

# SD ADVISORY PANEL ON CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES MINUTES



**Date:** April 5, 2023

**Time:** 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**Location:** Virtual through Zoom

## **Board Members Present**

LeeAnne Bawek, Angie Brown, Katie Gran, Eric Grover, Steve Helgeland, Dr. Donna Johnson, Michelle Martin, Stacey Meyer, Meaghan Neuberger, Brian Poelstra, Erin Schons, Dawn Smith, Kim Wadsworth.

## **Board Members Absent**

Eric Anderson, Darcy Peterson, Elizabeth Welfl.

## **Call to order:**

Chairperson Erin Schons called the meeting to order at approximately 9:30 a.m.  
Introductions of panel members

## **Approval of the Agenda:**

- Erin informed the panel there were no changes to the proposed agenda.
- Steve Helgeland moved to approve the agenda and Brian Poelstra seconded
- Motion Carried

## **Approval of January meeting minutes:**

- Michelle Martin moved to approve the minutes and Katie Gran seconded
- Motion carried

## **Public Comment:**

- None

**Secretary Joseph Graves was introduced.** He updated the Panel on his background and goals for the Department of Education. Dr. Graves updated the Panel on some of the upcoming priorities for DOE.

- Rule changes to allow school districts to pay student teachers, if they choose. Also allowing student teachers an advance permit to make them a teacher of record, which allows them to have more responsibility such as drafting IEPs, testing, etc. which is normally done by mentors and teachers of record.
- Social Studies Summit will be held in mid-June for up to 1,000 teachers to learn about standards as well techniques and content in SD History.
- In July there will be two different Road Trips about SD History – one East River and one West River. This three-day road trip will be taking teachers committed to SD History to various historic locations to learn more about SD history.
- Continue to move forward with the literacy plan initiative.

### **Department Updates:**

- Linda Turner presented the Legislative Wrap-up. Session was active but not a lot of impact on Special Education. The state funding formula did get approved for a 7% increase for state aid to general education. The intent is for teacher raises, but school districts can allocate as they see fit. The target teacher salary was increased to \$59,659.
- Sped levy max tax is \$1.57 up to \$4,000- school districts set tax levy to determine how much money they need for special education. If the school district does not set tax levy to this amount, they are not eligible for extraordinary cost funds.
- Senate Bill 5 – Extended the termination date of the Juvenile Justice Oversight Council to June 30, 2023. Two school representatives were also added to the Oversight Council.
- Senate Bill 10 - Expands the certification options for interpreters of the deaf; allows for reciprocity.
- Senate Bill 37 – Changed the name of the South Dakota School for the Deaf (SDSD) to South Dakota Services for the Deaf.
- Senate Bill 76 – Provides for licensure of professionals and occupation throughout the state reciprocity. Largely doesn't impact education as it was already in the rules but other professional areas will have expanded flexibility.
- Senate Bill 118- Expands eligibility for teachers to access reduced credit from SD Board of Regents-expanded to include Head Start teachers
- House Bill 1014 – Update the provisions related to licensing for Speech Language Pathologist and Speech Language Pathologist Assistants. They are licensed through the Department of Health, but many are employed by school districts.
- House Bill 1191 – Truancy Officers for a district are required to make and file truancy complaints for students enrolled in the school district. They don't need to follow up on alternative learning students.
- IDEA Application and Budget – One priority of the Panel is to provide input in meeting the needs for students with disabilities in the state. How this is done is through the allocation of grant funds. The Part B and Part C grant period is currently posted for 60 days. Thirty of those days are required to have a public comment period, which is from April 5-May 4. If anyone is interested in seeing the

full application, it is located on Special Education webpage. New this year are updates to GEPA requirements. All states are required to have GEPA requirements to meet all needs of students regardless of race, disabilities, and other criteria in order to be eligible for federal funding.

- We are updating GEPA requirements for FY23 under federal law Section 427.
- The grant application will be completed with input and submitted by the end of May 2023 for federal fiscal year beginning October 1, 2023.
- Panel members terms ending June 30, 2023, are Brian Poelstra (requested to be reappointed), Erin Schons (term expires), Kim Wadsworth (retiring) Dr. Donna Johnson (retiring); still waiting for some appointments.

### **RDA Indicator 3 Target Setting:**

- Melissa Flor presented proposed targets for the risk rubric Indicator 3: statewide assessment proficiency rate combining grades 3-8 and 11. After discussion on the proposed targets and date, the Advisory Panel supported the proposed targets for Reading and Math for the risk rubric.

### **Take away notes from this meeting:**

- Recommend keeping the targets the same for RDA Indicator 3
- Provide input for grant fund application April 5-May 4
- SDSD – Services for the Deaf in South Dakota

### **Next Meeting:**

- Will be held on June 14, 2023, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Library Commons at the MacKay Building in Pierre.
- Schedule September meeting in June
- Agenda Item: Panel Member Recognition, term limits for chair and vice chair in by-laws, priority planning, and parent guide review

### **Meeting Adjourned at 11:14 a.m.:**

- Katie Gran motioned to adjourn, and Stacey Meyer seconded
- Motion Carried