

TO: Roger D. Breed, Ed.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Gary M. Sherman/Ann Bird, Office of Special Education

SUBJECT: Appointments to Special Education Advisory Council

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

Appoint the following individuals to fill vacancies on the Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC):

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representation</u>
Priscila Beckmann	Teacher
Diane Bruha	School Administrator
Tony Kleidosty	Juvenile Corrections Programs
Brenda McNiff	Parent/Special Education Administrator
Ryan O'Grady	Special Education Administrator
Denise Powell	Parent
Joanne Roberts	Parent
Mary Gordon	State Agency (Reappointment)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The State Board approves all SEAC members. SEAC vacancies were created by the normal expiration of terms or resignations of seven individuals at the conclusion of the 2010-11 term. Additionally, there is one reappointment of a SEAC member who was originally appointed to fill the unexpired term of another individual. One additional SEAC member will be selected from State Board District 7 in an effort to maintain a balanced representation in the state. In order to meet the requirements of the federal special education law, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), it is necessary to fill the vacancies. Notice of SEAC vacancies was provided to the State Board at the June, 2011 meeting. The State Board approved 2010-11 SEAC membership at the August 2010 meeting. The completed applications for the recommended members are on file in the Office of Special Education, available upon request; not included due to IDEA confidentiality requirements.

Estimated Cost

NA

Supporting Documentation Included: Nebraska Special Education Advisory Council Membership Requirements, Nebraska Special Education Advisory Council 2010-2011 Roster

For additional information on this item: Call Gary Sherman (402) 471-2471 or e-mail gary.sherman@nebraska.gov or Ann Bird (402) 399-0289 or e-mail abird10@cox.net.

**NEBRASKA SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL
MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS**

- I. **Regulatory Authority for Committee** (Excerpts from the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act – IDEA)
Sec. 1412(21)(A) State Advisory Panel
(A) *The State has established and maintains an advisory panel for the purpose of providing policy guidance with respect to special education and related services for children with disabilities in the State.*
- II. **Committee Duties** (Excerpts from the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act – IDEA)
Sec. 1412(21)(D)
(D) *The state advisory panel shall –*
- (i) *Advise the state education agency of unmet needs within the state in the education of children with disabilities;*
 - (ii) *comment publicly on the state plan and rules or regulations proposed by the state regarding the education of children with disabilities;*
 - (iii) *advise the State educational agency in developing evaluations and reporting on data to the Secretary under section 618;*
 - (iv) *advise the State educational agency in developing corrective action plans to address findings identified in Federal monitoring reports under this part; and*
 - (v) *advise the State educational agency in developing and implementing policies relating to the coordination of services for children with disabilities.*
- III. **Categories of Required Representation** (Excerpts from the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act – IDEA)
Sec. 1412(21)(B)
(B) *Membership – Such advisory panel shall consist of members appointed by the Governor, or any other official authorized under State law to make such appointments, be representative of the State population, and be composed of individuals involved in, or concerned with, the education of children with disabilities, including--*
- (i) *parents of children with disabilities (ages birth through 26); or individuals with disabilities;*
 - (ii) *teachers;*
 - (iii) *representatives of institutions of higher education that prepare special education and related services personnel;*
 - (iv) *State and local educational officials, including officials who carry out activities under Homeless Assistance Act;;*
 - (v) *administrators of programs for children with disabilities;*
 - (vi) *representatives of other State agencies involved in the financing or delivery of related services to children with disabilities;*
 - (vii) *representatives of private schools and public charter schools;*
 - (viii) *not less than one representative of a vocational, community, or business organization concerned with the provision of transition services to children with disabilities;*
 - (ix) *a representative from the State child welfare agency responsible for foster care; and*
 - (x) *representatives from the State juvenile and adult corrections agencies.*

Special Rule – a majority of the members of the panel shall be individuals with disabilities or parents of children with disabilities (ages birth through 26).

**NEBRASKA SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL
2011-2012**

Name	Representation	Association/Constituency/City	Term Expires	St. Bd. Dist.
Priscella Beckmann #	(ii)	Fremont Public Schools	2013	3
Margaret Bitz	(ix)	NDHHS	2012	1
Diane Bruha #	(v)	Crete Public Schools	2013	5
John Bright	(iv)	Omaha Public Schools	2012	4
Bethany Brunsman	(i), (ii)	Lincoln	2013	1
Janet Busse	(i)	St. Paul	2012	6
Jane Byers	(iv), (v)	Papillion-LaVista Schools	2014	2
◆ Glenda Davis	(i), (iv)	Nebraska PTI, Omaha	2013	8
Millie Demuth	(i)	Lincoln	2014	1
Cindy Ellis	(i, iii, vi))	Elkhorn, UNMC	2012	4
Bill Goodwin	(vii)	Madonna School, Omaha	2014	2
Mary Gordon *	(vi)	Develop. Dis.--DHHS, Lincoln	2015	1
Judy Hall	(iii)	Hastings College	2012	5
Sue Kemp	(i,iii)	University of Nebraska-Lincoln	2014	1
Brenda Kimes	(i)	Norfolk	2011	3
Tony Kleidosty #	(x)	Kearney	2012	6
Kris McMullen	(ii)	CNSSP, Grand Island	2014	6
Brenda McNiff #	(i), (v)	Beatrice Public Schools	2015	5
Norma Mercer	(i)	Beatrice	2014	5
Maggie Mintken	(viii)	Transition Services	2013	6
Ryan O'Grady #	(v)	Grand Island	2015	6
Denise Powell #	(i)	Firth	2015	1
◆ Kelly Randels	(i, ii)	Millard	2014	8
Joanne Roberts #	(i)	Norfolk	2015	3
Julie Stahla	(i)	Grand Island	2012	6
Mike Steinwart	(i)	Cozad	2013	7
◆ □ Karen Thode	(i)	Omaha	2012	4

◆ SEAC Executive Committee
New Appointment

□ SEAC Chair
* Reappointment

Nebraska Department of Education

Ann Bird abird10@cox.net	402-399-0289 Home 402-659-1133 Cell	16235 California St Omaha, NE 68118	SEAC Facilitator
Pam Kasl pamkasl@aol.com	402-423-4138 Home 402-471-2471 Work 402-423-4138 Fax	NDE P.O. Box 94987 Lincoln, NE 68509-4987	NDE/SEAC Recorder