

**STATE ADVISORY PANEL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN**

**March 26, 2015**

**@ Quest Conference and Business Center**

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Discussion/Recommendations</b>	<b>Next Steps</b>
<b>Call to Order</b>	Mary Murray called the meeting to order.	
<b>Roll Call</b>	Absent: Tom Ash (1/2 meeting), Bill Bauer, Diana Betts, Vicki Clark, Jennifer Kobel, Jed Morison (1/2 meeting).	
<b>Introduction of Guests, Visitors and New Members</b>	None	
<b>Public Comment</b>	No public comment received.	
<b>Panel Business</b>  <b>Member recommendations to Dr. Ross on reduction of testing time.</b>  <b>Approval of January 29, 2015 Minutes</b>	<p>Letter to Dr. Ross regarding testing time reduction. Vicki Palur motioned for a vote to approve the letter, Beth Harrison seconded. None opposed or abstained. Motion carried.</p> <p>Sophie Hubbell proposed a correction to the January 29, 2015 meeting minutes under Office of Early Learning Update. The correction reads seeking a two year extension on grant to one year extension. Tom Ash motioned for a vote to approve the January 29, 2015 minutes with the change, Jed Morrison seconded. None opposed or abstained. Motion carried.</p>	<p>Letter will be forwarded to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction for consideration.</p> <p>Meeting minutes will be posted to the ODE website.</p>
<b>Chairperson's Report</b>	<p><b>Ad Hoc Committee on Students with Disabilities in Foster Care</b></p> <p>Ad Hoc Committee on Students with Disabilities in Foster Care report of recommendations was not completed. A group of Panel members volunteered to review the notes from past meetings and compile the recommendations for member consideration during today's meeting.</p> <p><b>Membership Update</b></p> <p>The SAPEC Election ballot for 2015-16 was presented for membership voting. The following candidates were considered</p>	

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	<p>SAPEC Vice Chair            Tony Cochran - currently representing Administrator of McKinney Vento (homeless youth program) and individuals with disabilities.</p> <p>Members-At-Large for two open positions –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Laryssa Beatty – representing parents of children with disabilities.</li> <li>•Myrrha Satow – a school administrator representing charter schools and parent of a child with a disability.</li> <li>•Neva Fox – representing parents of children with disabilities; an SST parent advisory council member and surrogate parent.</li> </ul> <p>Members applying for a second term.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Bill Bauer-representing Institutions of Higher Education and individuals with disabilities:</li> <li>•Diana Betts-representing parents of children with disabilities</li> <li>•Kathy Hall-representing parents of children with disabilities</li> <li>•Neva Fox-representing parents of children with disabilities</li> </ul> <p>Candidates for new membership – all to represent parents of children with disabilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Cynthia Burger•Terri Woods</li> <li>•Ron Rodgers •Bonnie Brown</li> <li>•Jessica Minor •Susan Moyer</li> <li>•Cheryl Kleist •Jennifer Zajac</li> </ul> <p>Tom Ash motioned to close the new member nominations and called for a vote on a unanimous ballot for current and new members. Marsha Wiley seconded the motion. Members voted - None opposed or abstained. Motion carried.</p> <p><b>SAPEC Bylaws and Operating Procedures – Marsha Wiley</b>            Proposed changes in the document:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Page 3 – remove language around scaffolding of terms so that no more than 1/3 of members are new on the panel.</li> <li>• Page 4 – remove language added when term limits were instituted as it is no longer needed.</li> <li>• Page 10 – recommending language that the membership committee consist of vice-chair, member-at-large and up to 4 members appointed by</li> </ul>	<p>The panel’s recommendations for membership will be forwarded to the Superintendent of Public Instruction who will make final appointments to the panel.</p>

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	<p>the Chairperson. Adding flexibility on interviews-may interview as needed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Page 12 – Change word “an” to “a”</li> </ul> <p>Tom Ash motioned to approve the changes, Jennifer Elliott seconded the motion. None opposed or abstained. Motion carried.</p> <p><b>Update on Unmet Needs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Intervener Services for Deaf-Blind Children-Wendy Stoica</i> The Ohio Center for Deaf Blind Education on behalf of the Office for Exceptional Children has convened a stakeholder committee since last summer to address the unmet need SAPEC identified to address the educational needs of students who are deaf blind. The committee reviewed national training curriculum modules to identify training for school teams (teacher, paraprofessional, related service providers and others as needed) during the 2015-16 school year.</li> </ul>	<p>Revised SAPEC Bylaws will be posted to the ODE website.</p>
<p><b>ODE Report</b></p>	<p><b>Budget</b> In the budget is a proposal for a collaborative effort to draw down federal match dollars for transition for youth with disabilities to expand transition services at the school level between direct service for children and training for staff to improve the quality of transition planning and delivery of services.</p> <p>Medicaid expansion conversation on what will be a billable service. Medicaid school program.</p> <p><i>IDEA Part B Application</i> Ohio’s IDEA Part B Allocations – FY14 413 million, FY15 430 million, FY16 431 million. Money divided in 3 parts - flow-through to districts which is a federal formula; State administration; other state-level activities District allocations make up 87% of the total grant award. IDEA state administrative funds – 2% of total grant.</p> <p>State Level Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 specific activities are required by Feds- 1) Monitoring, enforcement and complaint investigation. 2) Establish and implement the mediation process.</li> <li>Optional state level activities: regional system, parent mentor, PBIS,</li> </ul>	

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	<p>school age transition, teacher preparation, alternative assessment, high cost fund.</p> <p>ODE is accepting public comment on the IDEA Part B Application. It is posted on the ODE web page, keyword search IDEA Part B Application and comments can be submitted by email to <a href="mailto:IDEA@education.ohio.gov">IDEA@education.ohio.gov</a> until May 1, 2015.</p> <p><i>Ohio's Testing Report and Actions to Reduce State Testing</i> – legislation around testing continues to change. There will likely be some type of legislation that limits the amount of time students are testing. An emergency bill was passed to excuse LEAs from making decisions based on consequences of 2014-15 tests so high stakes decisions cannot be made based on the tests this year.</p> <p><i>Graduation Requirements</i> – Working on guidance for graduation requirements for special education students including End of Course Exams. High School Alternate Assessment meets end of course exam requirement for students with significant cognitive disabilities. ODE recommends LEAs continue to administer the alternate assessment in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade year.</p> <p><i>Exemption</i> – IEP teams may exempt a students with disabilities from being proficient on the end of course exams. This is a test by test exemption similar to OGT's 5 separate tests. OEC is presenting current guidance to the SBOE at the May committee meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kathy Hall asked about the removal of the fall testing opportunity for Third Grade Reading Guarantee: It was a legislated decision to remove fall 3<sup>rd</sup> grade reading testing, only spring and summer administrations in 2015-16.</li> </ul> <p><i>ESEA Flexibility Waiver</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• See PowerPoint</li> <li>• There are direct impacts on all students in this waiver including students with disabilities, English language learners and gifted children. Federal Accountability is addressed in this waiver such as establishing reporting requirements.</li> <li>• Primary changes occurred in Principle 2: State-Developed Differentiated Recognition, Accountability, Support and Support.</li> <li>• Comments being accepted through March 31<sup>st</sup>. Draft waiver is posted on</li> </ul>	

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	<p>the ODE website, keyword search ESEA Flexibility Waiver. Email comments to <a href="mailto:ESEAWaiver@education.ohio.gov">ESEAWaiver@education.ohio.gov</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comment by Marbella Caceres – Administrators survey how teachers are performing. Parent survey should be a piece of this.</li> <li>• Members encouraged to submit their comments in writing.</li> </ul> <p><i>LEA Determinations</i> LEA determinations will be based on the targets SAPEC membership helped set during the December 2014 meeting. Districts are rated Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention or Needs Intensive Intervention. Districts were previously rated on only compliance indicators. ODE is planning to propose specific results indicators to include on determinations that districts receive in 2015.</p> <p><b>Indicator 17 State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) Discussion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multiple SAPEC members were part of the Stakeholder group on the SSIP- Lisa Bruening, Beth Harrison, Jamie Davis, Marbella Caceres, Kathy Hall and Myrrha Satow.</li> <li>• SSIP is a 5 year plan with a focus on early literacy with an ultimate goal of college and career readiness and independent living.</li> <li>• US Department of Education Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) Purpose of SSIP: Shared Learning, Partnerships and Innovative Practice: increase capacity to implement, scale up and sustain evidence based practices and improve results for children with disabilities and their families.</li> <li>• Review of the steps taken in Year 1 of the SSIP.</li> <li>• National Reading Panel recommendations alignment.</li> <li>• Ohio’s Theory of Action-See handout. This lays out strands of action (broad improvement strategies) that will create positive impact and outcomes on early literacy.</li> <li>• State Identified Measurable Results (SIMR) and Targets – State Support Teams assisted in setting the targets. Review of the proposed targets and SIMR.</li> </ul> <p><i>SAPEC Feedback on the SSIP</i> Members broke into groups to discuss and provide feedback on: the SIMR,</p>	

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	<p>Targets and Rationale and review the theory of action and provide feedback.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What additional information would be helpful to include in the SIMR rationale?</li> <li>• What suggestions do you have regarding how OEC can clearly communicate the SIMR to parents and other stakeholders? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ newspapers, webinars, conference calls, informational fairs, town hall meetings, billboards, public service announcements, Red Tree House, 211</li> <li>○ Continuum of parent friendly supports – what is being done and how, what they can do to help their child</li> <li>○ Home connections with parents, resources</li> </ul> </li> <li>• In what ways can SAPEC support implementation of the SSIP Theory of Action? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ SAPEC review of implementation</li> <li>○ SAPEC asks the hard questions</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Sharing of resources across districts.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Committee Reports</b></p> <p><b>Ad Hoc Committee Reports</b></p>	<p><b>Foster Care Ad Hoc Committee – Vicki Palur</b></p> <p>The committee generated recommendations that were reported to Panel members for approval. Recommendations included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agencies involved in the care and support of foster children need to establish continued cross-agency collaboration similar to that of “Kids in School Rule!” developed by Cincinnati Public Schools.</li> <li>• There is a need for a Guidance Document specific to students in foster care. An example of a similar document can be found at: <a href="http://center.serve.org/nche/downloads/briefs/idea.pdf">http://center.serve.org/nche/downloads/briefs/idea.pdf</a></li> <li>• Often, a student’s cum file doesn’t contain required paperwork upon transfer to another district. We suggest a checklist for schools to use that would be kept in the students file. ODE could post a blank document on its website as a tool to offer districts.</li> <li>• It is suggested that clarification and guidance be provided on the IEP document as to the “Ward of the State” box, which when checked, displays the Surrogate Parents information.</li> <li>• State Support Teams could provide training for case workers, foster parents, and surrogate parents regarding Special Education law and processes. There</li> </ul>	

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<p><b>Standing Committee Reports</b></p>	<p>is currently a lot of confusion about who is allowed to perform various functions for foster students.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The creation of a Statewide IEP system would facilitate digital records sharing. This would alleviate unnecessary repeated Evaluation Team Reports and duplicative IEPs allowing for an almost seem-less transition between school districts.</li> <li>• It is necessary to increase compliance and monitoring specific to foster care situations.</li> <li>• The topic of students with disabilities in foster care is very large and complicated. Numerous committees could be developed to study the complexities of these situations. It is advisable to continue to investigate the unique variables presented by transitional students who are a part of the foster care system.</li> </ul> <p>Tony Cochran, motion to approve the recommendations, Reba Allen seconded. None opposed or abstained. Motion carried</p> <p><b>Membership Committee – Staci Anderson and Jennifer Elliott</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2015-16 Officer Election Results: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vice-Chair – Tony Cochran</li> <li>• Members-at-Large: Laryssa Beatty and Neva Fox</li> <li>• The unanimous ballot for reapplying and new members was approved.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>ODE will consider the panel’s recommendations.</p> <p>Tony Cochran, Laryssa Beatty and Neva Fox assume their new duties on July 1, 2015.</p> <p>The list of reapplying and new members will be submitted to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction for approval.</p>
<p><b>Emerging Issues/Unmet Needs</b></p>	<p>None presented</p>	
<p><b>Agency Reports</b></p>	<p>Tom Ash, Buckeye Association of School Administrators – Budget talks are occurring at the Statehouse. Income tax reduction proposal but increases in other taxes such as the sales tax. Proposed increase of 2% by disability category in special education funding, however, nothing proposed for fully funding it.</p> <p>Jed Morison, Ohio Association of County Boards of Developmental Disabilities – Budget contains proposals for: phasing out independent providers; increase the number of Medicaid waivers; raise Medicaid asset limit from \$1500 to \$2000.</p>	

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	<p>Tina Evans, Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities – Two Developmental Centers are closing: Youngstown and Montgomery Developmental Centers by June 2017.</p> <p>Dana Hollis, Ohio Department of Youth Services – Correctional education guidance package released by the US Department of Education.</p>	
<b>Member Announcements</b>	<p>Reba Allen – Shared a story about her great grandson not receiving therapy services and her conversation with the therapist. She expressed that her affiliation with SAPEC facilitated her confidence to continue to pursue support for her grandson.</p> <p>Mary Rose requested a copy of the data included in the OEC’s presentation on the SSIP and suggested that the presentation be made to the Urban and Rural Committee Meeting of the State Board of Education.</p> <p>Myrrha Satow asked if there is a list of targeted districts for SSIP? Response: there is not a list available yet. The plan must be submitted to and approved by the US Department of Education.</p> <p>Mary Rose spoke about health care received by students with disabilities. Do we have statistics who is receiving Medicaid? Discussion of Medicaid services</p>	
<b>Future Agenda Considerations</b>	None	
<b>Adjourn</b>	Tony Cochran motioned to adjourn, motion seconded by Marsha Wiley. Meeting adjourned.	Next SAPEC Meeting is May 21, 2015