

**State Advisory Panel for Exceptional Children (SAPEC)
November 5, 2019
Quest Business and Conference Center
8405 Pulsar Place, Columbus, OH 43240**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by SAPEC chair, Ron Rogers. All members were welcomed. Barb Mackenzie was welcomed as a visitor representing Ohio TASH.

Due to parking issues and members still arriving, it was decided that roll call will be moved to after panel business and announcements.

Panel Business

A motion was called to approve the minutes from the September 26, 2019 meeting. The minutes were approved unanimously.

No public comment or unmet needs were submitted.

SAPEC Chair, Ron Rogers, announced that the December SAPEC meeting has been cancelled. The next meeting will be Feb 27, 2020 Due to SAPEC members concerns and suggestions along with other stakeholder input regarding the separation of federal language from the rules, ODE decided that it would be best to reincorporate the federal language into the rules. As a result of this change, the department needs time to reincorporate, revise, and review the rules. Ron Rogers shared his excitement in knowing that SAPEC members contributed to this change in the rules.

Monica Drvota, Interim Associate Director, informed the group that feedback and suggestions from the previous SAPEC meeting really made an impact on the decision to reincorporate the federal language into the rules. The Office for Exceptional Children (OEC) along with Ohio Department of Education's legal department is currently working to revise and review the rules. The plan for the February 27th SAPEC meeting is to review and provide feedback on the 10 rules.

Trisha Prunty, SAPEC Vice Chairperson, discussed the open Member at Large (MAL) positions for the 2019-2020 SAPEC year. For those who are interested in applying, letters of interest should be submitted to Parise Callahan, Program Administrator by January 31, 2020.

An update was given on the applications received for those interested in joining SAPEC for the 2019-2020 year. Ron Rogers announced that we have received the largest number of applications. There are 4 open positions that the membership committee will work to fill.

Roll call was conducted by Sandy Kaufman, Office for Exceptional Children (OEC) staff. Members absent were as follows: Valarie Alloy, Traci Arway, Bonnie Brown, Tina Evans, Tony Huff, Susan Moyer, Sean Riley, Tammie Sebastian, Judith Sgambati, Greg Taylor, Lisa Woods, and Tami Wozniak-Smith.

Office for Exceptional Children Update

Matt Loesch, OEC Education Program Specialist, discussed special education profiles and ratings. The special education profiles and special education ratings are two of Ohio's primary special education accountability initiatives. Matt discussed the differences and similarities between the two, noting that they can be confusing to districts and educators in the field.

Special education profiles provide a preview of the rating and special education ratings are based on a subset of data from the profiles. The 2019 Special Education ratings were released to districts on September 17, 2019. The 2019-2020 Special Education profiles are targeted for a January 2020 release to districts. Both are used to notify the district of any required activities and actions. Matt provided a side by side comparison of profiles and ratings. He also presented the timeline of when the profiles and ratings are shared with districts.

Virginia Ressa, OEC Education Program Specialist, gave an update on Disproportionality in Ohio. Virginia shared national and Ohio data regarding racial and ethnic disparities. It was noted that Ohio's data mirrors the national averages, which is alarming. The upcoming changes to federal significant disproportionality regulations were also discussed. These changes included new categories of analysis that will impact districts and schools in Ohio. The data team in the Office for Exceptional Children is currently working on the disproportionality calculations for all districts and schools, which will be released in January 2020. Virginia informed SAPEC members that she is currently working with SST's to prepare them to work with districts and schools regarding the changes that will occur and ultimately have an impact on the districts they serve.

Kelly Barger, OEC Education Program Specialist, gave an update on The Plan to Improve Students with Disabilities. Kelly gave an overview of the process that began in January 2019 and informed SAPEC members of what has been done so far as well as the plan moving forward. Kelly reminded the group that the goal of this plan is to develop recommendations that will lead to improved learning experiences and outcomes for students with disabilities. The recommendations from each of the four workgroups were shared with SAPEC members. SAPEC members were engaged in table discussions. They proposed recommendations and provide feedback on their general impressions of the recommendations. SAPEC members came back to the larger group to discuss general comments from their small group time.

SAPEC Learning Topic

Emily Jordan, Education Program Specialist, Office of Integrated Student Supports, discussed Tiered Approach's to Mental Health in schools. Emily informed SAPEC members about the new student wellness and success funds that are now available to districts and schools to aid in improving mental health in schools. Information and tips on how to build a district and school wide infrastructure (using data to determine the need, developing a plan, implementation, and evaluations) were shared with SAPEC members. Emily, along with other members of the Integrated Student Supports team, is currently talking with districts and committee groups to inform and guide them on how to improve mental health in schools across the state. To conclude her presentation, Emily shared multiple avenues for SAPEC members, parents, and educators to find resources, supports, and services in Ohio to aid in mental health and intervention.

Agency Reports & Member Announcements

SAPEC Chair, Ron Rogers gave SAPEC members and agency representatives an opportunity to share any program initiatives, resources or activities that may be of interest to SAPEC members. Laryssa Beatty with the Ohio Coalition for Education of Children with Disabilities (OCECD) announced two conferences November 7th and November 8th titled *No, Don't Stop! So How Exactly is That Working for You?*. OCECD is hosting the workshop with speaker Joe Macero who will be discussing Behavior and how it works for you. Laryssa encourages members to visit the website and spread the word. It is a free conference with CEU's being offered for those that attend. Cheryl Kleist, a board member for the Central Ohio Dyslexia Organization shared a save the date for an upcoming conference for structured literacy. Donna Stelzer, representing the

Ohio Association of Pupil Service Administrators (OAPSA) shared that OSAPA is now the CEC-CASE affiliate in Ohio.

Adjourn

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded, and the meeting was adjourned.

Ron Rogers reminded everyone to complete the meeting evaluation forms.