

# Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP)

## April 28, 2014 Meeting Minutes

**Attendees:** : Lisa Colon, Donna Farmer, Robin Greenfield, Brandy Funk, Beth Eloie-Reep, Wendy Fitch, Keith Allred, Richard Henderson, Amanda Pena, Brian Darcy, Ruth Garfield, Darlene Banks, Therese Varela, Jennifer Zielinski, Stephanie Hoffman

### **SEAP Welcome and Update, Minutes Review and Approval: Donna Farmer, SEAP Chair**

- Amanda Pena created the motion, Brian Darcy seconded the motion – it was declared a unanimous agreement among the members of the Special Education Advisory Panel to approve the minutes from the previous meeting

### **SPED Update: Richard Henderson, SDE Special Education Director**

- The 2014 SPP/APR submission has been submitted. The SDE received feed- back requesting two minor edits on dropout rate calculation and the APR report clarification. Corrections were made and resubmitted

### **RDA - MTSS Update: Richard Henderson, SDE Special Education Director**

- Rich has completed regional state visits to sped directors, principals, and other school personnel. Response has been positive – Superintendents see the MTSS as aligning with other initiatives. Secondary principals were most inquisitive with regards to special education teachers and teaching.
- There are Districts who are using MTSS – and RTI Systemic Planning Mechanisms
- Districts who participate in MTSS will now set targets for the first year

### **Next Steps include:**

Conducting last three sessions in northern Idaho, look at themes and feedback and connect Phase 1 and Phase 2, and incorporate into Idaho's SSIP to submit in 2/15

Decision now need to be made about the SSIP for indicator B3 and B4 - academic, B5 LRE and B1, 2, 14 – secondary group as to what data is taken. Questions about Indicator 3 and 4 that influence Indicator 5 and subsequently Indicators 1, 2, and 14.



### **Legislative Update SPED: Richard Henderson, SDE Special Education Director**

- Rich reviewed the Education Laws that passed the Legislature this session

### **Executive Committee Elections: SEAP Executive Committee**

- Panel decides to continue to elect a Panel secretary and Vice-Chair person on an annual basis as noted in the current SEAP by-laws. There had been discussion previously to have the secretary automatically become the Vice-Chair.
- Amanda Pena nominated Robin Greenfield as Vice-Chair and Stephanie Hoffman seconded the nomination. Panel unanimously elects Robin Greenfield as the new Vice Chair
- Stephanie Hoffman nominated Amanda Pena for Secretary. She declines. Wendy Fitch nominates Brandy Funk. Panel unanimously elects Brandy Funk as new SEAP secretary.
- Members whose term is up and want to continue must get a written statement from their agency indicating that they want the current person to continue as the agency SEAP representative
- Rich suggested having a SDE person take over the responsibility of typing the meeting notes rather than the SEAP Secretary. This task has been done by the SDE in the past and allows the Secretary to be an active part of the panel discussion.

### **Manual Update Approval: Richard Henderson, SDE Special Education Director**

- Last manual revisions were done in 2007 with updates in 2009 on SLD policy.
- Updates to manual are now being posted on the Idaho Training Clearinghouse for feedback. All 13 chapters of the manual have been completed. The manual will now be put on the SDE website for 30 days for additional feedback and revisions and then sent to the State Board of Education and the legislature for final approval. The manual should be available for the 2014-2015 school year.

Some changes include:

- IDEA 2004 – is now just IDEA – in manual
- The term “intellectual disability” replaces “cognitive disability”
- Objectives are required to have for kids taking the Alternate Assessment but districts can also write them for any child on an IEP
- With regards to the “destruction of records,” the revised manual indicates that districts must keep student records, consents, written notices for at least 6 years after a student



has left a district to demonstrate fiscal responsibility and program compliance with IDEA requirements— now aligns with IDEA. Districts can scan and keep records. They must maintain records until such time when the district has been given written consent from the parents/and or adult former student to destroy the records or they have released them to the parents and/or adult former student

- The SDE is also currently reviewing the SLD policy in Idaho –current criteria for definition of SLD (four parts) is becoming problematic. Districts are labeling students as OHI not SLD because it's easier. Districts are saying SLD requirements are too burdensome. July 2015 is target for changing policy. A webinar will be held on May 21 for Sped Directors on updates.
- Lisa Colon announced that she will be leaving her current position as Family and Community Engagement coordinator in May and will become the Educator Effectiveness Coordinator and take Becky Martin's place at the SDE.

**Idaho SPED Advisory Board Panel By-Laws Update and Approval: Richard Henderson, SDE Special Education Director and Donna Farmer, SEAP Chair**

- A "Historian" position will be added to the Executive Committee. The past Chair will take on that position to support and advise the Chair. This position extends the time commitment of the past Chair for an additional year.
- The by-laws will be amended regarding the creation of Historian position for the past Chair and sent to Panel for approval.
- Elections will take place at the final SEAP meeting of the year
- As stated above, a decision was made by the Panel to keep the process of electing a Secretary and Vice-Chair at the final meeting of each year.
- Amanda moves to accept the by-law changes as amended. Stephanie Hoffman seconds the motion

**Member Updates: SEAP Members**

Amanda Pena (DHW) reported that the Department continues to enhance safety standards across the state and the system of care for trauma related services. Meridian Elementary School has put a health care facility in the school for children to access physical/mental health services.

Wendy Fitch (School Special Education Director) reported that the Payette district is in process of implementing a transition services process for students going to different schools so students have a chance to experience new environments and testing time in schools.

Therese Varela (Disability Rights of Idaho) reported that they received federal funding recently. A focus for the organization is transition age youth and systems that target school to work



activities.

Jennifer Zielinski (IPUL) reported that IPUL will sponsor a workshop/retreat in Lava Hot Springs to mentor 15 parents in the area of Parent Leadership. They are also submitting the federal Parent, Training, and Information Center (PTI) federal application in May and are in the process of looking for new office space. Finally, IPUL is sponsoring the traveling Ann Frank exhibit at their current office space.

Stephanie Hoffman (Division of Behavioral Health, DHW) reported that funding for statewide crisis centers was ok'd by the legislature and family support will be in new standards/revised for DHW

Brian Darcy (IESDB) reported that their budget was increased from \$7.9 million to \$8.4 million for the coming year. IESDB student numbers have gone up. They are currently serving 1750 students whereas 5 years ago 1100 kids were being served. Ninety one students are served on the IESDB campus.

Lisa Colon (SDE) told the group that she is changing jobs at SDE. She is going to Sun Valley for a student prevention conference that reviews community programs, afterschool programs, 21<sup>st</sup> century skills.

Ruth Garfield (Families Together) reported that 200 people have called for support from their organization from Jan 1 until April. They will sponsor a Family day on September 3, 2014. She also reported on the Journey of Hope bike tour which goes from Seattle to NYC that will be coming up later in the year. They are sponsoring classes though out the year and just completed one on positive parenting for children with challenging behaviors that was attended by 75 parents. Ruth's daughter is 19 this year and transitioning from school to the work of community work

Darlene Banks (Parent) reported that her daughter turned 21 last week and issues with work and adult services. Her shredding job that she has had for 5 years is not going to be available in future additionally the Goodwill volunteering job she has been involved in is not consistent. Darlene is going through Women's center on the campus in Moscow to help coordinate community services.

Keith Allred (BSU) gave the Panel information about a speaker, Amanda Ripley, who wrote a book - "Smartest Kids in the World and How They Got that Way" who will present at the Taco Bell Arena on Wednesday, April 30. He also reported that Arne Duncan announced that the U S Department of Education is going to implement an evaluation system for Colleges of Education as to their effectiveness. Outcomes will be tied to federal funding. Implications for teacher



education programs potentially include not receiving funding for scholarships, etc.

**Presentation on Trauma and Trauma Related Services: Mike Scholl, Casey Family Program**

- Mike Scholl from the Casey Family Foundation made a presentation to the Panel on “Trauma-Informed System of Care: What is it, and Why Does it Matter?”

**School Based Medicaid: Richard Henderson, SDE Special Education Director**

- The SDE is working on an interagency agreement between school based Medicaid and DHW. The agreement is out for public comment now. Oversight is conducted by DHW as it relates to Medicaid. School based Medicaid services can be provided to address “behaviors” that relate to academic learning but not specific academics. “Behavior Intervention” is the label used for school-based Medicaid services.

**Idaho Special Education Teachers Follow-Up: Richard Henderson, SDE Special Education Director**

- There is no current report and the topic will be revisited during next year’s SEAP meetings.
- There is a new special education website and SEAP has its’ own “button” on the site.

**Questions and Next Year’s Meeting Dates: SEAP Members**

- The Panel discussed meeting dates for the coming SEAP year. The first meeting will take place on September 16, 2014 and subsequent meetings will occur on November, 10, 2014; January 26, 2015; March 2, 2015; and May 4, 2015.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

