

KANSAS SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL



Annual Report

July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018

Special Education & Title Services
Kansas State Department of Education
900 SW Jackson Street, Suite 620
Topeka, KS 66612
1-800-203-9462
January 2019



Kansas State Board of Education
Landon State Office Building
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DISTRICT 2
Steve Roberts



DISTRICT 3
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DISTRICT 4
Ann E. Mah



DISTRICT 5
Sally Cauble



DISTRICT 6
Deena Horst



DISTRICT 7
Kenneth Willard



DISTRICT 8
Kathy Busch, Vice chair



DISTRICT 9
Jim Porter, Chairman



DISTRICT 10
Jim McNiece

Mission

To prepare Kansas students for lifelong success through rigorous, quality academic instruction, career training and character development according to each student's gifts and talents.

Vision

Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.

Motto

Kansans CAN.

Successful Kansas High School Graduate

A successful Kansas high school graduate has the

- Academic preparation,
- Cognitive preparation,
- Technical skills,
- Employability skills and
- Civic engagement

to be successful in postsecondary education, in the attainment of an industry recognized certification or in the workforce, without the need for remediation.

Outcomes for Measuring Progress

- Social-Emotional growth measured locally
- Kindergarten readiness
- Individual Plan of Study focused on career interest
- High school graduation rates
- Postsecondary completion/attendance



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Kansas Commissioner of Education



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Division of Fiscal and Administrative Services



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Division of Learning Services

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June 20, 2017

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Secretary's Report

The State of Kansas is fortunate to have an active and involved SEAC. The overarching focus of special education services in Kansas is to improve outcomes for students with exceptionalities and their families. Services for students with exceptionalities in Kansas are continuously improving because of the dedication and commitment of many exemplary teachers and administrators who are supported by concerned and invested parents who work in partnership with the districts. Another Kansas asset, often overlooked because of their work behind the scenes of Kansas education, is the Kansas Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC). The primary motivation for individuals to accept appointments to SEAC is the focus on quality improvement in the Kansas education system, particularly as it relates to students with exceptionalities. SEAC has represented its constituencies well during the past year and has been productively engaged in fulfilling its legal commitments and mission on behalf of students. The SEAC members voluntarily meet on a regular basis, study issues of significance, provide a representative advisory function, and advise the Special Education, and Title Services (SETS) team and Kansas State Board of Education (KSBE) on matters of concern regarding special education.

SEAC's 2017 – 2018 accomplishments, under the leadership of SEAC chair, Joan Macy, are wide ranging and include the following:

- Ongoing collaboration between SEAC and the Kansas State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC)
- Provided feedback to KSDE Early Childhood Special Education and Title Services (ECSET) Team on:
 - o The Annual Performance Report submitted to the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP)
 - o The State Personnel Development Grant (SPDG) on the following areas:
 - Support to Early Career Special Education Teachers
 - Implementation of effective Co-teaching practices across districts
 - Expansion of Tertiary Behavior supports within Kansas Multi-Tier System of Supports (MTSS)
 - o Technical assistance provided to districts on the implementation of:
 - The Kansas Integrated Accountability System (KIAS)
 - Significant Disproportionality
 - KSBE Vision and Outcomes
 - o Implementation of the Kansas Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)
 - o Implementation of Kansas Technical Assistance System Network (TASN)
- Provided forum for public comment on disability related issues
- Collaborated with other stakeholders to support Senate Bill 323, which made specific recommendations for language acquisition and language assessment for students who are deaf or hard of hearing.

SEAC serves a valuable role in representing the stakeholders in Kansas regarding special education services. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding SEAC.

Sincerely,



Colleen Riley

Director Early Childhood, Special Education, and Title Services
Secretary of the Kansas Special Education Advisory Council

Introduction

The Kansas Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) held five meetings during the 2017-2018 school year. The January meeting was a two-day meeting and included members of the Kansas State Board of Education (KSBE).

SEAC advises the Kansas State Board of Education in six key areas as required by the regulations of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and Kansas statutes.

Those areas include:

- Advise the State Education Agency (SEA) of unmet needs within the state in the education of children and youth with exceptionalities;
- Comment publicly on any rules and regulations proposed by the state regarding the education of children and youth with exceptionalities;
- Advise the SEA in developing evaluations and reporting on data to the Secretary under Section 618 of the Act;
- Advise the SEA in developing corrective action plans to address findings identified in federal monitoring reports under Part B of the Act;
- Advise the SEA in developing and implementing policies relating to the coordination of services for children and youth with exceptionalities; and
- Advise on the education of eligible students with disabilities who have been convicted as adults and incarcerated in adult prisons.

Kansas Special Education Advisory Council

The major responsibilities of the council are to advise, consult and provide recommendations to the Kansas State Board of Education regarding matters concerning special education services. The SEAC is composed of individuals in, or concerned with, the education of children with exceptionalities. The council performs such duties as specified by IDEA and as outlined in the Kansas SEAC Bylaws.

The primary role of the council is to advise and assist the KSDE to achieve excellence, equity, and lifelong learning opportunities for all students in Kansas. As such, it is committed to representing individuals with diverse and changing educational needs. This responsibility leads the SEAC to support the vision and mission of KSBE, the Division of Learning Services (DLS) and the Special Education, and Title Services team.

Kansas State Board of Education

VISION

Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.

MISSION

To prepare Kansas students for lifelong success through rigorous, quality academic instruction, career training and character development according to each student's gifts and talents.

MOTTO

Kansans CAN!

SEAC GOAL

The Kansas Special Education Advisory Council will advocate for an educational system that achieves excellence, equity, and lifelong learning for all individuals in Kansas.

SEAC BELIEFS

The Kansas Special Education Advisory Council is committed to lifelong learning. SEAC believes that:

- Partnerships increase collaboration for better services.
- Visionary leadership is essential for appropriate services to meet the needs of all students.
- Innovation is essential to the process of lifelong learning.
- All child service systems must be provided in an integrated and collaborative manner.
- Education is an evolving process that requires innovation, continuous growth, and evaluation.
- The needs of individuals in a diverse community must be met.

Council Membership

The 2017-2018 SEAC was composed of twenty members and one non-voting ex-officio member, all of whom are concerned with the education of children and youth with exceptionalities and includes the state director. SEAC members include individuals with disabilities and/or parents of children with exceptionalities. The 2017-2018 membership included:



Special Education Advisory Council FY 2017-2018

Council Member	Appointment Expires	Representation	Email
Amy Dejmaj	6/30/2017 (1 st term)	Other state agency involved in financing or delivery of services to exceptional children	adejmaj@usd405.com
Stacie Clarkson	6/30/2017 (1 st term)	Department of Corrections - Adult	stacie.clarkson@greenbush.org
Dr. Debora Howser	6/30/2018 (2 nd term)	LEA Official	deborah@usd383.org
Vacant	6/30/2018 (2 nd term)	IHE Special Education	
Rebekah Helget *	6/30/2017 (1 st term)	Administrator of Exceptional Programs	rebekahhelget@usd475.org
Tina Gibson	6/30/2018 (1 st term)	General Education Teacher	tgibson@usd345.com
Deb Young *	6/30/2018 (1 st term)	Parent of a child or person with a disability	deb.young@greenbush.org
Sarah Schaffer *	6/30/2018 (1 st term)	Parent of a child or person with a disability	s081s504@ku.edu
Dr. Judy Martin	6/30/2019 (2 nd term)	Homeless Children	martini@usd231.com
Dr. Robb Scott	6/30/2019 (2 nd term)	Vocational, community or business organization concerned with provision of transition services	rbscott2@fhsu.edu
Dr. Maureen Huppe	6/30/2019 (1 st term)	Private Schools	mhuppe@kcnativity.org
Vacant	6/30/2019 (1 st term)	Local Education Official	
Mike Martin *	6/30/2019 (1 st term)	Parent of a child or person with a disability	mmartin@frontenac249.org
Joan Macy * (Chair)	6/30/2020 (2 nd term)	State Official	jmacy@kssdb.org
Kathy Kersenbrock-Ostmeyer *	6/30/2020 (2 nd term)	Department of Corrections - Juvenile	kko@nkesc.org
Dr. Marcy Aycock *	6/30/2020 (2 nd term)	Parent of a child with Giftedness	marcellakaye@yahoo.com
Marvin Miller * (Past Chair)	6/30/2020 (2 nd term)	Parent of a child or person with a disability	mimiller@abilityed.com
Chelle Kemper *	6/30/2020 (1 st term)	LEA Official	ckemper@usd407.org
Laura Thompson *	6/30/2020 (1 st term)	Related Service Provider	laurathompson@usd475.org

Council Member	Appointment Expires	Representation	Email
Kelly McCauley	6/30/2020 (1 st term)	Foster Care Agency	ckmccauleys@gmail.com
Lesli Girard **	Ex-officio	Parent Training and Information Center	lesli@famielstogetherinc.org
Jim McNiece **	Ex-Officio	Kansas State Board of Education	jmcniece@ksde.org
Vacant	6/30/2020 (1 st term)	Charter School Representative	

Secretary to SEAC: Colleen Riley, Director of Early Childhood, Special Education, and Title Services, KSDE

- * These representatives fulfill the majority requirement; persons who are individuals with a disability and/or parent of children with a disability and who may represent another required area.
- ** Non-voting ex-officio member.

COUNCIL LEADERSHIP

The chair for the 2017-2018 year was Joan Macy. She was unanimously elected to fulfill the obligations of the chair at the April 2016 council meeting.

OPERATIONAL STANDARDS

The SEAC's 2017-2018 meeting schedule was as follows:

Meeting Date	Location
July 25, 2017	Wichita Hyatt, Wichita
September 5, 2017	Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) Topeka
November 14, 2017	KSDE, Topeka
January 9-10, 2018	KSDE, Topeka
April 10, 2018	KSDE, Topeka

The SEAC is required to conduct a minimum of four regular meetings per IDEA statute. The 2017-2018 year exceeded this standard by holding five meetings, one of which was a two-day meeting that included meeting with members of the Kansas State Board of Education.

Official minutes of the meetings were kept, reviewed at each following meeting for accuracy, and posted on the KSDE Special Education and Title Services team website at <http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=561>.

A public comment period was offered at each regular SEAC meeting, and written public comment was accepted throughout the year.

COUNCIL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

SEAC members represented the council at the annual National and Kansas Council for Exceptional Children Conference, the Kansas Multi - Tier System of Supports Symposium, The Annual Kansas Summer Leadership Conference for Special Education Administrators, The OSEP Summer Leadership Conference, The Tri-State Law Conference, and the KSDE Annual Conference. Dr. Marvin Miller and Dr. Joan Robbins represented SEAC as members of the statewide task force set up by the 2015 Kansas Legislature to study issues directly related to Emergency Safety Interventions (ESI). Both members provided updates to the SEAC as well as the Kansas State Board of Education regarding the ESI task force. Dr. Marvin Miller supported the annual Kansas CEC Yes, I Can Conference by providing SEAC materials and networking with participants. The SEAC collaborated with other stakeholders to support Senate Bill 323, (later becoming K.S.A. 75-5397e) which made specific recommendations for language acquisition and language assessment for students who are deaf or hard of hearing. Joan Macy served on the Governor's advisory committee to develop a specific action plan for implementation of a statewide language assessment program for children who are deaf/hard of hearing (DHH) ages birth through eight. This program will assess, monitor, and track language development in American Sign Language (ASL) and English of these children to ensure they have language skills commensurate with their hearing peers.

Special Education Advisory Council Summary of Activities by Priority Area 2017-2018

The Kansas Special Education Advisory Council will advise the KSDE SETS team so Kansas has an educational system that achieves excellence, equity, and lifelong learning for students with exceptionalities by:

- **Priority Area 1: Advise the Special Education Administrators (SEA) of unmet needs within the state in the education of children and youth with exceptionalities;**

Area of Focus	Data Sources	Action Completed
1.1 Increase awareness and understanding of provision of services from the public perspective - Senate Bill 323 Language Assessment Bill (K.S. A. 75-5397e) - Trauma Informed Care	- Families Together, Inc. (PTI) - Public Comment - Written Testimony - TASN - KS School for the Deaf	July 25, 2017 September 5, 2017 November 14, 2017 January 9-10, 2018 April 10, 2018
1.2 Promote the role of SEAC functions to the legislature, other advisory councils, committees, parents, and organizations - Address council membership to include student with disabilities - Emergency Safety Interventions Task Force - Add Kansas State Board of Education member as an Ex-Officio member - Kansas School Mental Health Advisory Council - Language Assessment Program Advisory Committee	- IEP Meetings - Public forums - Statewide projects - Website - Conferences - TASN - KDHE - SICC - KPIRC - Families Together, Inc. (PTI) - KS School for the Deaf	July 25, 2017 September 5, 2017 November 14, 2017 January 9-10, 2018 April 10, 2018
1.3 Evaluate the working conditions of special education teachers in Kansas. Study relevant issues including licensure and endorsement and assist with dissemination of related information - Participation in Blue Ribbon Taskforce on Teacher Shortage by Kathy Kersenbrock-Ostmeyer - Unified License for Special Education - Appropriate use of Para Professionals	- SPDG - KSDE, TLA and ECSETS teams - E-Mentoring Project - TASN	July 25, 2017 September 5, 2017 November 14, 2017 January 9-10, 2018 April 10, 2018

- **Priority Area 2: Comment publicly on any rules and regulations proposed by the state regarding the education of children and youth with exceptionalities;**

Area of Focus	Data Sources	Action Completed
2.1 Study and provide comment on proposed federal and state laws and regulations and assist in implementation of changes - Elementary and Secondary Education Act regulations - Language Assessment Program (K.S.A. 75-5397e)	- Personnel Report - KSDE - Testimony - Public Comment - Stakeholder Meetings - Ks School for the Deaf	July 25, 2017 September 5, 2017 November 14, 2017 January 9-10, 2018 April 10, 2018

- **Priority Area 3: Advise the SEA in developing evaluations and reporting on data to the Secretary under Section 618 of the Act;**

Area of Focus	Data Sources	Action Completed
3.1 Provide oversight of the implementation of federal and state special education laws and regulations to ensure Kansas has effective systems in place to monitor compliance and support improved achievement and outcomes for children & youth with exceptionalities	• Data for SPP Indicators • Data and review of due process hearings, mediation and formal complaints • Kansas Integrated Accountability System (KIAS) Data • KAN-DIS • TASN	July 25, 2017 September 5, 2017 November 14, 2017 January 9-10, 2018 April 10, 2018
3.2 Assist in the dissemination of information in the area of early childhood and secondary transition to help ensure Kansas can demonstrate compliance with IDEA 2004 and regulations	• SICC • SEAC Members • TASN	July 25, 2017 September 5, 2017 November 14, 2017 January 9-10, 2018 April 10, 2018
3.3 Analyze the data on the educational progress of students with exceptionalities and make recommendations to enhance their educational program, services, and achievement • Discuss/Analyze threshold for Kansas Significant Disproportionality	• SEAC Council Member reports • APR/SPP Data - o Graduation/drop-out rates - o EC outcomes - o State Assessment Data - o Suspension/Expulsion Data - o APR/SPP Data - o Post-secondary outcomes - o Emergency Safety Intervention (ESI) Data	July 25, 2017 September 5, 2017 November 14, 2017 January 9-10, 2018 April 10, 2018
3.4 As stakeholders, assist in the interpretation of Kansas data in reporting to the public and U. S. Department of Education (OSEP)	• APR and SPP Data	July 25, 2017 September 5, 2017 November 14, 2017 January 9-10, 2018 April 10, 2018

- **Priority Area 4: Advise the SEA in developing corrective action plans to address findings identified in Federal Monitoring reports under Part B of the Act;**

Area of Focus	Data Sources	Action Completed
4.1 As a result of the onsite focused monitoring conducted by OSEP, Kansas had to make changes to the KIAS in the areas of secondary transition and the review of updated data as interpreted by OSEP in Memo 09-02	• KIAS	July 25, 2017 September 5, 2017 November 14, 2017 January 9-10, 2018 April 10, 2018

- **Priority Area 5: Advise the SEA in developing and implementing policies relating to the coordination of services for children and youth with exceptionalities;**

Area of Focus	Data Sources	Action Completed
5.1 Enhance school-family-community partnerships by encouraging and developing coordinated programs and/or services	• Presentation by TASN • Families Together, Inc. (PTI) • KPIRC • Family Voices • Ks School for the Deaf	July 25, 2017 September 5, 2017 November 14, 2017 January 9-10, 2018 April 10, 2018

Area of Focus	Data Sources	Action Completed
5.2 Improve communication & collaboration between SEAC & SICC Councils to enhance services to children & families in Kansas	• SICC • Families Together, Inc. (PTI) • Family Voices	July 25, 2017 September 5, 2017 November 14, 2017 January 9-10, 2018 April 10, 2018
5.3 Promote and enhance the blending of services between special and general education, including federal, state, and local programs (Title I, Special Ed.)	• KSDE • KDHE • TASN • KPIRC • Families Together, Inc. (PTI) • Family Voices	July 25, 2017 September 5, 2017 November 14, 2017 January 9-10, 2018 April 10, 2018
5.4 Enhance Kansas Assessment System • Reducing the State Assessment Footprint • Improvements to Dynamic Learning Maps	• KSDE – Early Childhood, Special Education and Title Services Team • KSDE – Career Standards and Assessment Services Team	July 25, 2017 September 5, 2017 November 14, 2017 January 9-10, 2018 April 10, 2018

- **Priority Area 6: Advise on the education of eligible students with disabilities who have been convicted as adults and incarcerated in adult prisons.**

Area of Focus	Data Sources	Action Completed
6.1 Enhance education of eligible students with disabilities who have been convicted as adults and incarcerated in adult prisons	• SEAC Member Reports • Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) • Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE)	July 25, 2017 September 5, 2017 November 14, 2017 January 9-10, 2018 April 10, 2018

ACRONYMS

ADA:	Americans with Disabilities Act
APR:	Annual Performance Report
CADRE:	Consortium for Appropriate Dispute Resolution In Special Education (OSEP Project)
CEIS:	Coordinated Early Intervening Services
CWDs:	Children with Disabilities
DGB:	Data Governance Board
DHH:	Deaf/Hard of Hearing
DLM:	Dynamic Learning Maps
ECO:	Early Childhood Outcomes Center
ECSETS:	Early Childhood, Special Education and Title Services
ED or USDE:	U.S. Department of Education
EDEN:	Education Data Exchange Network
EDGAR:	Education Department General Administrative Regulations
EPC:	Education Program Consultants
ESEA:	Elementary & Secondary Education Act of 1964
ESI:	Emergency Safety Interventions
ESSA:	Every Student Succeeds Act
FAPE:	Free & Appropriate Public Education
FERPA	Family Educational Rights & Privacy Act
GAO:	Government Accountability Office or U.S. General Accounting Office
ICC:	Interagency Coordinating Council
IDEA:	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
IEE:	Independent Educational Evaluation
IEP:	Individualized Education Program
IHE:	Institution of Higher Education
IPS:	Individual Plan of Study
JJA:	Juvenile Justice Authority
KASEA:	Kansas Association of Special Education Administrators
KCCR:	Kansas College and Career Readiness
KDHE:	Kansas Department of Health and Environment
KEEB:	Kansas Education Employment Board (TASN Project)
KESA	Kansas Education Systems Accreditation
KIAS:	Kansas Integrated Accountability System
KIDS:	Kansas Individual Data on Students
KIRC:	Kansas Instructional Resource Center (TASN Project)
KLFA:	Kansas Learning First Alliance
KLN:	Kansas Learning Network
KPIRC:	Kansas Parent Information Resource Center (TASN Project)
KSD:	Kansas School for the Deaf

ACRONYMS (Continued)

KSBE:	Kansas State Board of Education
KSDE:	Kansas State Department of Education
LEA:	Local Education Agency
LETRS:	Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling
LOD:	Levels of Determination
LRE:	Least Restrictive Environment
MOA:	Memorandum of Agreement
MOE:	Maintenance of Effort
MOU:	Memorandum of Understanding
MTSS:	Multi-Tier System of Supports
NASDSE:	National Association of State Directors of Special Education
NAESPA	National Association of ESEA State Program Administrators
OCR:	Office of Civil Rights
OGC:	Office of General Counsel
OMB:	Office of Management and Budget
OSEP:	U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs
OSERS:	U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education & Rehabilitative Services
OWS:	Outcomes Web System
PBIS:	Positive Behavior Intervention Supports
PII:	Personally Identifiable Information
PTI:	Parent Training Information Center (Families Together)
RDA:	Results Driven Accountability
RFP:	Request for Proposal
SEA:	State Education Agency
SEAC:	Special Education Advisory Council
SICC:	State Interagency Advisory Council
SPDG:	State Personnel Development Grant
SPP:	State Performance Plan
SSIP:	State Systemic Improvement Plan
TASN:	IDEA Title VI-B: Kansas Technical Assistance System Network administered by KSDE
TIP:	Targeted Improvement Plan
TLA:	Teacher Licensure and Accreditation
UGG:	Uniform Grant Guidance

