

# Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP)

## September 11, 2017 Meeting Minutes

### **Attendees:**

Brian Darcy, Richelle Tierney, Shiloh Blackburn, Amy Clark, Brandy Funk, Robin Greenfield, Jenn Halladay, Jacob Head, Angela Lindig, Alison Lowenthal, Tonya Maestretti, Jill Mathews, Amanda Pena, Lisa Perry, Marni Porath, Charlie Silva and Benjamin Stoddard for Debbie Siegel.

**Not in attendance:** Ruth Garfield, Ted Oparnico, Rebecca Maldonado, and Tina Naillon

### **SEAP Welcome & Call to Order: Brian Darcy, SEAP Chair**

- The meeting was called to order at 9:04 am and members introduced themselves.

**Review Priorities:** Brian reviewed meeting norms and annual priorities.

### **SEAP Priorities:**

The priorities for 2017- 2018 are:

- State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP)
- Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)
- Parent Survey – seen some improvement and would like to see more.

Charlie suggested the committee consider adding Significant Disproportionality to the priority list– timelines

Under ESSA, states are asked to define and would like the group to be part of the process. Significant cognitive – no federal definition, left to each State. (With a focus under ESSA)

Four priorities –

Proposed to accept unanimous.

### **Approval of the May 8, 2017 Meeting Minutes:**

Motion to approve by Lisa Perry and Robin Greenfield seconded.

## **Announcements:**

- Family & Community Engagement Conference, October 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at the Stuekle Sky Center – **Jill Mathews**
  - Experts in Poverty
  - Federal Level on Family Engagement Plans (How schools and districts can plan)
  - Cost is \$50. Parking is pre-paid.

## **Update on Federal Laws and State Specific Information:**

### **Dr. Charlie Silva, SDE Special Education Director**

Charlie provided a staff update.

- Melanie Reese Dispute Resolution Coordinator is moving to be the Director of CADRE (TA Center for Dispute Resolution). Interviews will be done in the next couple of weeks.

ESSA has been signed by Superintendent Ybarra and Dr. Linda Clark, President of the State Board of Education, and is on the Governor's desk to be signed and turned in on the 18<sup>th</sup>.

Charlie presented at the State Board of Education. Proposing changes to the SPED manual defining deaf and hard of hearing, extended content standards, and other minor changes. Charlie will go back in November and see if there are any comments, etc. 2018 Leg session. Posted on the website.

Federal Programs Directors conference, September 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>. Will be bringing in national 504 expert Dave Richards, an attorney from Texas.

### **Fiscal Report**

Anthony Mukuna provided a financial update on FY 2015/2016 and 2016/2017. All funds must be obligated by September 30, 2017 and 2018. He presented the FY 2017-2018 budget with 2% administrative fees, 7% allocated for activities and 91% flow through to LEA's.

Other updates included an update on the SpDg grant which is not being funded by OSEP. This will negatively impact funding for Professional Development.

The Funding & Accountability office is also working on a new fiscal monitoring plan and it is expected to roll out in October 2017.

**Statewide IEP System** – Money to LEA's based on the number of students. Each district chooses how to utilize money for an IEP system. At the next DAC meeting, the possibility of a statewide IEP system will be revisited. Charlie was given the approval to survey districts. There was a high response rate and it would need the Superintendent's approval. The survey closed Friday, September 8th. Results will be reviewed at DAC on September 13<sup>th</sup>.

Brian: New system and billing Medicaid would be impacted. Track and serve outreach for IESDB.

Member comments:

Amy: Will be easier to communicate when a child moves.

Alison: Helps in management train on one type. Takes burden away from district to make federal changes (decrease in burden in the long run).

Lisa: Transfer students - Approximately 70 % of students have to be input. Incomplete files on students.

SDE Forms - Charlie advised that we cleaned up forms over the summer– input from various stakeholder groups. The new forms are on the SDE website. Spanish forms are incomplete, and there is a contract in process.

- Parent friendly
- IDEA compliant (in doc references)
- Simplify (drop-down menus/fill in forms)

Medicaid consent form feedback was confusing to parents.

The deadline to implement the forms is beginning with the 2018 school year.

ITC Website has been redesigned for better end-user experience including fewer clicks and being more accessible.

Idaho SESTA training – Trainings are being offered across the State. Training is free, and anyone can attend - parents, VR counselors, teachers, etc. Some districts have substitute issues so although the interest is there, may not be able to get subs so they can attend trainings. The trainings are all recorded and archived on the ITC.

- Strong emphasis on training for paraprofessionals – creating online modules.
- Amy: Over 170 paras two-day face to face training – Kuna also does a Para Academy.
- Washington State has developed a module – SESTA is reviewing and working on the paraprofessional piece.

CEC registration has decreased over half.

Medicaid – School board association– School-based Medicaid rules. Contradicted IDEA (putting funds in jeopardy) they did not move forward. Executive order ISSSC chaired by Idaho School Board Association are charged to make recommendations with the end goal to remove barriers with school-based Medicaid. Updates will be given on a quarterly basis. These are open meetings.

**Convergence Inefficiency – Jean-Marie Kopecky, IESDB**

Jeanne-Marie Kopecky from Idaho Educational Services for the Deaf and Blind (IESDB) provided additional information on the IDEA definition of visual impairment with blindness and the inclusion of Convergence Inefficiency to be updated in the Special Education Manual. A committee will be pulled together to review and update.

**SSIP Updates and SSIP Work – Shannon Dunstan & Alayna Gee, SDE**

Shannon Dunstan and Alayna Gee gave an update on SSIP work and “Cultivating Leaders to Grow Young Readers” program. They reviewed the readiness cohort and the implementation cohort and each schedule. The group was asked to provide input on the evaluation plan.

**Significant Disproportionality – Alisa Fewkes, SDE**

Alisa Fewkes presented on the new regulations and Idaho. The presentation provided examples of disproportionality and a summary of the new Federal regulations with the timeline of full implementation.

SEAP members were asked to provide input on areas of flexibility that included reasonable minimum cell size, minimum n-size, and threshold, number of years for analysis and standard for reasonable progress.

**YES Workgroup Update – Jeff Brandt, SDE**

Jeff Brandt provided an update from the YES workgroup on a tool for parents based on CANS. He then asked the group for feedback on two drafts of posters for the campaign.

SEAP members provided suggestions on changes to the poster.

**Wrap Up:**

Suggestions were made for professional development for future meetings.

Charlie will reach out to the Idaho Assistive Technology Project for the next meeting.

**Next Meeting**

- November 13, 2017
  - Agency/Individual Presentations
    - November 13, 2017 – Rebecca Maldonado
    - February 12, 2018 – Shiloh Blackburn
    - May 14, 2018 – Jacob Head

**Meeting Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 3:40 pm.