

# Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP)

February 12, 2018 Meeting Minutes

**Attendees:** Brian Darcy, Ruth Garfield, Richelle Tierney, Alison Lowenthal, Brandy Funk, Debbie Siegal, Jacob Head, Jenn Halladay, Jill Mathews, Lisa Perry, Marni Porath, Rebecca Maldonado, Robin Greenfield, Shiloh Blackburn, Suzanne Peck, Ted Oparnico, Tonya Maestretti, Jenny Gilmore (for Amy Clark), Sarah Tueller (for Angela Lindig), and Charlie Silva.

**Not in attendance:** Amanda Pena

## **SEAP Welcome: Brian Darcy, SEAP Chair, 9:06 am**

Reviewed priorities

- SSIP- State Systemic Improvement Plan
- ESSA – Every Student Succeeds Act
- Parent Surveys
- Significant disproportionality (adopted this year)

## **Announcements:**

### **Approval of the 9/11/2017 Meeting Minutes:**

Corrections to minutes – the name of presenter at the Family and Community Engagement Conference to Dr. Donna Beagle.

Motion to approve the minutes with the correction made by Brandy Funk and seconded by Debbie Siegel. Approved unanimously by the committee.

## **Dispute Resolution Updates – Ed Litteneker, SDE**

Charlie introduced Ed Litteneker, the new Dispute Resolution Coordinator.

He provided a review of the foundations for dispute resolution (DR) and the five types of services provided through DR: IEP Facilitation, Informal Conflict Resolution, Mediation, State Administrative Complaints, and Due Process Hearings. He provided a comparison from the last three years of the number of hearings, complaints, mediations, and facilitations. Updates on the current year included 97 Facilitations, 5 Mediations, 15 Complaints, and 3 Hearings.

The vast majority of founded complaint allegations this year were that the IEP was not properly implemented.

Idaho SESTA provides training around found allegations.

Ed also provided an overview of DR's 2018 projects.

## **Alternate Assessment – Karren Streagle, SDE**

Karren provided an update on the 1% cap and the Alt. Assessment Workgroup.

The 1% Cap Waiver request was resubmitted on 1/23 and is currently under review. There will be a webinar for districts over the cap on February 27<sup>th</sup>.

Alt. Assessment Workgroup - The 11 member workgroup will have an initial meeting on February 28<sup>th</sup> and will begin developing a guidance document, review and refine participation criteria and define significant cognitive disabilities.

1% cap on alt assessment who can participate.

**Visual Impairment Including Blindness Workgroup Update – Jeanne-Marie Kopecky, IESDB**

Jeanne-Marie discussed the work that the Definition of Visual Impairment including Blindness workgroup has done. The additions made to the definition include; examples of eye conditions, progressive loss, and functional vision loss. It will be submitted for approval and the workgroup will begin writing the guidance documents.

**Update on Federal Laws and State Specific Information – Dr. Charlie Silva, SDE Special Education Director**

Charlie provided the following federal and state updates:

**Federal Updates**

There is a level of uncertainty at the federal level and the department is waiting to hear about funding and a potential reduction.

**State**

Change to SPED manual presented to Senate and House subcommittee.

Working on the definition of diploma.

After the 19<sup>th</sup>, should have more information on the budget.

YES project – July 1<sup>st</sup> will increase services.

**SSIP – Alayna Gee, SDE**

Phase III Update – Applications are open for a third cohort. The first cohort is in the second year and the second cohort is in the readiness phase and leadership capacity.

District visits will begin now and go through May. Modules will be created through a partnership with Idaho Public TV.

Inclusion project will continue with the goal to be done by fall of '18. The group participated in a brainstorming activity to work on additional ideas and best places to capture inclusion. All modules will be housed on ITC.

### **Working lunch/Agency Reports**

- Rebecca Maldonado presented on her classroom and the sensory integration approach they utilize.
- Shiloh Blackburn shared her experiences from elementary education through her college years.

### **Professional Development Presentation - Kendrick Lester, SDE**

Kendrick presented on Transition Services and data from IDEA Part B Indicator 14 - How well are students doing after exiting district transition programs?

- 16% in post-secondary education
- 38% competitively employed or in post-secondary education
- 59% in some sort of education, training or employment

Transition services are pillars that support bridging the transition from public school to college, career, and independence in adult life. Early transition supports are self-awareness, self-determination, self-advocacy, and community involvement.

Later transition supports include natural supports, work experiences, college visits, and adult & disability services.

The Idaho Interagency Council on Secondary Transition is planning a Transition Institute in November at BSU.

Other activities of the program and council include "Think College", a capacity building grant to build access to college courses for students with intellectual/developmental disabilities.

### **Wrap Up**

Charlie referred the group to the packet of materials provided. A number of handouts were included around a variety of topics. Idaho SESTA summer conference, Idahoans for Autism Insurance Reform, SPED newsletter, and IDHW Behavioral Health newsletter.

### **Next Meeting**

May 14, 2018

Discussion around term limits and those whose terms are ending this year.

### **Meeting Adjournment**

Alison motioned to adjourn the meeting, second by Jenn.

Brian adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.