

**ILLINOIS STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL
ON THE EDUCATION OF
CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES**

Illinois State Board of Education
Board Room
100 North First Street
Springfield, Illinois 62777

Business Meeting
April 26, 2017
9:00 a.m.

I. Procedural Business

Chairman Sharon Slover called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. A quorum was present.

ISAC Members Present

Diane Blair-Sherlock Heath Brosseau Beth Conran Jeannine Cordero via phone Gloria Davis	Keith Dronen Suzanne Lee Ancel Montenelli Jennifer Naddeo	Lauri Phillips via phone Sharon Slover Carrie Snyder Susy Woods
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ISAC Members Absent

Tiffany Cole	Kimberly McClelland	Serena Preston
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ISBE Staff Present

Mark Schudel	Mary Long	Melanie Fleenor
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Guests Present

Introductions

Chairman Slover welcomed ISAC members and staff and asked that they introduce themselves.

Adoption of Agenda

Motion #1 – **Susy Woods** moved to “adopt the agenda as is.” **Diane Blair Sherlock** seconded the motion. **The motion carried.**

Approval of Business Meeting Minutes from February 9, 2017.

Motion #2 – **Diane Blair Sherlock** moved to that “ISAC approve the minutes of February 9, 2017 with the correction of Keith Dronen being present.” **Susy Woods** seconded the motion. **The motion carried.**

II. Public Participation

None.

III. Illinois State Board of Education Update

Update on Various Topics – Mark Schudel, Division Administrator, Special Education Services Division

State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report (SPP/APR) – Indicator 17, State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP), was submitted to OSEP on April 3, meeting OSEP timelines. The clarification period is currently open to address any questions OSEP has regarding the submission.

The **IDEA Part B Annual State Application** was posted on the agency website on March 1st for the required 60 days, and we are currently in the public comment period of March 31th through May 1st. The application is due to the federal government on May 12th, 2017. The application provides general assurances to OSEP that the state will be implementing the provisions of state and federal regulations for Part B of IDEA 2004. The interactive spread sheet identifies amounts for State-level Administration and Targeted Initiatives. The spreadsheet is based upon the current year (FFY16) allocation since OSEP has yet to give the anticipated award amounts for FFY17. .

IDEA Part B Grants

The federal government has not approved a budget, so ISBE (Funding and Disbursements) is not able to provide preliminary FY18 allocation information. That is one factor that impacts the release date of the IDEA grant applications.

ISBE received the following communication from OSEP earlier this month:

- Several of you have contacted OSEP regarding the status of the FFY 17 Interactive Spreadsheet. Unfortunately, this document is not yet available. As we shared during our special TA Call on January 30, 2017, the federal government is operating under a Continuing Resolution that expires at the end of April. The Department is still

waiting for Congress to make an appropriation for the federal government for FFY 17. When that happens, the Department's Budget Services staff will calculate the allocations for the Part B 611 and 619 programs and will generate the FFY 17 Interactive Spreadsheet. Then, OSEP will send the document to states via email. At this time, we do not have a timetable from Budget Services as to when they think Congress may make an appropriation for our agency for FFY 17. As soon as we receive additional information, we will let you know.

- When the Division of Funding and Disbursements is able to release the FY18 IDEA grants, the grant team will send a listserv announcement.

Directors Listserv Announcements

The grant team asks that directors share the listserv announcements and encourage staff to read those emails. The listserv announcements are the quickest and easiest method for mass dissemination of grant information and updates.

LRE Data Cohort VII

- 9 districts are participating in Cohort VII – 7 North and 2 South-Central
- Second Seminar was held on February 28th for Northern districts and March 7th for South-Central districts
- District will continue to implement their improvement strategies and share progress at the Third Seminar in December.

Non-Public 14-7.02 programs

- New applications from programs are being reviewed as well as updates that have been received from existing programs
- A review of the 401 Rules was completed and rules presented to the Board. Rules are currently in the comment period.

Timely and Meaningful Consultation

As part of its Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) general supervision responsibility, the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) conducts annual audits of local school districts to ensure that districts provide notice to, and meet with, home-school and nonpublic school for timely and meaningful consultation (TMC) regarding services for eligible nonpublic students with disabilities. Timely and meaningful consultations must be completed by May 31, 2017.

- This applies to all districts, whether or not they have any known eligible private or home schooled students.
- Please keep the TMC documents on file at the local level, unless the district is identified as part of the TMC audit cycle. The TMC audit letters should be mailed within the next two weeks.

- The revised Fiscal Policies and Procedures handbook is available online. The link is provided in Superintendent Smith's weekly email message.
https://www.isbe.net/Documents/fiscal_procedure_handbk.pdf

LEA Profiles

Special Education Services is working in conjunction with data and assessment as well as information technology to address the delay in producing the FY15 LEA profiles and ensure that FY16 profiles are published on or before June 1, 2017. In addition, we are exploring the ability to publish the LEA Profiles as a part of the school report card.

Save the date – Directors' Conference 2017 will be held here in Springfield, on July 19, 20 & 21, 2017. The overarching themes of the conference this year will be integrated and coordinated services and the mutually supportive nature of IDEA and the Every Student Succeeds Act to meet the needs of all students, including students with disabilities.

Committee Reports

Committee reports can be found at the end of the minutes if one was held.

Executive – Sharon Slover, Chair – No meeting was held so there is no report at this time.

Access – Diane Blair Sherlock, Chair – No meeting was held so there is no report at this time.

Bilingual – Jennifer Naddeo and Ancel Montenelli, Co-Chairs – see report at the end of these minutes.

Comprehensive State Plan – Susy Woods, Chair – No meeting was held so there is no report at this time.

Family Communications – Beth Conran, Chair – see report at the end of these minutes.

Finance – Heath Brosseau, Chair – No meeting was held so there is no report at this time.

General Supervision/Due Process – Beth Conran, Chair – see report at the end of these minutes.

Legislation – Susy Woods, Chair – see report at the end of these minutes.

Personnel Development – Suzanne Lee, Chair – No meeting was held so there is no report at this time.

Rules and Regulations – Suzanne Lee, Chair – No meeting was held so there is no report at this time.

Transition – Diane Blair Sherlock, Chair – Meeting was scheduled but no members participated, meeting was cancelled.

IV. Old Business

Finance Update - there is nothing to share at this point.

V. New Business

2015-2016 Annual Report Needs Drafted – Jennifer Naddeo is in the process of drafting the Annual report and will try to have the draft ready for our May 2nd Executive Committee meeting.

2017-2018 Draft Meeting Calendar – Motion was made.

Form Election Committee for Chair and Co-Chair -

Move from two day meeting in June to a one day meeting.

Motion #3 – Susy Woods moved that “ISACs June meeting scheduled for June 7-8, 2017 be held only June 7, 2017 beginning at 9 a.m. and ending when we are finished.” **Jennifer Naddeo seconded** the motion. One opposed. **The motion carried.**

Motion #4 – Beth Conran moved that “ISAC comment on the changes to the 401 Rules. We applaud the ISBE efforts to clean up and further clarify the 401 Rules. We ask that the ISBE consider the proposed changes relative to approval for Out of State Providers. We are concerned that there will be unintended consequences that reduce service options to families and children placed in facilities located in states that do not have a state approval mechanism. We ask that the ISBE retain current language relative to approval process of out of state facilities.” **Keith Dronen seconded** the motion. **The motion carried.**

Motion #5 – Susy Woods moved that “ISAC accept the calendar as it is with the legislative breakfast being April 18, 2018.” **Jennifer Naddeo seconded** the motion. **The motion carried.**

Motion #6 – Susy Woods moved that “ISAC adjourn the meeting.” **Jennifer Naddeo seconded** the motion. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Bilingual Subcommittee
April 12, 2017 @ 11:00 am
4th Floor Board Room

In attendance: Ancel Montenelli, Carrie Snyder, Jennifer Naddeo

Notes:

1. ACCESS accommodations for students who are DHH
 - a. We reviewed information previously received from ISBE regarding permissible accommodations for students who are deaf/ hard of hearing, or are children of deaf adults and therefore use ASL as a first language. We will ask for more information about the appropriate identification of ASL communicators as EL, and how to support students taking ACCESS who are deaf.
2. Bilingual special education subcommittee
 - a. The committee needs to determine the meeting schedule of the committee to participate on behalf of ISAC.

General Supervision/Due Process
April 25, 2017 @ 9:30 a.m. via phone

Present: Beth Conran

Update: Andy Eulass

1. Status normal only did get a crazy surge at the end of March slowed down and under control.
2. As of January lost Beatrice Diaz Pollack down to 8
3. Will need to hire more but do not have info on when this will happen. Minding dollars.
4. Confident they will get this done by end of May. Hoping things will settle and get the hiring done over the summer.
5. Intent to hire at least 4-6 more Hearing officers with 3-4 reserves.
6. Start of the year with a core of 12- puts them in a better place with case loads
7. Caseloads between 8 & 10. It is a high number but not unmanageable. This comes at the mid to high teens.
8. Slowing of requests – number of cases closed out through settlement & a few hearings over the last few months.
9. Folks are doing well in May 10th in the afternoon Evaluations will be done then and they all look really solid. They don't anticipate any issues on the 10th. Evaluator will furnish the report.
10. Everyone passed the evaluation process in a few months. Reappoint everyone. Recommendations will be done to ISAC.

**Family Communications Committee
April 25, 2017 @ 9:00 a.m. via phone**

Present: Beth Conran (Chair) and Lauri Philips

Discussion Newsletter Contents:

1. Equip for equality article
2. Letter from chair
3. Self Determination
4. ESSA second draft
5. Funding commission

Check with Twitter, Facebook and Pinterest pages.

**ISAC Legislative Subcommittee:
April 26, 2017 @ 11:30 a.m.
4th Floor Board Room**

Present: Susy Woods (Chair), Heath Brosseau, Keith Dronen, Carrie Snyder

1. The legislative breakfast was very successful. We had more parents than ever before as well as some special ed teachers. One had brought her entire class.
2. Issues to be aware of:
 - a) ACA: it is okay now but this could be changed in a minute. Some of the issues that are big in this are: rural hospitals, pre-existing conditions, kids under 26 could no longer be on parent's insurance, Medicare
 - b) Block grants for Medicaid and how it will impact schools who get Medicaid for related services for Medicaid recipients.
 - c) Employment for people with disabilities both federal and state. There is a rule change that mandates all federal agencies to hire more people with disabilities and 12 disabilities have been targeted.
 - d) Illinois continues to work on Employment First and one of the main recommendations under transition is revival of the Inter-Agency Council which is mandated.
 - e) IDEA will not be touched this year.
3. State Bills to be aware of:
 - a) SB 1557 (Lightford) you can no longer expel kids in early childhood (on hold in education)
 - b) HB 826 (Lilly) each district would decide what is an adequate number of social workers and able to hire that number (sent back to Rules)
 - c) HB 3298 (Scherer) for districts under 500,000 inhabitants 85% of all school funding must be used for classroom and teacher needs (2nd reading)
 - d) There is a bill that would raise the standards for Educational Interpreters which will make them even harder to get.
 - e) And we continue to follow the budget and funding bills for education.