



Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE)
Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services
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Kelly Meissner, Chair
Kathy Kaufman, Vice-Chair

Maryland SESAC

SPECIAL EDUCATION STATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Special Education State Advisory Committee General Meeting Minutes

June 7, 2018

Member attendees: Tiombe Olumiji, Kelly Meissner, Samantha Carter, Sally Farr, Carol Quirk, Valerie Ashton-Thomas, Jamie Stoner, Leanne Carmona, Jill Pierce, Dorie Flynn, Marjorie Guldan

Guests: None

Staff: Carmen Brown, Branch Chief, Interagency Collaboration, MSDE, DSE/EIS

Welcome/Introductions/Review of Minutes led by Chair: Kelly Meissner. All present and on WebEx were introduced. Minutes from March were reviewed and approved.

SSIP Update provided by Carol Quirk, Executive Director, Maryland Coalition for Inclusive Education. She reviewed all components of the SSIP, facilitating discussion regarding data connected to the work of the SSIP, cross-departmental collaboration, systems coaching, tools for teachers, the use of the TAP-IT Model, family engagement, and the necessary role of SESAC to provide feedback and input. Dr. Quirk will continue to engage the SESAC in SSIP discussions and offer opportunities for feedback and input. SESAC was charged to identify components within the SSIP they would like to specifically impact. There were no agreed upon areas at this time.

High School Graduation Task Force Update was provided by Kelly Meissner, SESAC representative on the Task Force. She provided a review of the work of the Task Force thus far, speaking the recent work in 3 subgroups. Of particular interest to the SESAC was the idea of endorsements on diplomas, as well as, certificates of completion, applicable to all students, including those with disabilities. There was further discussion about credit attainment, assessments, and graduation.

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Update was offered by Kelly Meissner, SESAC representative on the Workgroup. Kelly reported the website is maintained for those with on-going interest.

A letter to the Legislature was presented in support of funding for Special Education. It was sent in by Kelly Meissner, on behalf of the SESAC. A copy was offered to the committee.

Fall Joint SESAC/SECAC Mtg discussion was led by Kelly Meissner. Agenda items and purpose were discussed. Members agreed that hosting a SECAC Chair discussion would be helpful and supportive of the work of SECACs. Thoughts on how to accomplish this meeting included local directors, and not including them, offering regional meetings or just in one location, incorporating all SESAC or just leadership, etc. No final decisions were made, but the Executive Team of the SESAC will continue to discuss during the summer months.

SY 2018-2019 SESAC Leadership & Membership discussion was facilitated by Kelly Meissner, who, as the Chair for a number of terms, again asked for members to step up to provide leadership in the

SESAC. Bylaws were reviewed, required membership, and the meeting scheduled for 2018-2019. No one in the SESAC came forward to take a leadership role, and there were no nominees. The group did participate and offer suggestions to engage additional members. Carmen will follow up with ideas to market and reach out to other related State agencies over the summer months. Kelly suggested that the Executive Team of the SESAC will also have further discussion about leadership during the summer.

Public Comment: There were no members of the public present, but SESAC members discussed a desire for updates on the Implementation of Dyslexia Supports, aligned with the Technical Assistance Bulletin issued by the Division, Updates on MOIEP changes scheduled for this year, further discussion on Significant Disproportionality, progress on transition work, and progress on implementation of restraint and seclusion legislation.

Next Meeting: September 2018