



Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE)
Division of Early Intervention and Special Education Services
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Pamela Talley – Co-Chair
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Maryland SESAC

SPECIAL EDUCATION STATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Special Education State Advisory Committee General Meeting Minutes

February 28, 2020

10:00am-1:00pm

Attendees: Pamela Talley, Co-Chair, Marjorie Guldán, Marlene Powell, Sheila Billup, Martha Goodman, Karleen Spitulnik, Jennifer Brekke-Miles, Dorie Flynn, Wendy Balda, Peaches Wilson, Rachel London

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

Guest: Sarah Rosen, Estie Kruglak (Interpreter), Gilliam Trommer (Interpreter)

Welcome/Introductions were offered by Pamela Talley – SESAC Co-Chair. All members in attendance in person and via webex were introduced.

Pam provided an update on the legislative letter drafted by the SESAC executive team and the testimony provided in collaboration with the SICC, presented by Pam at the MSDE Senate budget hearing yesterday and again at the House budget hearing next Monday. Carmen and Rachel provided a legislative update of bills and the budget to date. The proposed budget and its impact on both MSDE and DDA was reviewed, as were bills that would have impact on special education in Maryland.

Pam facilitated a discussion regarding subcommittees, summarizing discussion on topics suggested throughout the fall. Topics with most interest include: legislation, student achievement and outcomes, family and community engagement, and secondary transition. The legislative committee, led by Pam has completed their task. Wendy provided an update regarding some research completed on student achievement and outcomes and a desire to hear more about the math work associated with the SSIP, and the family engagement and transition subcommittees reported a need for further discussion and planning.

Open Discussion: Rachel London shared resources available on the DD Council website; members requested further guidance from the executive team on moving forward with subcommittee work;

Public comment was offered by a parent, though written testimony and interpreters, with a few follow-up questions. Additionally, the name and phone number for staff in the family support section at DEI/SES were offered.

Meeting was adjourned until April.