:shawnmackay@smsd.org">shawnmackay@smsd.org</a>	Teacher *	2	June 2012 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Mike Martin	2009 Carline Road Girard KS 66743	620-231-7551 cell: 620-249-4793 <a href="mailto:mmartin@frontenac249.org">mmartin@frontenac249.org</a>	Parent of a child or person with a disability *	9	June 2012 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Dr. Ann Matthews (Chair)	USD 437 Auburn-Washburn 5928 SW 53 <sup>rd</sup> Topeka, KS 66610-9451	W 785-339-4000 cell: 785-633-2316 <a href="mailto:matthann@usd437.net">matthann@usd437.net</a>	Administrator of Exceptional Programs	4	June 2014 (2 <sup>st</sup> term)
Matthew Ramsey	Benedictine College 1020 N 2nd Street Atchison KS 66002	913-360-7387 <a href="mailto:mramsey@benedictine.edu">mramsey@benedictine.edu</a>	Related Services	1	June 2013 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)

Council Member	Address	Phone/Email	Representation	Board Region	Appointment Expires
Dr. Joan Robbins	USD 232 De Soto - Director of Special Services 35200 W. 91 <sup>st</sup> Street De Soto, KS 66018	W 913-667-6208 H 913-226-1493 <a href="mailto:jrobbins@usd232.org">jrobbins@usd232.org</a>	LEA Official *	3	June 2014 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Anne Roberts	KVC Behavioral Healthcare Inc. 21350 W 153 <sup>rd</sup> St Olathe, KS 66061	913-322-4900 x 4902 cell: 816-550-4596 <a href="mailto:aroberts@kvc.org">aroberts@kvc.org</a>	Foster Care Agency	3	June 2014 (2nd term)
Vicki Sharp	5209 W 68th Prairie Village, KS 66208	cell: 913-634-5330 <a href="mailto:lynn5209@gmail.com">lynn5209@gmail.com</a>	Parent of a Child -with Giftedness *	2	June 2014 (2nd term)
Dr. Sean Smith	University of Kansas 1122 W Campus Road JRP 538 Lawrence, KS 66045	785-331-2974 cell: 785 979 6517 <a href="mailto:seanj@ku.edu">seanj@ku.edu</a>	IHE Special Education *	4	June 2012 (2 <sup>nd</sup> term)
SueAnn Wanklyn	1461 20 <sup>th</sup> Road Frankfort KS 66427	Cell: 785-799-4531 <a href="mailto:swanklyn@yahoo.com">swanklyn@yahoo.com</a>	Parent of a child or person with a disability *	6	June 2014 (2nd term)
Bryan Wilson	USD 259 Wichita 201 N. Water Wichita KS 67202	316-973-4460 cell: 316-841-5515 <a href="mailto:bwilson@usd259.net">bwilson@usd259.net</a>	Local Education Official	8	June 2013 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Deb Young	PRTF Program Director, Southeast KS Education Service Center 947 W HWY 47 Girard, KS 66062	913-780-7678 785-862-7840 <a href="mailto:deb.young@greenbush.org">deb.young@greenbush.org</a>	Other state agencies involved in the financing or delivery of related services to exceptional children	9	June 2014 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)

**\*These representatives fulfill the majority requirement; persons who are individuals with a disability or parent of children with a disability or exceptionality and who may represent another required area.**

**Secretary to SEAC: Colleen Riley, Director of Special Education, Special Education Services, [criley@ksde.org](mailto:criley@ksde.org);  
Administrative Support to SEAC: (785)291-3097**

## Council Leadership

The officers for the 2010-2011 year were: Chair, Kathy Kersenbrock-Ostmeyer; Vice-Chair, Dr. Ann Elliott. They were unanimously elected to fulfill the obligations of these positions at the April 2009 council meeting.

The 2010-2011 Executive Committee was comprised of: Chair, Kathy Kersenbrock-Ostmeyer, Vice-Chair, Dr. Ann Elliott; Secretary, Colleen Riley. The executive committee met prior to each SEAC meeting to establish the SEAC agenda.

## Operational Standards

The SEAC's 2010-2011 meeting schedule was as follows:

<b>Meeting Date</b>	<b>Location</b>
July 28, 2010	Wichita Hyatt Hotel, Wichita KS
September 15, 2010	KSDE, Topeka KS
November 10, 2010	Topeka Zoo's Gary Clark Learning Center, Topeka KS (combined SEAC/SICC meeting)
January 11, 2011	KSDE, Topeka KS
January 12, 2011	KSDE, Topeka KS
February 7, 2011	Conference Call
April 13, 2011	KSDE, Topeka KS

The Council must conduct a minimum of four (4) regular, one-day meetings. The 2010-2011 year exceeded this standard by holding seven meetings, one of which was a two-day meeting.

Official minutes of the meetings were kept, reviewed at each following meeting for accuracy, and posted on the KSDE Special Education Services website at <http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=2466>

A public comment period was offered at each SEAC meeting. One meeting was scheduled specifically for the purpose of receiving public comment on Priority Area 1.

## Council Accomplishments

SEAC members represented the council at the Council for Exceptional Children and Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) Leadership annual conferences, the onsite focused monitoring visit conducted in Kansas by OSEP, the Numeracy Workshop for Administrators and participated in the combined collaborative advisory council meeting with the Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC). SEAC members also served on numerous advisory committees and provided input on behalf of students with exceptionalities throughout the year. (ie; Kansas Education Commission, Think College)

## Special Education Advisory Council Summary of Activities by Priority Area 2010-2011

The Kansas Special Education Advisory Council will advocate for an educational system that achieves excellence, equity, and lifelong learning for students with exceptionalities in Kansas by:

- Advise the Special Education Administrators (SEA) of unmet needs within the state in the education of children and youth with exceptionalities;
- Comment publicly on any rules and regulations proposed by the state regarding the education of children and youth with exceptionalities;
- Advise the SEA in developing evaluations and reporting on data to the Secretary under Section 618 of the Act;
- Advise the SEA in developing corrective action plans to address findings identified in Federal Monitoring reports under Part B of the Act; and
- Advise the SEA in developing and implementing policies relating to the coordination of services for children and youth with exceptionalities.

Priority Area 1: Advise the Special Education Administrators (SEA) of unmet needs within the state in the education of children and youth with exceptionalities:

Area of Focus	Data Sources	Action Completed
1.1 Increase awareness and understanding of provision of services from the public perspective	• IDEA SPP Parent Survey	January 2011
	• On-line public comment forum	Provided at each meeting of SEAC
	• Families Together, Inc.	Report provided at each regularly scheduled meeting
	• Website for public comment	Ongoing
1.2 Promote the role of SEAC functions to the legislature, other advisory councils, committees, parents and organizations	• Several members participated in the OSEP Leadership Conference, Washington DC	August 2010
	• Members attended the Tri-State Regional Special Education Law Conference in Omaha, NE.	November 2010
	• Meeting to receive public comment on Seclusion and Restraint	February 2011
	• Present SEAC recommendation to KSBE regarding Emergency Safety Interventions (Seclusion and Restraint)	June 2011 (July 2011 KSBE approves SEAC recommendation)
1.3 Evaluate the working conditions of special education teachers in Kansas. Study relevant issues, including licensure and endorsement, and assist with dissemination of related information	• SES team provided information from the Kansas Educational Employment Board regarding retention	April 2011
	• SEAC reviews data on recruitment and retention and has discussions about personnel shortages	Ongoing
	• SEAC continues to have discussions about how to meet the personnel needs to provide services to low incidence population	Ongoing

Priority Area 2: Comment publicly on any rules and regulations proposed by the state regarding the education of children and youth with exceptionalities;

<b>Area of Focus</b>	<b>Data Sources</b>	<b>Action Completed</b>
2.1 Study and provide comment on proposed federal and state laws and regulations and assist in implementation of changes.	• Discussion and public comment period regarding parent revocation and parent rights	July 2010
	• Discussion regarding the upcoming OSEP Verification Visit which included a conference call with John Copenhagen to answer questions on the advisory council survey requested by OSEP.	September 2010
	• Discussion and input provided regarding the Kansas Integrated Accountability System (KIAS)	September 2010
	• Provide written recommendations and verbal feedback to state legislature members and state board members regarding the full scope of disabilities covered within IDEA	Ongoing
2.2 Seclusion and Restraint (Emergency Safety Interventions)	• Rocky Nichols, Disability Rights Center, presented on "Presenting Unnecessary Seclusion and Restraint in Schools"	January 2011
	• Members convened a special meeting in the form of a conference call to hear public comment	February 2011
	• Members reviewed public comment testimony from the February meeting	April 2011
	• Recommendations made to KSBE regarding Emergency Safety Interventions	May 2011
	• KSBE approved all five recommendations made by SEAC in May	June 2011

Priority Area 3: Advise the SEA in developing evaluations and reporting on data to the Secretary under Section 618 of the Act;

<b>Area of Focus</b>	<b>Data Sources</b>	<b>Action Completed</b>
3.1 Provide oversight of the implementation of federal and state special education laws and regulations to ensure Kansas has effective systems in place to monitor compliance and support improved achievement and outcomes for children and youth with exceptionalities	• Received an update on IDEA SPP indicators 9 and 10 regarding Disproportionate Representation	July 2010
	• Discussion assisted SEA in determining IDEA SPP indicator targets to be set and reported in the FFY 2009 APR submitted on February 1, 2011	January 2011
	• Complaint Investigations and Due Process Hearings	January 2011
	• Discussion regarding the new graduation rate calculation	April 2011
3.2 Assist in the dissemination of information in the area of early childhood and secondary transition to help ensure Kansas can demonstrate compliance with IDEA 2004 and regulations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Combined meeting of the SEAC and the State Interagency Coordinating Council</li> <li>• Overview of Part C IDEA SPP indicator data provided</li> <li>• Overview of Part B IDEA SPP indicator data provided</li> <li>• Overview of resources for Families provided by Families Together, Kansas Parent Information Resource Center and Family Voices</li> </ul>	November 2010

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participation by Commissioner Diane DeBacker and Deputy Commissioners Brad Neuenswander and Dale Dennis to express appreciation for the work of the two councils and commend the council chairs for holding a combined meeting</li> </ul>	September 2010
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation and discussion regarding Project EXCELL and Think College</li> </ul>	April 2011
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation and discussion regarding Soaring to New Heights</li> </ul>	April 2011
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report back to constituency groups represented by SEAC the work conducted by the council</li> </ul>	Ongoing
3.3 Analyze the data on the educational progress of students with exceptionalities and make recommendations to enhance their educational program, services, and achievement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jessica Noble from Title Programs and Services shared information regarding the New Graduation Rate Calculation</li> </ul>	April 2011
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Judi Miller from Title Programs and Services shared information the Dropout Summary Report</li> </ul>	April 2011
3.4 As stakeholders, assist in the interpretation of Kansas data in reporting to the public and federal government.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provided an overview of products and programs under the new Technical Assistance Statewide Network (TASN), a coordinated system of technical assistance designed to improve Kansas special education data to effectively support districts to improve student outcomes.</li> </ul>	July 2010 November 2010 April 2011

Priority Area 4: Advise the SEA in developing corrective action plans to address findings identified in Federal Monitoring reports under Part B of the Act:

Area of Focus	Data Sources	Action Completed
4.1 As a result of the onsite focused monitoring conducted by OSEP, Kansas had to make changes to the KIAS in the areas of secondary transition and the review of updated data as interpreted by OSEP in Memo 09-02.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The SEA discussed with SEAC the changes that would need to be made in order to comply with the recommendations in the letter from OSEP in January to Commissioner DeBacker</li> </ul>	January 2011

Priority Area 5: Advise the SEA in developing and implementing policies relating to the coordination of services for children and youth with exceptionalities.

Area of Focus	Data Sources	Action Completed
<p>5.1 Enhance school-family-community partnerships by encouraging and developing coordinated programs and/or services.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Families Together, Inc. (FT) provided updates and participated in discussions</li> </ul>	<p>July 2010 September 2010 November 2010 January 2011 April 2011</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update provided by Kansas Parent Information Resource Center (KPIRC) and Family Voices</li> </ul>	<p>November 2010</p>
<p>5.2 Improve communication &amp; collaboration between SEAC &amp; SICC Councils to enhance services to children &amp; families in Kansas.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SEAC hosted the joint meeting of SEAC and SICC, supported by a shared agenda.</li> </ul>	<p>November 2010</p>
<p>5.3 Promote and enhance the blending of services between special and general education, including federal, state, and local programs (Title I, Special Ed.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members received an overview of the new Technical Assistance Statewide Network (TASN) grant projects derived from needs of personnel and disability specific and designed to align w/KSBE goals and MTSS</li> </ul>	<p>September 2010 January 2011</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A copy of OSEP's response to the Kansas waiver request was distributed to Council members. The state director of special education noted that KSDE and schools have a federal obligation to provide services regardless of cuts in funding.</li> </ul>	<p>November 2010</p>



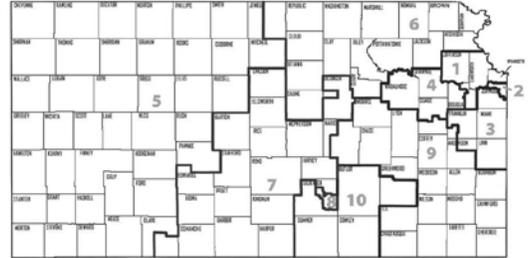
# KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Great students. Great teachers. Great leaders. Great citizens.

The mission of the Kansas State Board of Education is to prepare Kansas students for lifelong success through rigorous academic instruction, 21<sup>st</sup> century career training, and character development according to each student's gifts and talents. To accomplish this mission the State Board has identified four goals. They are as follows:

- Provide a flexible delivery system to meet our students' changing needs.
- Provide an effective educator in every classroom.
- Ensure effective, visionary leaders in every school.
- Collaborate with families, communities, constituent groups, and policy partners.

Adopted 5/2011



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 Deputy Commissioner  
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**An Equal Employment/Educational Opportunity Agency**

The Kansas State Department of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities.

The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

KSDE General Counsel, 120 SE 10<sup>th</sup> Ave., Topeka, KS 66612 (785) 296-3201