



Maryland SESAC

SPECIAL EDUCATION STATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Special Education State Advisory Committee General Meeting Minutes

March 21, 2019
10:00am-1:00pm

Attendees: Leanne Carmona-Co-Chair, Pamela Talley-Co-Chair, Miguel Reyes, Marjorie Guldan, Joyce Abbott, Dorie Flynn, Rachel London, Sheila Billups, Sally Farr, Elisa Hartman, Wendy Balda, Marlene Powell, Jennifer Brekke-Miles, Rachel Stoyanov, Rene Averitt-Sanzone, Tai Dillard, Jamie Stoner

Guests: Jeffrey Gladhill, Terri Savage, Jennie Brockman, Mary Capozzi, Rebecca Sanchez Barrett, Hope Cohen, minor child

Staff: Carmen Brown, Branch Chief, Interagency Collaboration, Maryland State Department of Education, Division of Early Intervention and Special Education Services

Welcome/Introductions: Leanne Carmona and pam Talley, SESAC Co-Chairs began the meeting and ensured introductions of all present and on the WebEx.

Division of Early Intervention and Special Education Services Updates: Marcella E. Franczkowski, M.S., Assistant State Superintendent facilitated presentation and discussion pertaining to: Technical Assistance Bulletin-Update; Graduation Taskforce; Study of IEP Implementation in Maryland; and regarding Stakeholder Input: Local Level vs State Level. Ms. Franczkowski reviewed the Technical Assistance Bulletin: *Improving Outcomes for Students with Disabilities – Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment* updated in January, 2019. She first reviewed format and then offered highlights of content, specifically the critical points about Specially Designed Instruction and the essential expectations for local schools systems to implement, including retraining, retooling, and revisiting expectations. In alignment with the TAB, there was a review of goal and objective development aligned with specially designed instruction to intensify and accelerate student progress. Ms. Franczkowski provided an update on the final recommendations of the Graduation Task Force, as well as, the timeline for further action. Ms. Franczkowski offered an update on WestEd's Study of the Implementation of the IEP Process in Maryland. She noted various opportunities for parents of students with disabilities to participate, provide input, and summarized work completed by WestEd to date. Finally, Ms. Franczkowski responded briefly to stakeholder suggestions and ideas for SESAC focus.

SESAC Advisory: Leanne Carmona and Pam Talley facilitated a discussion to identify goals for SESAC advisement. They reviewed subcommittee considerations, including a Legislative Subcommittee: panel of parents highlighting positive educational outcomes; report on special education achievements; and continued commitment to improve services and outcomes; support during legislative session, a SECAC Subcommittee: collaboration; joint meetings; communication, and an IEP Subcommittee: what parents want; what parents need.

Public Comment: Seven guests registered as attendees of the SESAC meeting. Five guests offered public comment regarding Echelon Academy. One guest and speaker was a minor child, therefore, his name is not noted on the guest list.