



SEAC

September 19, 2019
Landon State Office Building
Room 509
Topeka

Welcome:

The meeting was called to order by chair, Rebekah Helget at 9:02 am.

Roll call:

Members present:

Rebekah Helget
Joan Macy
Amy Dejmal

Heath Peine
Stacie Clarkson
Chelle Kemper

Mike Martin
Heidi Cornell
Kathy Kersenbrock-
Ostmeyer
Marvin Miller
Amy Wagoner
Deb Young
Mike Burgess (DRC)

Jennifer King
Troy Pitsch
Kari Wallace
Leslie Girard

Rachel Marsh
Laura Thompson
Becci Werner
Jim McNiece

Members Absent:

Tina Gibson
Kari Wallace

Megan Laurent

Sarah Schaeffer

KSDE Staff:

Bert Moore
Cary Rogers
Susan Helbert
Beth Fultz

Laura Jurgensen
Pat Bone
Mischel Miller

Kerry Haag
Amy Martin
Randy Watson

Approval of Agenda

Additions to agenda:

- Speech Language Pathology Task Force – Stacie Clarkson
- Child welfare – Rachel Marsh

Both items were added under Council member reports – Other

Motion: Stacey Clarkson to approve as amended.

2nd Heath Peine

Motion passed.

Approval of Minutes

Amendments

Motion: to approve Joan Macy.

2nd: Chelle Kemper

Motion passed.

1% Update

Cary Rogers

PowerPoint Slides

- The 1% waiver was submitted at the end of July
- Webinars are being held.
- Fall test window – Sept 9 – Dec. 20
- Testing is available in the fall for Science if teacher wants to use it.
- Several new resources are available for teachers in determining the appropriateness of the DLM for the students.
- Blue print completion percentages are poor historically. Reasons have been determined and are being addressed.
- Initial level skills are determined for each essential element (EE). These are not functional level skills. Training is coming on using the assessment planner and tools.
- Plan for coming into compliance on the 1%
 - Correct identification of students
 - Instructional setting
 - Reading level
 - Computation skills
 - Writing skills
 - Performance rating
- Emails were sent to all districts identified and any requests we have received.
- Federal study is being conducted at this time to review the data which may result in the cut score may be adjusted.

Personnel Shortages:

Mischel Miller, Susan Helbert, Kerry Haag

Mischel Miller introduced herself as the director of the Teacher Licensure and Accreditation Team at KSDE and encouraged members to contact her if they had any questions or concerns in the area of licensure.

Susan –

- Still collecting vacancy data and presenting it in Oct. to the State Board.
- Numbers are not final at this time.
- Pilot programs in their second year. Handout – requirements to be involved in pilot

- Issue about 120 limited apprentice licenses for the High incidence special education
- Recommendation to continue and adjust will be evaluated and presented to the state board in the spring.
- Evaluation of the pilot is being done by Dr. Amy Gaumer-Erickson. They will do an analysis of the original applications, doing a survey with educators, focus group conversations, administrator survey sped director and principals. Follow-up interviews. They will be looking for strengths, successes, weaknesses. What factors seem relevant to the success or failure of these pilot teachers. The outcome will be a report and recommendation to the state board for continuance or changes to this program.
- Applications are long and are reviewed very carefully. One semester of course work 6-9 hours is required before approval.
- 65 high incidences approved this year. 8 in first semester.
- We are right around 100. Expected to go up some more.
- Elementary – is only averaging about 25 per year.
- When are these candidates ready to handle the rigor of the IEP is one area looked at and what supports are needed.
- Growing, mentoring and guiding these candidates is a key element to success and we expect to see evidence to support this in the evaluation process.

If you have questions you would like to see in the evaluation process please contact Kerry, Mischel, or Susan. Who will share with the evaluation team.

- SEAC should be involved in review of data.
- Evaluation of mentor support and the effectiveness of the mentor. Drawing from Early Career Mentoring project.
- Program through Wichita State TAP program as innovative approach. – Last year around 60. This year around 80 have been issued.
- We are trying at KSDE to build layers of programing to support greater need and get teachers into the classrooms.
- Considering other options like endorsements. Teacher Vacancy and Supply Committee and Professional Standards board are both working on this topic.

Regulations work:

Recreate a director of special education. – Once these come forward and go back to the state board for public comment. Further discussion will come as this moves forward. Extension of building leadership work and qualifies for district leadership in the future.

Directors are currently being put in little or no experience. The complexity of the job with budgeting and data. The district level knowledge is critical to success.

3rd Annual Retention Summit – Nov. 25. Registration opens soon.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdtMrs_WSXZeU6cMTgJYA0167KaDVxMulWdAgCLahMFqq3gHg/viewform?usp=sf_link This would be a great opportunity for hearing and communicating the needs of special education teachers and administrators.

How many waivers do we have this year? Collection will not be finalized until next week. Last year was close to 600 total, not all were special education.

How many universities have undergrad special ed programs? We don't have the number with us today.

Is there a place you can look at what works and where it works?

www.ksde.org

select Licensure in the right hand column.

Licensed Personnel Guide

Significant Disproportionality

Laura Jurgensen

PowerPoint

- 7 LEA's are currently identified. All 3 areas were reasons for identification.
- Fiscal requirements listed in slides
- New resources and templates have been made available to these districts.
- Commonalities – 5 identified for discipline, largest group identified was black students with disabilities.
- How does it work within a coop? All data is aggregated to reach identification. The 15% has to address factors contributing to identified. There is no requirement that the COOP use the 15% for only the district identified.
- KSDE contacts for areas. Each district also has a Sig-Dis contact on our team.

Feedback Discussion – Beige Handout contains data for information – To be identified you must have data those shows identification for 3 consecutive years.

Questions:

Should KSDE use same data year, or use the most current data available which will change by category due to collection timelines.

- Advocate for the earliest method to have early notification to the district.
- Most current data available because old data may not show the work you have already started.
- Preliminary data analysis used to inform districts early.
- Final notifications in November, impact of finance for the following year allowing time for planning.
- Always keep the use of 3 years of data for identification.
- Official notification in November for the next year.

KSDE will also be collecting feedback at the KIAS stakeholder meeting next week on Tuesday. This is one director from each KASEA region as members.

Please email Laura with any additional feedback. ljurgensen@ksde.org.

Should we finalize the consensus with a motion so that it could be shared with the stakeholder group? Consensus is on Option # 3

Motion – Marvin Miller moves that SEAC recommend the use of new option # 3 as the method used to determine identification and provide information to districts.

2nd - Kathy Kathy Kersenbrock-Ostmeyer

Motion passed.

Question regarding over-identification of special education students – is it a problem for Kansas at this time? KSDE has not received any official notification on this subject.

Annual Report Draft Review

What do council members want included in the report for the summary and council accomplishments?

- ESI
- Dyslexia
- Transition
- Redesign and inclusion of Special Ed. Directors
- Sig-Dis ruling
- Staff shortages
- Involvement of DRC and State Board member as ex-officio members,
- OSERS and rethinking special education
- Parent concerns
- Detention Centers and monitoring of students (Rachel)
- Mental Health

Email Pat any specifics you want to have included in the report. Please double check your contact information on the membership list and email Pat any changes. pbone@ksde.org.

- Double check report for references to ECSETS instead of SETS

Public Comment –

Three written comments were submitted.

Leah Grim, Social Worker from Derby, KS. Topic – ED label

Legislator, Representative, Blake Carpenter – ED label

Katrina Podrebarac – Due Process

Due Process hearing officers are not KSDE employees. They are required to be impartial and independent of both the agency and the district.

Requested a future agenda item for discussion on ED term. Also a good topic for discussion at Kansas School Mental Health Advisory, and KASEA region meetings.

Parent Engagement

Dr. Jane Groff

PowerPoint and Packet of Information

KPIRC is a TASN project which is evaluated annually. Evaluation report shared in packet. Families are the foundation of the 5 state board priorities.

Youth Suicide Awareness, Toxic Stress and Stress in Childhood are new social emotional resources for families and educators.

- In KESA, our states accreditation process, family engagement is a key.
- Family engagement must be collaborative to lead to student success.
- Redesign – Family, Business, and Community Partnership.
- Kansans Can: Engage all Families new booklet resource. This is being given to the redesign schools.
- Family engagement must shift for successful redesign of schools. It is not an event. It is not about more things to do but “different” ways of doing it.

Thoughts/Questions for KPIRC

- Can anybody take the survey? Yes
- Districts see results by category and by question.
- Good idea to have staff take the survey of where they think they are with family engagement and then compare it to the parent survey results.
- Foster students are a focus of the work in family engagement.
- Families Together, Inc is a sister organization that works with families on education issues. We partner in the engagement of all families.

Assessment

Commissioner Watson

- Kansas currently has a window of opportunity to make change in the assessment tool our students use. Other states have been given permission to use the ACT instead of a state assessment. We have funding to allow this testing at no cost to districts.
- An RFP for state assessments is currently in the process of being written.
- Through KESA, the State Board would use both ACT and ACT workkeys for accountability measures. Each ACT test is approximately a 3 hour test. 6 hours total.
- Bert surveyed special ed directors
- Council of Sups have been talked too.
- Curriculum leaders will discuss next week.
- We are looking at this for the 20-21 school year.
- Of the states using ACT, Kansas has the highest amount of allowed accommodations because of the good work our educators have been doing to document the need.
- Act is a timed test but documented need can have the window extended.
- ACT is available online. Universal accommodations are allowed.
- This would not affect the 1% taking the DLM.
- Cut scores for state accountability would need to be set. Stakeholders will be brought in to make these determinations.
- Why now? Feds are allowing it, we are currently already spending the money, writing of the RFP for a state assessment is underway right now.

- Limited in ability to test all standards on the current state assessment and the ACT.
- The Kansas Board of Regents has dropped qualified admissions course work beginning with this year's Freshman class. How this effects K-12 graduation standards will be an ongoing discussion over the next 4 years.

Questions/Feedback/Concerns

- Does it have to be an all or nothing? Yes. All students must take the same exam for accountability.
- Has any correlation between state assessment and ACT been done? There is a range score available now. ELA test and ACT expectations do not match. Our current state assessment is more rigorous than ACT. Math is a pretty close in the match between the two tests.
- This year assessment will be:
 - Pre-ACT at 9th grade this year available in October
 - 10th grade content testing
 - 11th grade ACT testing.
- Work keys and/or ACT. U.S. Department of Ed has approved only the ACT. Kansas wants to use the Workkeys for KESA accountability.
- DLM – aligned to same subject area test. Would DLM follow alignment of ACT? DLM is written to alternate standards.
- DLM would move to be given in the 11th grade.
- Is it equitable in the area of repeated testing of the ACT (at the family's expense)? That is a concern schools will need to deal with. For accountability only the one ACT in the 11th grade will count.

Survey of special education directors - Bert Moore

- responses 47
- 35 said not a problem, better tool for measuring postsecondary success
- 12 did not like it.

Council of Sup's responses

- 47 yes
- 25 no
- 27 I don't know

State board will be discussing this again in October and possibly acting on it. Currently, about 80% of students are taking the ACT. Email Bert or Dr. Watson with any additional thoughts on the use of the ACT. bmoore@ksde.org or rwatson@ksde.org.

Transition To Employment

Earl Williams

PowerPoint

His role is giving information about going to work and what happens to their benefits.

If you child works, you do not have to lose your benefits. Grandparents understand better than parents the need for kids to be self-sufficient.

- The kids want to be a part of society and be involved with people around them.
- Once a student turns 18 they are an adult and the parent's resources no longer count as income for this person.
- There is a great deal of misunderstanding on the benefits available and what counts and what doesn't. This is the role Earl fills. Providing accurate information to parents and students. Contact a benefits specialist like Earl to get to the facts.
- Differences between SSI (spouse/parent income may count) and SSDI (spouse and parent resources does not count) payments and income.
- Earl will meet clients anywhere. Everyone has a gift and an ability to make money and earn a living.
- Map shows the benefit specialist for each area of the state.
- Which is better SSI or SSDI? – depends on the family situation. This is where the specialists prove to be very helpful.
- Conservator and guardianship does not affect benefits
- Keep appeals active.
- Talk to the Dr filling out the paperwork and ask what he/she is sharing.
- Must report earned income every month until they get a letter from social security.
- Students are always better when they work. The sooner they start working the better.

Council Member Reports:

- **Families Together** – Lesli. Next quarter ends at the end of this month. Sept 28 statewide conference Overland Park. Dr. Patrick Schwartz coming from Chicago opening keynote and behavior. Lee Stickle will close the conference with trauma informed care. Four breakout sessions. Spots available and parent scholarships also remain available. Please share information.
- **KASEA** – Heath – Region meetings for this year have begun. KASB and reauthorization of IDEA and full funding. Shared thoughts and collecting feedback. There is a federal bill working its way through. Census participation and reaching the marginalized populations. Think about how you can support your community in being counted.
- **DRC** – Mike Burgess – Excited to share Utah state board has contracted for development of the transition app that was shared with SEAC.
- **SLPA taskforce**. – Stacie - speech language pathology work with university to develop a licensed assistant option. First meeting is in October.
- **Child Welfare** – Rachel Marsh. Many changes have occurred over the past 18 months. Changes and challenges in the system for Foster care. Kansas has almost 8,000 kids in care. We are the 4th highest in having foster care families in the country. We are doing well in meeting the needs. Outcomes for foster kids that remain in the system are poor. There is a need to develop better systems that connect education and foster care. Legislative taskforce recommendations. – enhance prevention efforts, expend workforce, technology and data systems, focus on higher needs kids, enhanced funding for DCF position, added money to general foster care system, \$13 million dollars of new funding for Family First, supports before they are removed from the home, impact of juvenile justice system.

DCF has expanded the number of providers Oct. 1, family preservation providers are changing, frequent placement changes – new technology to support tracking of foster care kids, Family First awards should be announced soon. Please contact Rachel to share ideas on how to improve the systems. Big influx of 15-16-year old's entering foster care systems. As you are thinking about things, the juvenile justice system, DCF, KDADS, what common data measurements exist. None. We are working to develop some common goals.

Request for future discussion item with juvenile justice, foster care, and education. Wrap around services.

- **Private school conference flyer** - Marvin Miller -. Dr. Matt Ramsey, former SEAC member is a speaker.

KSDE Updates

- **Transition Task Force** – Mike Burgess provided an update. Subcommittees worked to create reports. Reports were unified into one report. Many ideas have been shared in this working draft. Oct 7, the taskforce will come together to discuss and hopefully finalize the recommendations in Marvin Auditorium 101 B at the Topeka Public library. You are welcome to attend. Next steps will be presenting the report to the State Board. Transition list of contacts has been established and Bert will be communicating with the group regularly.
 - Transition Celebration – KCDD Using the Charting the Life materials.
 - Looking for regional hosts to share the Charting the Life Course. Look on the KCDD Facebook page.

Upcoming Conferences

- KSDE Annual Conference, October 28-30, in Wichita
- Tri – State Law Conference, November. Cutting edge information on special education law and the cases occurring across the country.
- Reimbursements requirements
 - Original receipts and signatures on forms required.
- Redesign for Apollo districts – Special Education, Title, and at risk weren't well represented. Bert will be presenting at upcoming redesign trainings for these districts. How do you have your special student populations represented on your teams.

Motion to adjourn

Motion: Laura

2nd: Jennifer

Approved at 4:02 PM.