

# Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP)

November 13, 2017 Meeting Minutes

**Attendees:** Charlie Silva, Richelle Tierney, Ruth Garfield, Brian Darcy, Shiloh Blackburn, Brandy Funk, Jenn Halladay, Marni Porath, Alison Lowenthal, Ted Oparnico, Tonya Maestretti, Amy Clark, Jacob Head, Angela Lindig, Tina Naillon, Amanda Peña, Debbie Siegel and Jill Mathews

**Not in attendance:** Rebecca Maldonado, Robin Greenfield, and Lisa Perry

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

## **Announcements:**

Jill – Family and Community Engagement Conference – There were 300 attendees. Dr. Donna Beagle, expertise in poverty. Foster care provisions and that districts are aware and implementing. Provides a way for transportation for foster care to keep kids in their school of origin and maintain some stability.

Debbie – New director of juvenile education - Dr. Cindy Orr

Amanda – transportation, CANS planning and getting systems to talk to each other. Last legislative session added definition human trafficking aware and report to law enforcement. Child abuse trainings definition expanded. Darkness to light training.

Tina – Homeless youth immediately enrolling. She is leaving SDE and December 1<sup>st</sup> is her last day.

Angela – IPUL live streaming workshops – 75 watching live review of all systems Jan strength based IEP meeting

Jacob – working at Walmart looking at creating a podcast.

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

Motion to approve by Shiloh Blackburn, seconded by Alison Lowenthal. Approved unanimously by the committee.

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

- Federal level notification -OSEP has rescinded a number of documents. Over 60 guidance documents have been rescinded. There were initial concerns about impact, but have heard that it was a housecleaning effort that was long overdue. It eliminated outdated guidance documents or incorporated when IDEA was last re-authorized and regulations that are embedded in more current documents. U.S. Department of Education webinar advocacy/parents voicing concerns. Secretary Betsy DeVos is moving into the

second phase and will look at other regulations that they may want to remove or rescind. Will stay on top of this as it will pertain and may impact more current legislation.

- State Level – Getting reading for 2018 legislative session. Superintendent Ybarra will bring forth legislation around mastery-based education so will watch for that. Rural education centers small amount to fund. Continued push regarding bullying. Pay attention to funding formula committee. Representative Horman chairing. Last looked at in the late 1990's. Will bring recommendations to the legislature. This does impact special education.
- SDE SPED is working on YES project.
  - Independent contract identifies YES students. Will start in January/February.
  - The SDE created a checklist and it will be rolled out after assessors are up and running and will align the release.
  - Corrections is training counselors on CANS.
- Starting in January, 1) Medicaid has increased the amount of respite; 2) Passed this last leg session - Eligibility criteria federal poverty level has increased to 300%
- Statewide IEP system will continue to be worked on. Looking at a two-year timeframe.
- New SDE Staff - Dr. Melanie Reese took a new position as the director of CADRE in Oregon. Ed Litteneker has been hired to take her place. He has been a dispute resolution contractor for the SDE.
- Members introduced themselves to Ed. He gave a brief introduction and general information to the committee.

### **Parent Survey & APR – Alisa Fewkes, SDE**

Info graph 1-14

- Review of annual performance report –due annually on key indicators used to evaluate the implementation of special education. Combination of data used such as data monitoring survey, etc., largest areas of improvement state target FFY 2015 at 90% State current 58.41%. Committee discussed these numbers.
- Parent Involvement Survey –
  - Ruth – Write in is important for those who want to provide more information (have neutral).
  - Brandy – Likes that it does not include and parents need to determine a position.
  - Brian - Will it impact the response rate and give a clearer picture as it forces an opinion?
  - Alison - #12 should be Y/N question.
  - Tonya – Will responses be discussed with parent (do not have a way to respond because they are anonymous).
- Regional Data Retreats – SDE will review, in detail, all the data for their district with them. SDE is considering having districts collect data first, and the information not collected, the SDE would have a second phase. History (didn't want to burden the school to collect NCLB but meaningful information can come directly from teachers.)

## **ISAT-Alt Participation Criteria Guidance Document Workgroup – Karren Streagle, SDE**

- Seeking guidance – workgroup looking at the alternate assessment. The alt assessment most sig cognitive impairments common core connectors grounded in content standards reduced in depth and complexity. To consider – ESSA places 1% cap on who can take the alt assessments. Idaho participation rate is 1.2%, parents have to be informed of the ramifications OSEP guidance to define sign cog disabilities- Idaho does not have a definition.
- Workgroup to define, refine ISAT/Alt participation criteria, develop a guidance document, timeline (identify members by December 15th, begin in January, complete by April). Who should be included in workgroup, scope of work, special considerations related to the work- (Principles, gen ed, school psychologist, sped parents, directors advisory committee, SEAP member representation from around the state). Will be face to face initially then will move to zoom/electronic, etc.

## **Review of meeting with National TA Center – ESSA & Disproportionality – Angela Lindig**

- Two-day training ESSA and IDEA guidance document template to create a guide for parents. How the two laws intersect. There was also a good conversation around disport to parents. Angela created Powerpoint on what's the connection. ID draft plan was submitted in September. Ways to present (Alison – create student profiles and how will impact to the kid emphasis on FAQ side by side of ESSA and IDEA (Charlie) complex and language and putting in plain language and link to guide (Amanda)

## **DAC recap on Disproportionality – Alisa Fewkes**

- Three years of data that was submitted to DAC diff in identification in disability specific disability categories more restrictive environments and disciplinary action compared to other color corresponds to DAC to give a sense of the visuals. She is working on to see threshold and trends in each area. All groups agree on three years of data. Looking for ways to present data.

## **CADRE pamphlet – Charlie Silva**

- Paid advocates – can be additional resources but families should know about brochure from CADRE and thinking about sending out to families when there are calls for facilitation. (Brian- can see how people will gravitate in desperate times), (Ruth-families together reach desperation, so it's good to have additional resources), no regulatory group over family advocates - include facilitation in the brochure.
- Definition – Request from a SPED director to have the SDE consider looking at what we call “emotional disturbance.” Want to hear from DAC and SEAP. Is it worth bringing people together to discuss the label “Emotional Disturbance”. “Disturbance” is very negative and serious. What qualifies as serious? Will reach out to neighboring states use same criteria but call it something else. The panel felt that this is something to look at.

Needs to reflect who we are serving. See what needs to be changed and given an opportunity to see what guidance and training need to be. (Brian) could potentially impact child's ability to access Medicaid.

### **SSIP Update – Shannon Dunstan and Alayna Gee, SDE**

- Cohort activities uploaded the first 10 of 20 reading modules. Readiness group is doing the modules. The last ten modules will be released in January. Next fall, both semester for both sets of 10. Self-evaluation tool with both the implementation and Readiness.
- September training evaluation data satisfaction data cultivating leaders to grow – leadership strand district leadership/evaluation.
- Coaching strand evaluation plan broken down so each strand has evaluation plat (leadership, coaching and instructional) recording 15 sessions self-assess and coaches providing feedback. Asked for input on the evaluation plan.
- Resource alignment activities - SDE literacy team meets monthly to share professional development and resources, location for all literacy resources, explore how to develop and post sustainable PD, share with districts cohesive literacy language – reach out to represent principals network.
- Resource Development.
- Idaho Literacy Panel – Is outside of the SDE – meets every other month.
- Parent Involvement – each school district is asked, How are parents involved at the school level? How to engage parents? How meet the needs of parents? What do districts need to do? What resources need to be developed? Members were asked to come up with ideas for Family literacy nights, IEP meetings, resources and district literacy plan.
  - How to market? Products? Create as a checklist? Alison (mini toolkit – video how to use), literacy retreat (Ruth).

What would be the next steps? Ongoing refinement, next time will present some additional information.

### **Professional Development Presentation:**

- Nick Stallings – Idaho Assistive Technology Project at the University of Idaho. A presentation was given on the different types of assistive technology and resources provided by the IAT project. Committee members created a stand for tablets/phones.

### **Next Meeting**

- Monday, February 12, 2018, 9:00 AM
  - Agenda Items
    - Agency/Individual Presentations
      - Rebecca Maldonado
      - Shiloh Blackburn

**Meeting Adjournment**

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