

**SD ADVISORY PANEL ON
CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES
MINUTES**



Date: January 6, 2021

Time: 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Location: Virtual ZOOM Meeting

Recording located at <https://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=16>

Board Members Present

Erin Schons, Linda Turner, Dr. Donna Johnson, Kaitlyn Ryan, Brad Otten, Peggy Waltner, Kim Wadsworth, Steve Helgeland, Marie Ivers, Katie Gran, Larry Ayres, Elizabeth Welfl, Brian Poelstra, Jennifer Carda, Larry Puthoff, Angie Brown

Board Members Absent

Heather Trefz, Stacy Nemec, Stephanie Caron

Call to order:

- Chairperson Erin Schons called the meeting to order at 9:34 AM.

Approval of the Agenda:

- **Dr. Donna Johnson** moved to approve the agenda and **Katie Gran** seconded
- Motion Carried

Approval of April meeting minutes:

- **Kaitlyn Ryan** moved to approve the minutes and **Brad Otten** seconded.
- Motion carried

Public Comment:

- None

DOE Updates:

- **Interagency Agreements**

Linda Turner discussed the changes in staffing for the Board of Regents and DOE in their Department Secretary and director positions that have affected the timelines of these agreements. The role of the advisory panel is to review the draft that is proposed and discuss any type of omissions for those agreements.

- **Session Update**

- Linda discussed the beginning of Legislative Session that will start on January 12th, 2021 with the Governor's State Address. Linda presented on the LRC website and how to follow any bills/meetings/other Statute related items with Education (Statute 13)

State Performance Plan Presentation:

- Wendy discussed the report is submitted to OSEP each February, then OSEP reviews the plan and issues a determination in the fall based on state performance. Some indicators are results based (1, 2, 3, 4A, 5, 6, 7, 8, 14, & 17) and some are compliance based (4B, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16).
 - Indicator 2: Dropout Rate presented by Becky Cain
 - Indicator 1: Graduation Rate presented by Beth Schiltz
 - Indicator 3: Statewide Assessment presented by Jessie Ahlers
 - Indicator 4A/4B: Suspension/Expulsion presented by Becky Cain
 - Indicator 5A/B/C: Least Restrictive Environment Ages 6-21—presented by Melissa Flor
 - Indicator 6: Least Restrictive Environment Ages 3-5 in Preschool—presented by Deb Willert
 - Indicator 7A/B/C: Preschool Outcomes—presented by Deb Willert
 - Indicator 8: Parent Involvement—presented by Jessie Ahlers
 - Indicator 9 & 10: Disproportionate Representation—presented by Melissa Flor
 - Indicator 11: Initial Evaluations—presented by Deb Willert
 - Indicator 12: Early Childhood Transition—presented by Deb Willert
 - Indicator 13: Secondary Transition—presented by Beth Schiltz
 - Indicator 14A/B/C: Post-School Outcomes—presented by Beth Schiltz
 - Indicator 15 & 16: Due Process Resolution/Mediation Sessions—presented by Wendy Trujillo
 - Indicator 17: State Systemic Improvement Plan—presented by Brandi Gerry
- Linda discussed that the State Performance Plan Indicator Rates are set by stakeholders after the package is sent to the State by OSEP.

Priority Area: Improve Communication & Resource Gap:

- Panel members discussed the information they gathered on resources parents are aware of regarding special education.
 - Most parents found their information by:
 - Google/web searching; medical practitioners; Department of Social Services; Department of Health; Tribal Relations; Facebook groups; occasionally, schools through teachers or other staff
- The panel discussed that some parents reported that they do not go to the schools because of how districts have previously responded to concerns about their child and they are more likely to go to their physician because of their medical knowledge.
- The panel discussed the possibility of using social media as an avenue to get the information to parents.
 - It was discussed how the majority of people not heavily involved in special education do not know the terms to search for resources.
 - Panel members will bring back frequently asked questions, list of key search words, and idea of how to disperse document for the next meeting.
- Panel will bring to next meeting:
 - Frequently asked questions
 - List of key resources parents should have
 - List of key search words (parent friendly)
 - List of places to disperse or ideas on how to disseminate information

Take aways noted from this meeting:

- The SPP/APR reporting from the State Team.
- Discussion on Priority Area information the panel gathered and the direction it is leading.

Next Meeting:

- Agenda Items for April 7th meeting:
 - Priority Area: FAQs from parents
 - Federal Budget
 - Legislative Updates
- In-person or virtual meeting
 - Will do a poll when the meeting gets closer: virtual or in-person?

Meeting Adjourned at 1:00 PM:

- **Katie Gran** motioned to adjourn, and **Marie Ivers** seconded.
- Motion Carried