



# SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES



## Details

Date January 12, 2022  
Time 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
Location: Virtual

Call to Order: at 1:00 p.m.

### Roll Call

Members (x present, blank absent):

|   |                                       |   |                                  |   |                     |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|---|---------------------|
| x | Jennifer King                         |   | Lena Kisner – Admin              | X | Whitney George      |
| X | Heath Peine                           |   | Marvin Miller                    | X | Mike Burgess        |
|   | Amy Wagoner                           | X | Matthew Ramsey                   | X | Laura Leistra- KDHE |
|   | Barney Pontious<br>Parent/Child to 26 | X | Michelle Warner – Foster<br>Care |   |                     |
| X | Becci Werner                          | X | Paul Buck                        |   |                     |
| X | Brandon Gay                           | X | Rebecca Shultz                   |   |                     |
|   | Jennifer Kucinski                     | X | Sabrina Rishel - Gifted          |   |                     |
| X | Jennifer Kurth                        | X | Tobias Wood                      |   | Lisa-Interpreter    |
| X | Kari Wallace                          | X | Trisha Backman                   |   | Doris-Interpreter   |
|   | Laura Thompson                        |   | Dr. Troy Pitsch                  |   |                     |

*Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.*

**Ex-Officio Members (x present, blank absent):**

|   |                                 |   |            |  |  |
|---|---------------------------------|---|------------|--|--|
|   | Jim McNiece                     | X | Ashley Enz |  |  |
| X | Leslie Girard-Families Together |   |            |  |  |
|   | Mike Burgess                    |   |            |  |  |
|   | Rocky Nichols                   |   |            |  |  |

**KSDE Staff:**

|   |               |   |               |  |                 |
|---|---------------|---|---------------|--|-----------------|
| X | Bert Moore    |   |               |  | Kerry Haag      |
|   |               | X | Kayla Love    |  | Dean Zajic      |
| X | Shanna Bigler |   | Brian Dempsey |  | Josie McClendon |
|   | Cary Rogers   | X | Julie Rands   |  |                 |
|   |               |   |               |  |                 |

**Guests:**

**Quorum (11) met:** Yes, 16 Voting members present

**Agenda Approval: January 12, 2022 Agenda**

**Motion to approve:**

**Second:** Tobias

**Action:** Motion approved

**Minutes Approval: November 10, 2021 Minutes**

**Motion to approve:** Marvin with changes

**Second:** Tobias

**Discussion:** page 9. Marvin miller: Trisha Backman's report—local districts have control ABOVE 21 credits.

Tobias Wood: Doesn't need accommodations to get comfort aid

**Action:** Motion approved

**Public Comment:**

No written comments were submitted for today's meeting. No in person comments were presented.

**Pre-service programs and lack of student teachers in Early Childhood**

**Dr. Eva Horn– PowerPoint Presentation**

- Not enough teachers in key shortage areas. Reasons include:
  - Layoffs during the Great Recession
  - Growing student population but fewer people entering teacher prep programs (according to the Learning Policy Institute)

*Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.*

- Salary or benefits lacking
  - High stress/high expectations
- In a typical cohort at KU, they were routinely around 20-25 entering the program. This year only 8 were admitted.
- Some programs across Kansas have already temporarily closed due to lack of students entering their program
- Discussion on current strategies being implemented to boost numbers at university programs. Looking at partnerships with high schools and universities, “grow your own” method.
- Discussion around avoiding burnout for new employees in this field of work.
- The Kansas Early Childhood Recommendations Panel is also a good place to review updates on this topic. They meet the third Friday of each month.

## SICC Annual Report

### Jordan Christian- PowerPoint Presentation

- New membership
  - KDADS- Doug Bowman
  - Medicaid Office- Laura Leistra
  - Parent Member- Laura Smith-Everett
  - Parent Member- Laurie Schmitt
  - Public Member- Alex Red Corn
  - DCF- Melinda Kline
  - KDHE Part C- Tricia Waggoner
  - (Several Additional Pending)
- Review of recent presentations from statewide systems and local programs provided
- Currently 5 sub-committees of the SICC
  - Early Childhood Least Restrictive Environment
  - Social-Emotional Committee
  - Executive Committee
  - LICC Annual Retreat and Support
  - State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report
- First ever statewide Local ICC Retreat held in 2021. Plan to have an additional retreat in 2022.
- Continued partnerships with the Early Childhood Recommendations Panel

## Unified Licenses

### Shane Carter- PowerPoint Presentation

- Reviewed endorsement types
  - Early childhood unified- birth to kindergarten, birth to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade

*Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.*

- Elementary education unified- kindergarten to 6<sup>th</sup> (could change to include pre-k as well).
- Waivers and provisional licenses available, birth to grade 3.
- WSU TAP
  - Allows individual to teach in early childhood unified birth to grade 3 position, and/or elementary education K-6<sup>th</sup>.
  - Depending on education history, an individual can qualify for a TAP license while completing the program
- Briefly reviewed emergency sub licenses
  - High school diploma
  - 18 years old
  - Offer of hire from the district

## Annual Report

### Bert Moore – PowerPoint Presentation

- Presentation showed to the Board of Education on the Annual SEAC report
- Discussed who SEAC memberships represent and whether they are nominated or applied for positions
  - Majority Rule is that majority or members should be a person with a disability or have a child with a disability between and ages of birth and 26
    - 21 voting members and 14 members fit these criteria
- Discussed the topics we have discussed in meetings
  - Personnel shortages, formation of memberships committee to review new member applications, navigating change document, secondary transition services and requirements (including a sub-committee), SPP/APR requirements, and Legislative session discussions
- Current work in progress:
  - Administrative and teacher licensure
  - Transition
  - Supporting COVID related issues
  - Technical Assistance availability and adaptability
  - Graduation Requirement Task Force
- SEAC purpose and mission is to represent students with disabilities and their families.

### Council Ex-Officio Member Updates

- **Families Together –**
  - October 1-December 31 Report
    - 1,247 individual consultations and training
    - More parents of kids receiving gifted services during this timeframe
    - IEPs and Family Support were the top two categories in terms of contact content

*Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.*

- Not hearing from schools or DCF about kids that need an education advocate if they are homeless. Worried these kids might be getting missed in terms of this
- 29 early childhood appointments made during this timeframe as well. Shared this information during the last SICC meeting
- **Kansas Association of Special Education Administrators (KASEA) – Ashley Enz**
  - New president- Doug Anderson
  - Winter conference coming up-February 22-23 in Topeka (virtual options available to attend as well)
  - Legislative priorities for KASEA this year include KPERs, school funding, and student and school safety
- **Disability Rights Center – Mike Burgess**
  - HB 2122- in process of trying to move that forward. If any group is willing to support this effort with testimony or letters of support, it would be appreciated. Support of Decision-Making Agreements. Tried passing three years ago and last year, but died on general orders.
- **Kansas State Board of Education (KSBOE) Update –**
  - 
  - 
  -

Other Updates:

### Special Education Advisory Council Meeting Dates 2021-2022

April 28, 2022

9 AM – 3 PM

Virtual

### Closing Comments

Items for Next meeting

- Contact Jennifer or Bert or Kayla with any new items

Action:

Motion to Adjourn: Tobias Wood

Motion seconded: Marvin Miller

Meeting adjourned: at 3:55 pm

*Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.*

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 and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: KSDE General Counsel, Office of General Counsel, KSDE, Landon State Office Building, 900 S.W. Jackson, Suite 102, Topeka, KS 66612, (785) 296-3201.

*Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.*