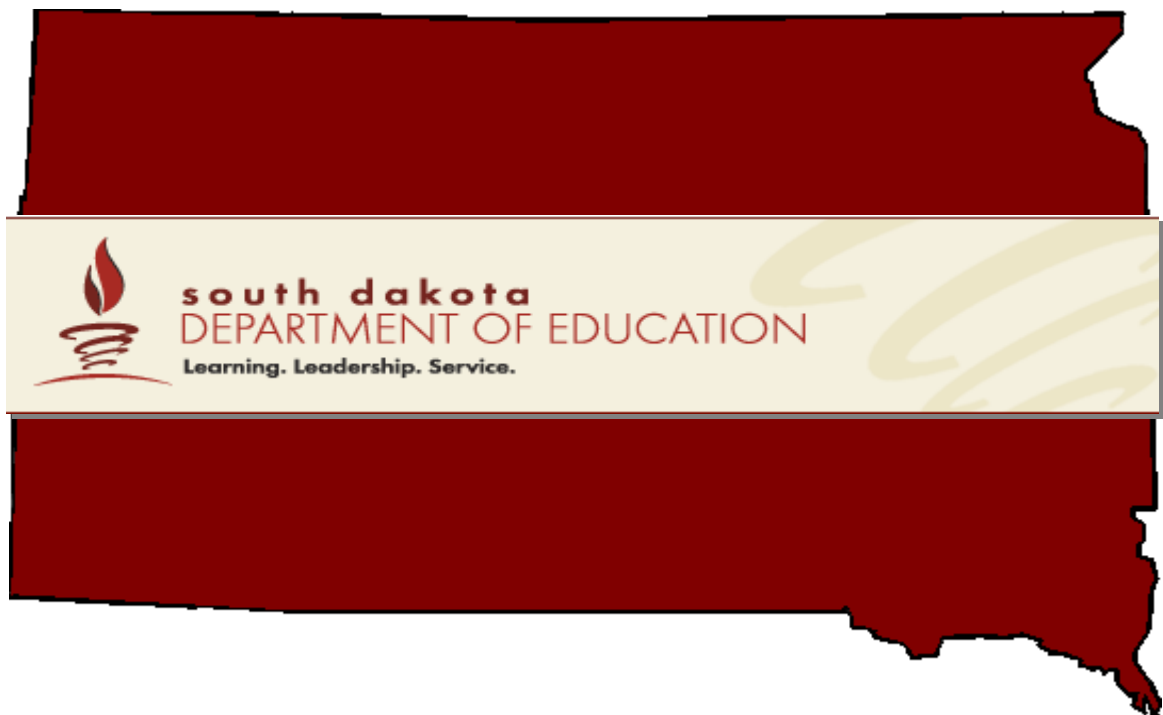


Annual Report



2017-2018

South Dakota Advisory Panel on Children with Disabilities

South Dakota Department of Education Special Education Advisory Panel

The South Dakota Department of Education, Special Education Programs is pleased to present this annual report to the Governor of South Dakota. This report describes the topics discussed and recommendations made, along with priorities and activities the Advisory Panel has participated in for the 2017-2018 school year and represents the continuing progress toward meeting the goal of the Department.

Table of Contents

Letter to the Governor	4
Advisory Panel Description	5
Requirement in the Administrative Rules of SD	5
24:05:14:18	5
24:05:14:19	5
24:05:14:20	6
Panel Responsibilities	7
Panel Membership	8-9
Panel Priorities	10
Topics Covered	12
Presentations to the Board	15
Meeting Dates	16
State Performance Plan Indicators	17



To the Governor of South Dakota,

The South Dakota Department of Education Special Education Advisory Panel continues its service in an advisory role and advocate for children with disabilities and their educational opportunities. This annual report highlights the priorities, recommendations and activities of the panel for the past year.

The panel is committed to working to enhance the lives of people with disabilities. Professionals representing different areas of expertise work together to provide insight, input, guidance and direction to the office of Special Education so that South Dakota can continue to provide our students with the best possible education

Team efforts and focus during this past year, July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018, have been highlighted by ongoing consultation, training, sharing, input and updates with the state office of Special Education.

Vice Chairperson
Erin Schons

The South Dakota Advisory Panel

The South Dakota Advisory Panel, composed of individuals from around the state and selected by the Governor of South Dakota, advises the Department of Education, Special Education Programs (SEP) on issues related to students with disabilities.

In compliance with this responsibility, the panel conducted a public meeting in Sioux Falls and Pierre. It also provided access through South Dakota Public Broadcasting listening link.

The panel's role as a stakeholder group for the State Performance Plan and the Annual Performance Report is vital. The SEP wishes to thank the panel for their assistance and guidance.

Panel priority for the year focused on Parental Awareness of Rights and Procedural Safeguards.

Requirement in the Administrative Rules of South Dakota

24:05:14:18. State advisory panel -- General.

The department shall establish and maintain an advisory panel for the purpose of providing policy guidance with respect to special education and related services for children with disabilities in the state.

24:05:14:19. State advisory panel -- Membership.

The advisory panel must consist of members appointed by the Governor, or any other official authorized under state law to make such appointments, be representative of the state population, and be composed of individuals involved in, or concerned with, the education of children with disabilities, including:

- (1) Parents of children with disabilities, ages birth through 26;
- (2) Individuals with disabilities;
- (3) Teachers;
- (4) Representatives of institutions of higher education that prepare special education and related services personnel;
- (5) State and local education officials, including officials who carry out activities under subtitle B of title VII of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended to January 1, 2007;
- (6) Administrators of programs for children with disabilities;

- (7) Representatives of other state agencies involved in the financing or delivery of related services to children with disabilities;
- (8) Representatives of private schools;
- (9) Not less than one representative of a vocational, community, or business organization concerned with the provision of transition services to children with disabilities;
- (10) A representative from the state child welfare agency responsible for foster care; and
- (11) Representatives from the state juvenile and adult corrections agencies.

A majority of the members of the panel must be individuals with disabilities or parents of children with disabilities, ages birth through 26.

24:05:14:20. State advisory panel -- Duties.

The advisory panel shall:

- (1) Advise the department of unmet needs within the state in the education of children with disabilities;
- (2) Comment publicly on any rules proposed by the department related to the education of children with disabilities;
- (3) Advise the department in developing evaluations and reporting on data to the U.S. Secretary of Education under section 618 of the IDEA;
- (4) Advise the department in developing corrective action plans to address findings identified in federal monitoring reports under Part B of the IDEA; and
- (5) Advise the department in developing and implementing policies related to the coordination of services for children with disabilities.

Panel Responsibilities

1. Advise the SEA of unmet needs within the State in the education of children with disabilities.
2. Comment publicly on any rules or regulations proposed by the State regarding the education of children with disabilities.
3. Advise the SEA in developing evaluations and reporting on data to the Secretary under section 618 of the Act.
4. Advise the SEA in developing corrective action plans to address findings identified in Federal monitoring reports under Part B of the Act.
5. Advise the SEA in developing and implementing policies relating to the coordination of services for children with disabilities.
6. Review and comment on final due process hearing findings and decisions.
7. Advise on eligible students with disabilities in adult prisons. The advisory panel also shall advise on the education of eligible students with disabilities who have been convicted as adults and incarcerated in adult prisons.



Membership

17 panel members from across South Dakota, 10 of these members represent as parents or individuals with disabilities, 58% of the membership.

Name: Betsy Schwenk, Chairperson
Representation: Parent
Address: Harrisburg, SD
Term Ends: 06/30/2018

Name: Erin Schons, Vice Chairperson
Representation: Private School
Address: Sioux Falls, SD
Term Ends: 7/30/2020

Name: Larry Ayres
Representation: Parent
Address: Brookings, SD
Term Ends: 06/30/2018

Name: Stacy Haber
Representation: Parent
Address: Sioux Falls, SD
Term Ends: 06/30/2018

Name: Dr. Donna Johnson
Representation: Higher Education Preparer of Special Education and Related Service Providers
Address: Marion, SD
Term Ends: Appointed

Name: Traci Glanzman
Representation: Individual with a Disability
Address: Pierre, SD
Term Ends: 6/30/2018

Name: Kaitlin Ryan
Representation: State Juvenile Corrections
Address: Rapid City, SD
Term Ends: Appointed

Name: Sara Hoogheem
Representation: Parent, Special Education Teacher
Address: Clark, SD
Term Ends: 06/30/2018

Name: Sarah Carda
Representation: Parent
Address: Yankton, SD
Term Ends: 06/30/2018

Name: Laura Johnson-Frame
Representation: McKinney-Vento
Address: Pierre, SD
Term Ends: Appointed

Name: Marie Ivers, Chairperson
Representation: Parent, Special Education Administrator
Address: Brookings, SD
Term Ends: 06/30/2018

Name: Judy Hoscheid
Representation: State Child Welfare Agency responsible for Foster Children
Address: Pierre, SD
Term Ends: Appointed

Name: Lori Larson
Representation: Parent
Address: Rapid City, SD
Term Ends: 6/30/2018

Name: Kristi Eisenbraun
Representation: Individual with a Disability
Address: Sioux Falls, SD
Term Ends: 6/30/2019

Name: Bernie Grimme
Representation: Transition and State Agency
Responsible for Financing and Delivering Related
Services.
Address: Pierre, SD
Term Ends: Appointed

Name: Shelly Shaw
Representation: Special Education Teacher, Parent
Address: Mission, SD
Term Ends: 06/30/2018

Advisory Panel Support Staff:

Name: Kristin Jerome
Representation: Administrative Assistant, SDDOE
Address: Pierre, SD

Name: Linda Turner
Representation: State Director of Special Education
Address: Pierre, SD

Name: Melissa Flor
Representation: Program Specialist, SDDOE
Address: Pierre, SD

Panel Priority – Parental Awareness of Rights and Procedural Safeguards

Panel Recommendations:

Panel Priorities: Parental Awareness of Rights and Procedural Safeguards

Discussed the Indicator 8: Parental Survey report results

- Recommend special education staff use the same verbiage in survey so it is familiar to the families as fill out the survey.
- Recommendation is developed a script for new teachers.
- Students, who are placed out of district, communicate with agency/placement on who is doing the survey.

1. Local level

- a. Parent advisory boards within districts**
 - i. Topics-** procedural safeguards, organizations that offer support, transition, etc.
- b. Parent information booths in the resource room**
 - i. Inform parents at conferences that booths are available in the resource room with information about topics that pertain to them**

2. University Level

- a. In-service training to include Mock IEP with SD Parent Involvement Survey while using the language of the survey questions**

3. State Level

- a. South Dakota Parental Rights and Procedural Safeguards**
 - i. Create and provide access to tutorials**
 - 1. Tutorials to include video with practice quiz. The quiz should give instant feedback to your answer. If you answer correctly the automated quiz should give you a positive response. If you answer incorrectly the quiz should respond with a negative response and the correct answer immediately. This is meant for education purposes.**
 - ii. Podcast or web video to explain procedural safeguards and to explain outside organizations**
- b. Host a parent involvement panel at the SD State Special Education Conference**
- c. Create an APP to include the following:**
 - i. Agency information**
 - ii. Parental rights**
- d. Parent Involvement Online Survey**

- i.** Allow for districts to fill out questions #1, #2, #3, #4 and #7
- ii.** Make a drop-down box for question #7
- iii.** Integrate the survey into the IEP process

4. Parental Rights handbook

- a.** Add a Frequently Asked Question page in the beginning that linked to another place in the document. Each advisory panel member will review another state's parental rights and develop five frequently asked question for the document.
- b.** How to make sure that parents are staying informed of rights.
- c.** Making book smaller to be easier to handle.
- d.** Include an appendix and glossary.
- e.** Developing a video to summarize the information in layman's terms.

Topics Covered

Topics covered are areas for the Panel to provide input to the Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs.

For full details of topics covered and meeting minutes, please visit the State of South Dakota Board of Commissions Website at:

[SD Advisory Panel for Children with Disabilities Board Meeting Minutes](#)

Advise the SEA of unmet needs within the State in the education of children with disabilities.

- September 2017: Advisory Panel set panel priority to address Parental Awareness of Rights and Procedural Safeguards

Comment publicly on any rules or regulations proposed by the State regarding the education of children with disabilities.

- January 2018: Senate Bill 46, requiring school districts to adopt a policy limiting the use of restraint and seclusion, was provided to the panel. Panel members had discussion. Panel determined no official panel action will be taken. If individual members would like to testify on the bill, they can do so.
- June 2018: Linda Turner provided an overview of the legislative bills that passed during the 2018 legislation. It included the Senate Bill 46 regarding restraint and seclusion along with the bill regarding language development of deaf and hard of hearing students.
- June 2018: Andrea Diehm reviewed the proposed graduation requirements revision going to Board of Education Standards in July. It was opened for public comments on June 6, 2018. Linda Turner discussed the ARSD 24:05: 27:12 regarding IEP teams to modify the graduation course requirements. This regulation was also going to Board of Education Standards in July.

Advise the SEA in developing evaluations and reporting on data to the Secretary under section 618 of the Act.

- September 15, 2017: Angel Corrales, Special Education Programs Data Manager, discussed new Significant Disproportionality Methodology. The panel provided recommendation to department on data thresholds.

	Identification	Placement	Discipline
Cell Size	10	10	10
N Size	30	30	30
Ratio/Alt Ratio	3	3	3
Years	3	3	3
Reasonable Progress	.01	.01	.01

- January 17, 2018: Panel was presented the data for the State Performance Plan, Annual Progress Report
- June 6, 2018: Linda Turner reported on Indicator 17: State Systematic Improvement Plan (SSIP)

Advise the SEA in developing corrective action plans to address findings identified in Federal monitoring reports under Part B of the Act.

- September 14, 2017: Linda Turner, State Special Education Programs Director discussed South Dakota Federal Determination

Advise the SEA in developing and implementing policies relating to the coordination of services for children with disabilities.

- September 15, 2017: Linda Turner, State Special Education Programs Director, provided overview of the 1% Alternate Assessment Participation waiver requirements. Requested feedback from the panel on district justification document. Advisory Panel reviewed the document, asked additional questions, and recommended the participation guidelines be added to the notification letter.
- January 17, 2018: Linda Turner, State Special Education Programs Director provided Interagency Agreement (Department of Education Special Education Office and South Dakota Board of Regents (on behalf of SD School for the Deaf and SD School Blind)
Recommendation to include more transition services due to Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

- June 6, 2018: Information on the State Personnel Development Grant (SPDG) that South Dakota Department of Education received. The panel provided a support letter toward the grant. It will focus on literacy for all students.

Review and comment on final due process hearing findings and decisions.

- September 14, 2017: Wendy Trujillo, State Special Education Programs Assistant Director, provided an overview of the 2016-2017 due process information.

Advise on eligible students with disabilities in adult prisons. The advisory panel also shall advise on the education of eligible students with disabilities who have been convicted as adults and incarcerated in adult prisons.

- This area was not covered in 2017-2018 year.

Other:

- January 2018: Panel reviewed the service rates for personal assistant for panel members. The service rates were approved
- January 2018: Term limits for panel members were discussed.
- June 2018: Reviewed the Part B IDEA grant application.

Presentations to the Board

Presentations are for the Panel to learn more about what is happening in the state regarding other services, resources and initiatives that may be appropriate for children with disabilities.

September 15, 2017

- **South Dakota Center for Disabilities Programs: Wendy Parent-Johnson, Director**

Discussed the activities their programs are working on and potential collaboration.

January 18, 2018

- **Rural America Initiatives – Anne Reddy**

The program works with Native American families. She identified a couple challenges faced regarding education and supports provided to them.

June 6, 2018:

- **Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Presentation – Stephanie Owens – SD PTA President:**

Discussed what the PTA does and how it helps engage families by a variety of methods.

- **ASPIRE – Communication with Families – Mary Livermont**

Discussed ASPIRE project and what staff learned about communicating with families.

Meeting Dates 2017-2018

September 14 and 15, 2017
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

January 9, 2017
Pierre and Via Webinar

April 13, 2018
Cancelled due to weather and state government closures

June 6, 2018
South Dakota Department of Education, Pierre, SD

** A copy of the meeting minutes can be found on the South Dakota Boards and Commission website under Advisory Panel on Children with Disabilities

<http://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/default.aspx>



State Performance Plan Indicators

- Indicator 1** —Improving graduation rates for students with disabilities
- Indicator 2** —Decreasing dropout rates for students with disabilities
- Indicator 3** —Ensuring all students with disabilities participate in statewide assessment
- Indicator 4** —Reducing suspension and expulsion rates for students with disabilities
- Indicator 5** —Providing services for students with disabilities in the least restrictive environment.
- Indicator 6** —Providing preschool children with disabilities services in the least restrictive environment
- Indicator 7** —Improving cognitive and social outcomes for preschool children with disabilities
- Indicator 8** —Improving parent involvement in their child’s special education program
- Indicator 9** —Reducing disproportionality of cultural groups in special education
- Indicator 10**—Reducing the number of students from other cultures in certain disability categories
- Indicator 11**—Improving efforts to locate, evaluate, and serve students with disabilities
- Indicator 12**—Ensuring a smoother transition from preschool programs to school-based programs
- Indicator 13**—Improving transition services for students with disabilities at the secondary level, i.e., 16+ years
- Indicator 14**—Improving the outcomes for students moving from secondary to postsecondary activities
- Indicator 15**—Making sure school districts correct noncompliance areas in the special education program within one year
- Indicator 16**—Decrease the number of mediation held within a year.
- Indicator 17** – State Systemic Improvement Plan