

Governor's Advisory Panel for Children with Disabilities

September 18, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Call to order:

A meeting of Special Education Advisory Panel was held at Pierre at the MacKay Conference Room 5 on September 18, 2018.

Attendees:

Erin Schons, Larry Ayres, Peggy Waltner, Tyler Munson, Heather Trefz, Steven Helgeland, Kim Wadsworth, Donna Johnson, Jennifer Carda, Bernie Grimme, Marie Ivers and Linda Turner
State Special Education Program staff: Wendy Trujillo, Melissa Flor and Kristin Jerome

Members not in attendance:

Stacy Haber, Laura Johnson-Frame, Stacy Nemec, Larry Puthoff, Tim Reinbold, Kaitlin Ryan

Call meeting to order by Vice Chairperson, Erin Schons

Approval of the Agenda:

- Bernie Grimme moved to approve the agenda and Marie Ivers seconded
- Motion Carried

Approval of June meeting minutes:

- Donna Johnson moved to approve the June meeting minutes and Peggy Waltner seconded
- Motion carried

Public Comment: None

Election of Officers:

- Nomination for Chairperson
 - Marie Ivers nominated Erin Schons Chairperson and seconded by Bernie Grimme.
 - Bernie Grimme moved to close the nomination and Linda Turner seconded
 - Erin Schons is Chairperson for the 2018-2019 year.
- Nominations for Vice Chairperson
 - Marie Ivers nominated Larry Ayres as Vice Chairperson and Erin Schon seconded.
 - Donna Johnson motioned to cease nomination and move to a vote and seconded by Bernie Grimme
 - Larry Ayres is Vice-Chairperson for the 2018-2019 year.

Bylaws – Melissa Flor:

- Handed out updated statute regarding public comment. Advisory Panel reviewed the current bylaws.
 - Discussion around changing the 10 days to a 2 business days notification. The term "panel staff" should be consistent to "Special Education Programs"
 - Erin Schons will update the bylaws with tracked changes. The proposed bylaw changes will be sent at least 14 days prior to the next Advisory Panel meeting in January, per bylaw requirements.

DOE updates – Linda Turner:

- ECF (Extraordinary Cost Fund) Summer Study Update
 - State legislature conducted a Summer Study regarding ECF. State legislature met and develop five draft bills that will be taken to state legislative session in 2019. They are located on the [SD Legislative Site](#)

- LEAD-K workgroup information: Information can be found at the Boards and Commission website under [Board of Regents](#).
- Federal Office of Special Education Programs has postponed the updated regulation regarding Significant Disproportionality to 2020. Advisory Panel members asked clarification questions about the process and process. The members asked if there were any training to assist districts. Due to variety of reason for the significant disproportionality, it is difficult to determine a general training.

Graduation Requirements – Linda Turner

- Linda explained the new requirements along with the endorsements. There was discussion around the regulation that did not change. The regulation ARSD 24:05:27:12 permits IEP teams to modify the graduation requirements. There was discussion on what it means for students with disabilities and confusion regarding regular and modified diplomas for the students and families. Special Education Programs requested input on what changes can be made to make it easier to understand.

Tim Neyhart – Disability Rights South Dakota Presentation

- Discussed the topical areas the call center received.
 - Development of the IEP
 - Eligibility
 - Behavior

Carla Miller – SD Parent Connection Presentation

- Provided an overview of the organization and type of services they offer.
- Top issues their office receives
 - Behavior handled in school
 - What do I do if I disagree with my school?
 - Explanation of 504 plans
 - Assistance with stand evaluations and paperwork
 - Why district does not accept evaluation from an outside reviewer or evaluator?
 - My child is falling behind. What are my options?
 - My school district wants to evaluate my child. What does that mean?
- Panel members asked questions about the Navigator Program and the “What Parents Should Know... About Special Education in South Dakota” book.

Dispute Resolution – Wendy Trujillo:

- Overview of dispute resolution from the 2017-2018 year which included data on IEP facilitation, mediations held, complaints filed and due process. The topical areas addressed across dispute resolution options was IEP documentation, health plan development, placement of a student, transportation, accommodations, behavior/bullying, parental involvement, appropriate IEP services, manifest determination, and child find.

Priority Area (17-18):

- Parental Rights Handbook
 - Discussion around ways to make it more user friendly. Some suggestions are to:
 - Develop an introduction paragraph that a district person can review when handing out the parental rights and procedural safeguard.

- Develop Frequently Asked Questions that would trigger parents to utilize the parental rights information. South Dakota Parent Connections may have a set the Panel can use to get started.
- Update contacts in the back of booklet
- Create a contacts page in front of booklet for districts and agencies.
- Requested Special Education Programs to have a draft of the above suggestions by January meeting for a Spring 2019 release and what are the required components of parental rights booklet.
- Advisory Panel members created a subcommittee to develop and submit a breakout session proposal for the Special Education Conference in March 2019.

Priority Area (18-19):

- Tabled until January 2019 meeting

Next Meeting:

- Advisory Panel members will research South Dakota or another state resource suggestion to share.

Take away noted from this meeting:

- Bylaws, Special Education Updates, South Dakota Parent Connection and Disability Rights South Dakota frequent topics, Graduation Requirements Discussion, Priority Area – Parent Rights Booklet and next steps and research favorite state resource.
- Meeting dates and location for the 2018-2019 Advisory Panel meetings.
 - January 16, 2019 – Pierre
 - April 3, 2019 – Pierre
 - June 12 – 2019 - Pierre

Meeting Adjourned at 2:52:

- Larry Ayres motioned to adjourn and Tyler Munson seconded
- Motion Carried

Secretary

Date of approval