

TO: Scott Swisher, Ed.D.
Deputy Commissioner of Education

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

SUBJECT: Appointments to Special Education Advisory Council

DATE: August 14, 2013

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

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

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Representation</u> |
|---------------------|--|
| Frank Adams | Teacher/Higher Education |
| Jody Hitesman | Transition Services |
| Emily Kluver | Foster Care at State Level |
| Tim O'Neill | Parent/Individual with Disability |
| Kasey Pestel | NE Youth Leadership Council |
| Carey Winkler | Parent |
| Marie Wohlers | Parent |
| Diane Bruha | School Administrator (Reappointment) |
| Bridget Cannon-Hale | Parent/Parent Training (Reappointment) |

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The State Board approves all SEAC members. SEAC vacancies were created by the normal expiration of terms of five individuals and the removal of one individual at the conclusion of the 2012-13 term. Additionally, there are two reappointments of SEAC members who were originally appointed to fill the unexpired terms of other individuals. 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 previously provided to the State Board. The State Board approved 2012-13 SEAC membership at the August 2012 meeting. The completed applications for the recommended members are on file in the Special Education Office, 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 Roster for 2013-14

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 2013-2014

| Name | Phone Number | Address | Representation (see key on back) | Term Expires | St. Bd. Dist. |
|--|---|--|-------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| Frank Adams fradams1@wsc.edu | 402-375-7379(W) 402-369-0834 (H) 402-375-7414 (F) | 1013 Douglas St. Wayne, NE 68787 | (iii) | 2017 | 3 |
| John Bright john.bright@ops.org | 402-557-2476 (W) 402-680-3486 (H) 402-557-2479 (F) | Omaha Public Schools 3215 Cuming St. Omaha, NE 68131-2024 | (iv) | 2016 | 4 |
| Diane Bruha diane@creteschools.org | 402-826-5822 (W) 402-826-4417 (H) 402-826-2135 (F) | 650 Goldenrod Lane Crete, NE 68333 | (v) | 2017 | 5 |
| Jane Byers jbyers@paplv.org | 402-537-6233 (W) 402-289-1135 (H) 402-537-6216 (F) | 22630 Southshore Dr. Waterloo, NE 68069 | (iv), (v) | 2014 | 2 |
| Bridget Cannon-Hale bcannon-hale@pti-Nebraska.org | 402-346-0525 (W) 800-284-8520 (W) 402-934-1479 (F) | 6805 Grover Omaha, NE 68106 | (i), (vi) | 2017 | 8 |
| Kelly Coleman kbrandels@mpsomaha.org | 402-715-6200 (W) 402-968-3608 (C) 402-715-6220 (F) | 8121 South 105 th Street LaVista, NE 68128 | (i), (ii) | 2014 | 8 |
| Millie Demuth millie@nsecu.org | 402-471-2561 (W) 402-489-4497 (H) 402-471-2869 (F) | 8310 Vine St. Lincoln, NE 68505 | (i) | 2014 | 1 |
| Cindy Ellis cellis@unmc.edu | 402-559-4985 (W) 402-981-7046 (C) 402-559-2791 (F) | UNMC 985380 N.M.C. Omaha, NE 68198-5380 | (i), (iii), (vi) | 2016 | 4 |
| Mary Gordon mary.gordon@nebraska.gov | 402-471-0143 (W) 402-471-0183 (F) 402-217-8936 (C) | DHHS PO Box 95026 Lincoln, NE 68509-5026 | (vi) | 2015 | 1 |
| Judy Hall jhall@hastings.edu | 402-461-7472 (W) 402-462-9388 (H) 402-520-0259 (C) | 727 North California Ave. Hastings, NE 68901 | (iii) | 2016 | 5 |
| Debbie Healey d7healey@cox.net | 402-880-4879 (C) | 8123 S. 104 th St. LaVista, NE 68128 | (i) | 2016 | 2 |
| Jody Hitesman jhitesman@esu9.org | 402-463-5611 (W) 402-469-7155 (H) 402-463-9555 | 3035 Parklane Dr. Hastings, NE 68901 | (viii) | 2017 | 6 |
| Mary Jorgensen maryjorgensen@fnni.com | 402-602-8369(W) 402-332-2815 (H) 402-871-9774 (C) | 18334 Hwy. 370 Omaha, NE 68136 | (i) | 2014 | 2 |
| Sue Kemp skemp2@unl.edu | 402-472-0084 (W) 402-420-5868 (H) 402-450-1493 (C) | 1721 Saint Andrews Place Lincoln, NE 68512 | (iii) | 2014 | 1 |
| Emily Kluver emily.kluver@nebraska.gov | 917-627-8805 (H) 402-471-8424 (W) | 301 Centennial Mall So. Lincoln, NE 68508 | (ix) | 2017 | 1 |
| Steve Larsen slarsen@scottsbuffcounty.org | 308-633-1847 (W) 308-631-7789 (C) 308-633-1850 (F) | 140042 Pieper Lane Mitchell, NE 69357 | (x) | 2016 | 7 |
| Kris McMullen kmcmullen@gips.org | 308-385-5900 (W) 308-390-2606 (C) | 2119 North Park Avenue Grand Island, NE 68803 | (ii) | 2014 | 6 |
| Brenda McNiff bmcniffcent@yahoo.com | 402-223-5277 (W) 402-223-3511 (H) (402-223-5279 (F) | 900 West Court St. Beatrice, NE 68310 | (i) (v) | 2015 | 5 |
| Norma Mercer normam1956@yahoo.com | 402-520-1787 (H) | 611 North 5 th Street Beatrice, NE 68310 | (i) | 2014 | 5 |
| Ryan O'Grady rogrady@gips.org | 308-385-5900 (W) 402-980-3803 (C) 308-385-5797 (F) | 3006 Laramie Dr. Grand Island, NE 68803 | (v) | 2015 | 6 |
| Tim O'Neill topimages@msn.com | 308- 520-6512(H) | 2102 West 18 th St. North Platte, NE 69101 | (i) | 2017 | 7 |
| Kasey Pestel kapest01@wsc.edu | 402-640-8884 (C) 402-529-6817 (H) | 337 N Road Wisner, NE 68791 | (i) | 2014 | 3 |
| JoAnne Roberts joroberts@npsne.org | 402-644-2544 (W) 402-640-9238 (H) 402-644-2545 (F) | 1702 East Berry Hill Norfolk, NE 68701 | (i), (v) | 2015 | 3 |
| Andy Simon asimo@prep.creighton.edu | 402-548-6219 (W) 402-559-3212 (H) 402-343-1889 (F) | 7415 Seward St. Omaha, NE 68114 | (i), (vii) | 2016 | 4 |
| Fr. Lawrence Stoley fr.lawrence-stoley@cdolinc.net | 402-488-2040 (W) 402-450-4552 (H) 402-488-6525 (F) | St. Gregory the Great Sem. 800 Fletcher Rd. Seward, NE 68434 | (vii) | 2016 | 5 |
| Carey Winkler cwinkler@les.com | 402-310-3566 (C) 402-435-3556 (H) | 407 W. Carrine Dr. Lincoln, NE 68521 | (i) | 2017 | 1 |
| Marie Wohlers mmwohlers@gmail.com | 308-430-2961 (W) 308-665-1104 (H) 308-665-9922 (F) | 14051 Hwy 2/71 Crawford, NE 69339 | (i) | 2015 | 7 |

Nebraska Department of Education

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|---|--|--|-------------------|
| Ann Bird abird10@cox.net | 402-399-0289 (H) 402-659-1133 (C) 402-934-7437 (F) | 16235 California Street Omaha, NE 68118 | SEAC Facilitator |
| Pam Kasl pamkasl@aol.com | 402-423-4138 (H) 402-471-2471 (W) 402-423-4138 (F) | NDE, SPED Office P.O. Box 94987 Lincoln, NE 68509-4987 | NDE/SEAC Recorder |