



SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES



Details

Date April 22, 2021

Time 9:00am – 3:00pm

Location: Virtual

Call to Order: at 9:03am

Roll Call

Members (x present, blank absent):

x	Heath Peine	x	Jennifer King		Rebekah Helget
	Mike Martin	X	Heidi Cornell	X	Tina Gibson
x	Chelle Kemper		Rachel Marsh		Troy Pitsch
	Sarah Shaffer	X	Laura Thompson		Amy Wagoner
x	Kari Wallace	X	Becci Werner	A	Deb Young
x	Jennifer Kucinski	X	Trisha Backman	X	Amy Zimmerman
X	Marvin Miller	X	Jennifer Kurth	X	Tobias Wood
X	Brandon Gay	X	Lesli Girard	x	Jim McNiece (Jim Porter)
	Rocky Nichols/Mike Burgess				

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KSDE Staff:

X	Bert Moore	X	Laura Jurgensen	X	Kerry Haag
X	Pat Bone	x	Kayla Love	x	Dean Zajic
	Stacie Martin		Wendy Coates	X	Shanna Bigler
x	Jeff Ensley	x	Doug Boline	X	Julie Rand
X	Tate Toedman				

Agenda:

Motion to approve: Tobias Wood

Second: Marvin Miller

Action: Motion passed

Minutes

Motion to approve: Tobias Wood as corrected (spelling of Craig's name)

Second: Chelle Kemper

Discussion:

(spelling of Craig's name on page 2)

Action: Motion passed

Public Comment:

No written comments were submitted for today's meeting.

Legislative Finance Update

Craig Neuenswander - PowerPoint

- K-12 budget considerations from the state legislature was presented.
 - Budget has not yet passed;
 - SB 175 Governor's recommended budget included increases;
 - HB 2007 State Government Funding for other areas non-education;
 - 20 Mill General Fund Levy – not yet passed;
 - HB 2104 Revenue Neutral Rate;
 - SB 40 Local Board Policy for COVID, grievance timelines for hearings; limits Governor's power to declare emergency;
 - HB 2039 Civics Exam, Personal Financial Literacy, IEP accommodations allowed concerning both requirements;
 - HB 2089 Firearm Safety;
 - State Board passed a motion on HB 2039 and 2089 that these bills were the responsibility of the Kansas Board of Education and/or the local boards of education asking the Governor not to sign these bills.
 - SB 55 transgender bill;
 - HB 2049 – Schools not impacted;

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- HB 2405 Bonds for KPERS;
- SB 86 Extraordinary Utility Costs Loan Program
- Legislature begins meeting again next week on education funding;
- Continue visiting with legislators on budgets and policy.

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief fund (ESSER) and Emergency Assistance for Non-Public Schools (EANS) Funds

Tate Toedman, Doug Boline, and Dean Zajic - PowerPoint

- New federal aid and requirements on expenditure of those dollars
- EANS II \$25M.
- ESSER I and II SPED money was designated from the totals by the State Board and KSDE.
- ESSER III contains \$28M in additional IDEA money.
- EANS program is competitive in nature but KSDE is trying to meet all eligible requests for services.
- EANS I applications have been approved. KSDE is accepting revisions at this time.
- Services will be supplied through our Service Centers.
- Commissioner's Task Force approval is required for ESSER II and ESSER III money as well as EANS I and EANS II. The State Board then approves the recommendations of the task force providing the last stage of approval.
- Task Force meetings may be viewed on YouTube [here](#).
- \$24M set aside for Special Education. The districts will receive the money. The money will be made available to the interlocal and/or coop. Specifics on expenditures will be required. Districts must submit a plan for spending the special education money. You need to work with your district(s) on how the money is needed and will be used. Districts will need to provide the district with an accounting for the expenditure of the money.
- All of these programs are reimbursement based.

IDEA funding

- ESSER III, \$28M – IN ARPA legislation. Congress chose to increase the IDEA award for 2021-2022. About 20% increase to IDEA money that will be based on the IDEA funding formula. This will change funding levels for future years as well.

Discussion

- These funds will impact our children with disabilities move forward.
- We need to look for the ways to accelerate their learning.

SPP/APR

Laura and Bert – PowerPoint

- FFY 2019 SPP/APR Submitted January 29, 2021.
- 17 Indicators on the State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report
- Compliance indicators require a score of 100%
- Slippage is essentially, did you perform worse, in a significant way, that you are required

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to explain it to the US Department of Education.

- Assessment, we had no data due to COVID 19, and the requirements were waived.
- GED certificate holders are not counted in Graduation rate as that only counts. They often do count as dropouts as they did not graduate with their class.
- Graduation will be moving to a new data source next year as required by IDEA.
- We will have graphs for you to review at the July meeting.
- *National Center for Education Statistics' Common Core of Data*
- *Early Childhood Outcome Center Child Outcomes Summary Form Process*
- Indicator 14, districts are being encourage to contact their own graduates to raise response rates and quality of information received.
 - Do GED students receive this questionnaire? No, they must be a school completer to be included.
 - This is collected from the former students and is not verified through other sources.
- Indicator 17 State Systemic Improvement Plan. The data is the evaluation of activities conducted by the state. We are learning a lot as we get data. We will send more details on the measurements Kansas is using on this indicator.

FFY 2020-25 New Requirements

- Chart of required changes
- Kansas is considering a change for indicator 7. Collecting comments at this time. Laura can send survey link if you are interested.
- More details will be presented at the July SEAC meeting as we continue to plan for the required changes.
- Stakeholder input is required for setting our state targets. There are new and additional areas of required input.
- Surveys will be adjusted for the 2021-22 school year.
- Stakeholder input will run between June 1 and August.
- New targets will be set in September, 2021.
- July you will receive an update on stakeholder input and in September we will present to you all of the input we have received and ask for SEAC's input.
- Public announcement of targets will occur following SEAC's September meeting.

Feedback/Comments/Questions

- Whom should KSDE consider involving in target setting, analyzing data, developing improvement strategies, and evaluating progress?
 - Include some members of this group and KASEA in the development process.
 - Classroom teachers in the strategy development.
 - Parents/family members. Families together may be able to help with recruiting and participating.
 - General education representatives
- What methods should KSDE consider for increasing the capacity of diverse groups of stakeholders to support development of implementation of activities designed to improve outcomes for children with disabilities?

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- Send out at multiple levels to reach districts, teachers and parents, etc.
- building expertise to evaluate processes.
- Career technical education, update to include secondary and postsecondary including special populations. Developing stakeholder teams at this time. Contact those chairs to provide input. Contact Stacy Smith for information on how to reach that group.
- Families Together could help disseminate and gather information.
- What methods should KSDE consider to facilitate stakeholder involvement (e.g., in-person or virtual meetings, surveys)?
 - Verbal support for response from parents.
 - Combination of surveys for large groups and discussions for smaller groups.
 - Virtual meetings could make it easier for parents to participate without input coming in writing or in surveys
 - Could there be a checklist of questions we ask at the annual IEP meeting with parent or legal guardians?

Membership 2021-2022

Heath Peine, Bert Moore, and Pat Bone

Heath Peine, Jennifer King, and Dr. Heidi Cornell are willing to continue for second terms. Thank you to Rachel Marsh for serving.

Motion to continue for second term: Marvin Miller
Second: Kari Wallace

Action: Approved.

Membership Committee

- Heidi Cornell volunteered to join the committee.
- Amy Zimmerman volunteered to join the committee.

Chair Elect Nominations and Election

- Heidi Cornell

Motion:

Accept Heidi to serve as Chair-Elect for 2021-2022 and chair 2022-2023 - Marvin Miller.
Second: Laura Thompson

Action: Approved.

TASN Follow-up

Crystal Davis and Amy Gaumer-Erickson

- Brainstorming ways to garner feedback from district Leadership. TASN has designed and deployed a survey and sent it out to district leadership, curriculum directors, special education directors and assistant directors, and how services are meeting their

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needs as well as what ideas they have to offer us. We have contracted with an external evaluator to review this information and provide us feedback. At this time we have a 74% special education response and 54% of general education leaders.

- Also looking at focus groups to move forward in the next school year. Expect to breakout by district sizes for these discussions.
- Will present results at the July meeting.
- Thank you for helping distribute the survey.
- Looking forward to receiving the analysis and developing plans to move forward.
- New work for TASN in 3.0. Recruitment and Retention has changed into two separate projects. Recruitment project is headed by Nicki Heiman at Greenbush. There are additional outcomes for this project looking at recruitment strategies. Using the CEEDAR center to help identify factors that most impact the process.
- Retention project is now housed at Pittsburg State. eMentoring is the main focus and supporting new teachers for up to 3 years. Prior to this year, teachers who participated have stayed in the field at a 94% rate. We now have access to higher education preparation programs and are working toward front loading teachers with the tools to be successful as they begin their careers.
- IF you have a specific request about projects, we would be happy to have TASN projects come to future meetings and present to you.
- www.ksdetasn.org Please use the request information with any of your needs.
- Plans for Summer Leadership and participation with TASN providers. Still in the planning stages. Looking for ways to communicate in networking opportunities during the conference.
- Collaboration between project providers are yielding some higher-level supports is occurring in the TASN projects.

Discussion

- Question as to how to answer the question regarding working with TASN. We clarified that we were looking at involvement during the past 3 years.
- Work is right in line to respond to the concerns expressed at a previous meeting.

Licensure Sub-committee Update

Heath Peine

- During our last meeting SEAC formed a subcommittee to work with directors' license and receiving a professional license. KSDE does not appear to understand the severity of the issue and how many directors are impacted. We did not find a quick resolution. Heath has offered to provide clarification to the licensure team. He received a reply on April 19 that he has not had a chance to respond to yet. He will continue this work. Both resolution and preventing future directors' impact will be targeted.
- Meeting was held with Mischel Miller and a subcommittee meeting was held.
- New licensure recommendations moving through the system. Worried about impact of out of state applicants for this license and those moving from district leadership to director. Content specifics are not always clear. The preference of the sub-committee is to request we do away with the new special education directors' regulations in

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process.

- SEAC response – Marvin who was part of the SEAC at the time of the original decision believes we have learned and moved on from where we were at this time. He recommends that SEAC make this suggested change be made.

Motion: made by Marvin Miller that as SEAC we support discontinuing pursuing the director license.

Second: Trish Backman

Action: approved

Legislative Special Education Update

Laura Jurgensen

Do you have questions from the information shared by Craig this morning?

How do I connect with my legislators?

- <http://www.kslegislature.org/li/>
- Find your legislator
- Search your address
- https://openstates.org/find_your_legislator/
- Search committees tab if you are looking for a specific committee. You can find all of the bills that have gone through that committee.
- Legislators are more accessible this year as video cameras have been added to meeting rooms and allow you to attend during live sessions.
- They also have a YouTube channel and committees as well as house and senate meetings are being live streamed. https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_0NO-Pb96CFABvxDwXAq8A
- Kansas Legislative Research Department – recent publications
- http://www.kslegresearch.org/KLRD-web/Publications/SummaryofLegislation/PreliminarySummaries/2021_FirstSupplement_and_PreliminarySummary.pdf
- Twitter is also a great resource on the latest updates from the legislators.
 - Scott Rothschild: <https://twitter.com/srothschild1>
 - Game on for Kansas Schools: <https://twitter.com/GameOnKansas>
 - Leah Fliter: <https://twitter.com/leahfliter>
 - #KASB
- civics test, transgender, and teen concealed guns were just vetoed by Governor Kelly.

Council Member Updates

- Families Together
 - Handout shared
 - 1,418 individual consultations/trainings
 - Specific Learning Disability increased

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- Other health Impairment also increased
- Remote learning is decreasing
- Formal Complaint calls have increased significantly. Some follow up with staff will be needed to determine more specifics.
- Education Advocate new category added to report.
- Upcoming events – most are still virtual.
- They can pull individual district data. Contact Lesli if you have requests.
- KASEA
 - Winter Conference, Hybrid conference.
 - We have been sharing legislative information through the KASEA organization.
 - Much work focused on coming out of the pandemic. Thank you KSDE SETS for all of your work in sharing information.
- Disability Rights Center
 - Shared documents – Fact Sheet on special education rights during the pandemic; Child Tax Credit FAQ; Guardianship & Conservatorship Brochure; Economic Impact Payments
 - Sub-minimum wage conversation with KDADS. Focusing state policy on funding supports to providers who pay minimum wage. Discussed the recommendations made and move away from shelter workshops and move toward supported competitive employment opportunities.
 - ABLE accounts need some additional legislative action to implement.
- Others
 - Partnership conference between USD 259 and CASE is being developed. Why is inclusion important and how to be more inclusive, and removing barriers. Heath will share information as it becomes available. Virtual Conference \$150 registration.

KSDE Updates

Bert Moore and KSDE Staff

- FAQ Document included in materials (handout)
- July Summer Leadership Conference - more information will be shared as it becomes available. Strands for both Title Programs and Special Education.
- Council Recognitions
 - Thank you, Tina Gibson, Sarah Schaffer, and Deb Young for your years of service!
 - Thank you, Heath for your service this year as the council chair! As well as CASE work and KASEA president! Kansas won one of the Outstanding Achievement Awards from CASE this year, for membership growth.
- Dates for 2021-2022 (Handout)
 - Please put these dates on your calendar. Hopefully, by January 2022 we will be back to meeting in person.

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Closing Comments

Heath Peine

Thank you all for volunteering your time and serving on this council.

Items for Next meeting

- Orientation
- SPP/APR
- TASN Survey
- KCTC data
- Contact Heath or Pat or Bert with any new items

Motion to Adjourn:

Motion: Tobias Wood

Second: Kari Wallace

Action: approved and meeting adjourned at 2:07 pm:

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