
**NEBRASKA SPECIAL EDUCATION
ADVISORY COUNCIL**

SEAC

Annual Report

2015-16



Nebraska Department of Education
301 Centennial Mall South
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987



Nebraska Department of Education

Matthew Blomstedt, PhD
Commissioner of Education

Gary M. Sherman
Special Education Administrator

Ann C. Bird
SEAC Facilitator

Karen Hoffman
SEAC Recorder

A Note from the SEAC Chair



The opportunity to serve as a member of the Nebraska Special Education Advisory Council is sometimes daunting, sometimes illuminating and always informative. SEAC has been given the responsibility to serve as Nebraska's primary advisory body to the Nebraska Department of Education and, ultimately, to the Nebraska State Board of Education on all issues relating to the education of children with disabilities in our state. Parents, teachers, school administrators, higher education professionals and representatives of several state agencies met throughout the year to learn of the policies and cutting edge practices that provide the foundation to assure that all children with disabilities will receive the free, appropriate education promised by both state and federal regulations. At the same time, SEAC provided input and guidance to the Nebraska Department of Education, advising on the issues that support our State Performance Plans and Annual Performance Reports.

The staff of the NDE Special Education Office, lead by Gary Sherman, is key to the information brought to SEAC. The retirement of Beth Wierda, NDE Assistant Administrator of Special Education, left SEAC without the familiar wealth of information, explanations of complex material, always provided professionally with a touch of humor, and encouragement to carry out our roles. Council members grew in their depth of knowledge, and developed confidence to carry out their advisory roles. They take their responsibility seriously and came prepared and ready to work to accomplish the workscope of each agenda.

Much was accomplished during the 2015-16 SEAC year. I remain confident that Nebraska's children with disabilities will continue to receive quality educational services regardless of where they live in our state. The members of the Special Education Advisory Council will assure that.

Warm regards,

Cindy Ellis

Dr. Cindy Ellis
SEAC Chair 2015-16

What Is the Nebraska Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC)?

The Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) is an advisory panel established to provide policy guidance with respect to special education and related services for children with disabilities. SEAC members become knowledgeable about research-based educational practices and review Nebraska Department of Education, Office of Special Education activities designed to improve outcomes for children with disabilities. The Council reviews and approves Nebraska's State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report.

SEAC Members are selected for a term of four years, and seek information from the perspectives of their constituency groups and share information with these same constituency groups. Members include parents and professionals from all areas of the state. SEAC serves in an advisory capacity to the NDE Office of Special Education, the Commissioner of Education, and to the Nebraska State Board of Education.

The responsibility of each Council member is to advise, (i.e. inform, counsel, recommend, suggest or guide) the Department of Education, not to advocate for individual issues. Recommendations are made by SEAC for the consideration and possible action by the NDE Special Education Office and the State Board.



Retiring SEAC members: *Front*, Steve Larsen, Fr. Lawrence Stoley, John Bright
Back, Judy Hall, Dr. Cindy Ellis, *SEAC Chair*, and Debbie Healey

Regulatory Authority

By the authority of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004, each state is required to have a state advisory panel that provides policy guidance in the area of serving children with disabilities. The IDEA regulations specify the duties and make-up of each state advisory panel. In Nebraska, this panel is called the ***Nebraska Special Education Advisory Council***.

Excerpts from the Federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004 IDEA

I. Regulatory Authority for Committee

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

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 for issuance 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.

2015-16 SEAC MEMBERSHIP

NAME	CITY	REPRESENTATION	TERM	DIST.
Frank Adams fradams1@wsc.edu	Wayne, NE	(iii)*	2017	3
Kasey Alexander kpest01@wsc.edu	Wisner, NE	(i), (ii)	2019	3
John Bright john.bright@ops.org	Omaha, NE	(iv)	2016	4
Diane Bruha diane@creteschools.org	Crete, NE	(v)	2017	5
Millie Demuth millie@nsecu.org	Lincoln, NE	(i)	2014	1
☐Cindy Ellis cellis@unmc.edu	Omaha, NE	(i), (iii), (vi)	2016	4
Barb Gentrup Barb.gentrup@qibbonpublic.org	Ravenna, NE	(i), (ii)	2018	6
Queen Greene qgreene@cox.net	Omaha, NE	(i)	2016	4
Judy Hall jhall@hastings.edu	Hastings, NE	(iii)	2016	5
Debbie Healey d7healey@cox.net	LaVista, NE	(i)	2016	2
Jody Hitesman jhitesman@esu9.org	Juniata, NE	(viii)	2017	6
Terry Houlton thoulton@mpsomaha.org	Omaha, NE	(v)	2018	2
Samantha Jacobson sammy.201213@gmail.com	Norfolk, NE	(i)	2016	3
Kami Jessop Jessop.kami@westside66.net	Omaha, NE	(v)	2015	1
◆Cate Jones-Hazledine drcate@westernnebraskabehavioralhealth.com	Rushville, NE	(i), (iv)	2018	7
Mary Jorgensen maryjorgensen@fnni.com	Omaha, NE	(i)	2014	2
Seamus Kelly seamus.3668@gmail.com	Omaha, NE	(1)	2019	8
Renee Kiernan Rkiernan123@gmail.com	Papillion, NE	(i)	2018	2
Emily Kluver emily.kluver@nebraska.gov	Lincoln, NE	(ix)	2017	1
◆Kristen Larsen kristen.larsen@nebraska.gov	Lincoln, NE	(vi)	2015	1
Steve Larsen slarsen@scottsbuffcounty.org	Mitchell, NE	(x)	2016	7
Graciela Sharif gsharif@pti-nebraska.org	Omaha, NE	(i), (vi)	2017	8
Fr. Lawrence Stoley fr.lawrence-stoley@cdolinc.net	Seward, NE	(vii)	2016	5
◆Carey Winkler cwinkler@les.com	Lincoln, NE	(i)	2017	1
Marie Wohlers mmwohlers@gmail.com	Crawford, NE	(i)	2015	7

☐SEAC Chair ◆SEAC Executive Committee (*See Membership requirements (categories) on next page)

SEAC Membership Requirements

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 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; and
- (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.

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

**Excerpt from Nebraska Special Education Advisory Council Operating Procedures
Article II, Sec. B**

The members shall be selected so as to represent all eight of the State Board of Education election districts. The Council voting membership shall not be fewer than 15 members.

SEAC PRIORITIES* **2015-16 through 2017-18**

For the purpose of providing policy guidance to the Nebraska Department of Education with respect to special education and related services for children with disabilities, the following priorities were established for 2015-16 through 2017-18:

- ❖ To participate in the development, review and revision of the Targeted Improvement Plan (TIP) Process implemented at the local level to improve results for students with disabilities in the following areas:
 - **Impact Area 1:** Improving Academic Achievement, Functional Outcomes and Child Outcomes in Natural and Inclusive Environments
 - **Impact Area 2:** Improving Communication and Relationships Among Families, Schools, Communities and Agencies
 - **Impact Area 3:** Improving Transitions from the Early Development Network to Preschool and School to Adult Living

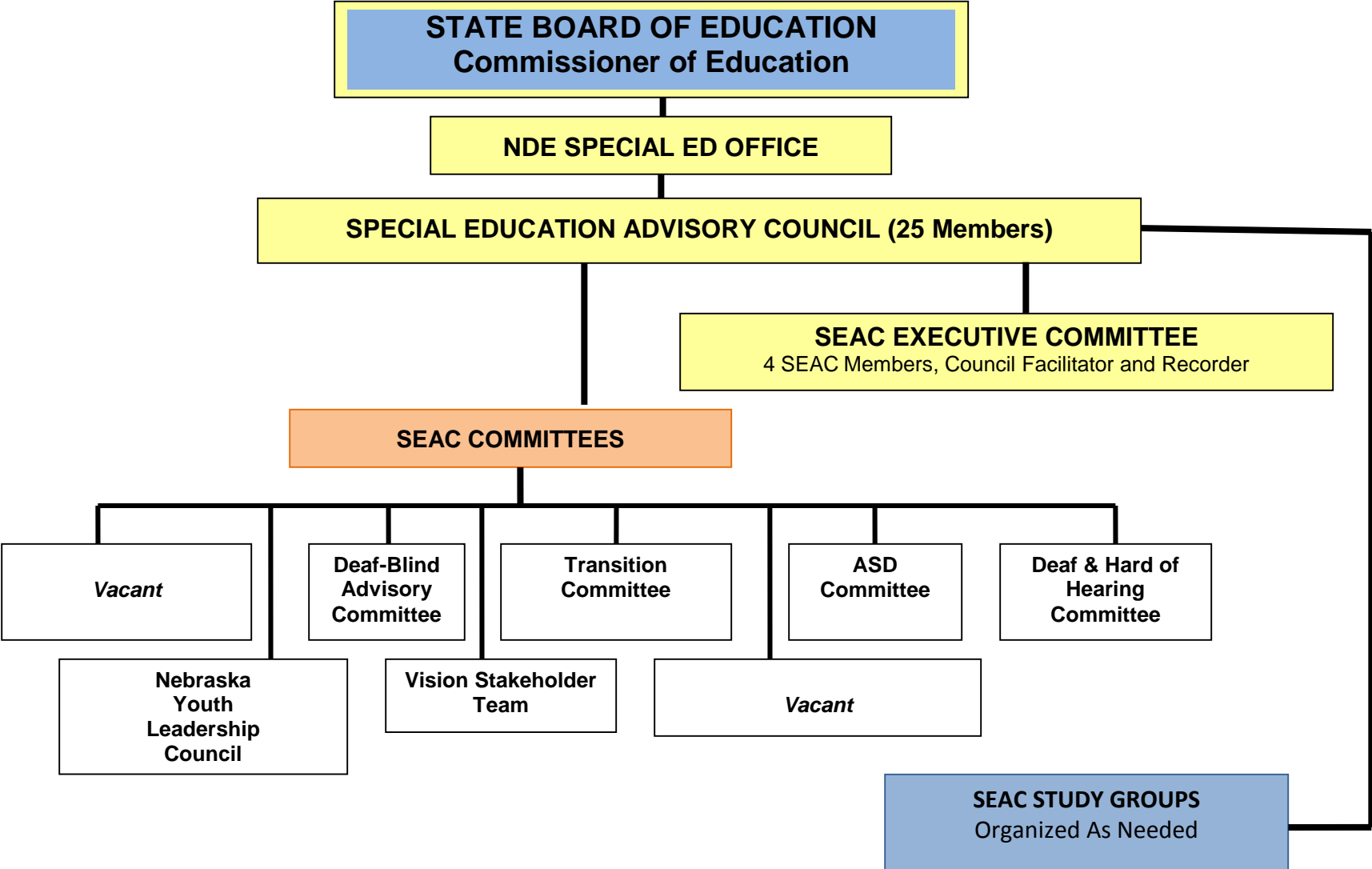
- ❖ To review the effectiveness of the current State Performance Plan (SPP) through the analysis of data in the Annual Performance Report (APR) to determine that Nebraska is demonstrating continuous improvement in the compliance and results indicators.

- ❖ To review and advise the Nebraska Department of Education regarding the development and implementation of the State Systemic Improvement Plan.

- ❖ To monitor state and federal legislation, including the Reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to assure the linkage between ESEA and IDEA.

**Approved by SEAC April 16, 2015*

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL STRUCTURE



Reviewing the Work of SEAC 2015-16

The Special Education Advisory Council met for four regularly scheduled meetings throughout the year, with a new member orientation meeting conducted prior to the first meeting of the year. The Council met on: September 17, 2015, November 19, 2015, January 28, 2016 and April 21, 2016. All meetings were held in Lincoln, NE.

The 2015-16 SEAC year began on September 16th, with an Orientation training session for the new members joining the Council. New Council members reviewed the SEAC Priorities for 2015-18 and received an overview of Nebraska's State Performance Plan and the Annual Performance Report.

Throughout the year, SEAC reviewed prior to, or at each meeting, the progress of the following SEAC Committees and their initiatives and activities:

- Deaf/Blind Committee
- Autism Spectrum Disorders Committee
- Deaf and Hard of Hearing Committee
- Nebraska Youth Leadership Council
- Transition Advisory Committee
- Vision Stakeholder Team

As part of the materials and agenda for all SEAC meetings, information was provided regarding the following:

- Due process case reports and Nebraska legislation
- Annual Performance Report updates
- State Performance Plan updates
- School district determinations and public reporting status
- ILCD (Monitoring) Procedures

The ***SEAC Priorities for 2015-16 through 2017-18***, included in this Annual Report, shaped the foundation for the construction of each SEAC Meeting Agenda. All SEAC business related to one or more of these priorities, with regular input from the four Special Education Office Leadership Teams. Agendas for all SEAC meetings are included herein.

SEAC AGENDA

September 17, 2015

Cornhusker Marriott Hotel – Yankee Hill 3

Lincoln, NE

8:00	Registration	
8:30	Welcome	Gary Sherman, NDE
	Introductions	Dr. Cindy Ellis, Chair
	<i>“Getting to Know You”</i>	
9:00	Council Business	Dr. Cindy Ellis
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Open Meetings Law Announcement• Approval of April 16, 2015 Minutes*• Approval of September 17, 2015 Agenda*• Notice of Conferences/Meetings• 2015-16 Proposed SEAC Meeting Dates*<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ November 11, 2015○ January 21, 2016○ April 21, 2016	Annie Bird
9:30	New Executive Committee Member	Dr. Cindy Ellis
	<i>“Class” of 2019 Candidates Speak</i>	
9:45	SEAC Priorities 2015-2018	Dr. Cindy Ellis
10:00	SEAC Committee Report:	Elizabeth Paesl
	<i>Nebraska Youth Leadership Council</i>	
10:30	BREAK	
10:45	SEAC and NDE Special Education Office	Gary Sherman
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Special Education Office Leadership• Regional Staff Assignments	
11:05	NDE Rule 51 Revision	Teresa Coonts
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Educational Interpreter Standards	
11:25	The Foreign Language of SEAC	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Acronyms to Speak the Language	
11:45	Working Lunch**	Annie Bird
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monthly <i>Directors’ Conference Calls</i>• SAP Webinars	
12:45	Public Comments	
1:00	NDE Special Education Office	
	Leadership Team Reports	Beth Wierda
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data <i>State Part B and C Determinations</i> <i>Overview of Grads 360 Site</i>• Program Improvement <i>Review of Phase I submission of the</i> <i>State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP)</i> <i>Review of Phase II requirements of SSIP</i> <i>Involvement with the NCSI Learning Collaborative</i> <i>Changes for District/PRT Determinations</i> <i>ELA Extended Standards</i>• Monitoring/ILCD• Finance	Adria Bace
		Sharon Heater
2:45	Election of Executive Committee Member*	Jeanne Heaston
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Membership Votes	Pete Biaggio
		Dr. Cindy Ellis
3:00	ESEA Reauthorization 2015	NDE Staff
3:30	Adjourn	

***Items requiring Council action**

SEAC AGENDA
 November 19, 2015
 Cornhusker Marriott Hotel – Yankee Hill 3
 Lincoln, NE

8:00	Registration	
8:30	Welcome	Dr. Cindy Ellis, Chair
	Introductions	
	“Getting to Know You . . . Better”	
9:00	Council Business	Dr. Cindy Ellis
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Meetings Law Announcement • Approval of September 17, 2015 Minutes* • Approval of November 19, 2015 Agenda* • Notice of Upcoming Conferences/Meetings 	
9:20	NDE Special Education Office Team Reports	
	Data Team: <i>Improving Student Behavior/</i>	
	<i>Reducing Exclusionary Discipline Practices</i>	
	State View of Discipline Data	Pam Kasl
	Suspension and Expulsion Data	
	Student Engagement Project	Natalie Hoff and Ana Cathart
	Positive Behavior in Schools Project	Amy Rhone
10:20	BREAK	
10:30	Program Improvement Team:	
	Part B Determinations	Kelly Wojcik
	Part B Phase II	
	Part C Phase II	Amy Bunnell
11:30	Monitoring Team:	
	Monitoring/ILCD Status Report	Jeanne Heaston
11:45	Finance Team:	
	Sped Finance Status Report	Pete Biaggio
12:00	Public Comments	
12:10	Working Lunch	Annie Bird
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tri-State Law Conference Recap • NDE Due Process and Complaints 	
12:30	NCSA Film: “Consider the Alternative”	
1:50	Rule 51 Hearing Testimony 11.18.15	Beth Wierda
2:10	RDA Stakeholders’ Meeting 10.15.15	Steve Milliken
2:25	Dyslexia Technical Assistance Document	Rose Dymacek
		Mary Greenfield
2:50	State Ward Issues (HHS & NDE)	Steve Milliken
		Emily Kluver
3:10	Follow-Up NDE RDA Meetings	Gary Sherman
	11.16.15 and 11.17.15	Steve Milliken
3:30	Adjourn	

Next SEAC Meeting: January 28, 2016

**Items requiring Council action*

SEAC AGENDA
 January 28, 2016
 Cornhusker Marriott Hotel
 Lincoln, NE

8:00	Registration	
8:30	Welcome	Cindy Ellis
8:45	Council Business	Cindy Ellis
	• Open Meetings Law Announcement	Annie Bird
	• Approval of November 19, 2015 Minutes*	
	• Approval of January 28, 2016 Agenda*	
	• Notice of Conferences/Meetings	
9:10	Special Education Office Update	Gary Sherman
	• Staff Connections	Greg Prochazka
	• IDEA Parts B and C Annual Applications	Steve Milliken
	• RDA Discretionary IDEA Grant Process	
	• OSEP Fiscal Compliance Letter	
9:50	State Performance Plan/ Annual Performance Report: Part B*	Adria Bace
10:30	BREAK	
10:45	State Performance Plan/ Annual Performance Report: Part C*	Amy Bunnell
11:15	Finance Team Report	Pete Biaggio
11:35	Public Comment	
11:45	Working Lunch	
	• Legislation	Steve Milliken Kristen Larsen
12:45	Program Improvement Team Report	Kelly Wojcik
1:45	Monitoring Team Report	Jeanne Heaston
2:15	Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)	Steve Milliken
2:45	Dyslexia Technical Assistance Document	Steve Milliken Mary Greenfield
3:30	Adjourn	

Next SEAC Meeting: April 21, 2016

***Items requiring Council action**

SEAC AGENDA
 April 21, 2016
 Cornhusker Marriott Hotel-Yankee Hill 3
 Lincoln, NE

8:00	Registration	
8:30	Welcome	Cindy Ellis
8:40	Council Business	Cindy Ellis
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Meetings Law Announcement • Approval of January 28, 2016 Minutes* • Approval of April 21, 2016 Agenda* • Notice of Conferences/Meetings • Proposed SEAC First Meeting Date 2016-17* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ September 15, 2016 ➤ Meeting Start/End Times 	Annie Bird
9:00	Transition/Post-School Outcomes	Rita Hammitt
9:30	Stakeholder Meeting Update	Steve Milliken Kelly Wojcik
9:45	Parts B & C Federal Grant Submissions	Steve Milliken
10:00	ASD Network	Annette Wragge
10:30	BREAK	
10:40	Team Leader Report: <i>Program Improvement</i>	Kelly Wojcik
	➤ SSIP Final Submission	
11:10	Team Leader Report: <i>Data</i>	Adria Bace
11:30	Working Lunch**	
	Legislation Update	Kristen Larsen
	SEAC Vacancies 2015-2018	Cindy Ellis
12:30	<i>Public Comments</i>	
12:40	Team Leader Report: <i>Finance</i>	John Marcucci
1:00	Team Leader Report: <i>Monitoring</i>	Jeanne Heaston
1:20	PBIS Grant Update	Amy Rhone
1:40	DTIPS Grant Update	Alice Senseney
2:00	DHHS/NDE State Wards	Emily Kluver Steve Milliken
2:20	Disproportionality: Federal Update	Pam Kasl Steve Milliken
2:40	Recognition of Retiring SEAC Members	Gary Sherman Annie Bird
3:00	Adjourn	

***Items requiring Council action**

SEAC Committees 2015-2016

ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR DEAF-BLINDNESS

The purpose of the Advisory Committee for Deaf-Blindness is to provide input and guidance on grant activities and evaluation. The Advisory Committee for Deaf-Blindness, as well as the Technical Assistance Team, meets a minimum of two times per year and offers input and support to all grant activities, and annually presents information to SEAC.

Name	Representation	City
Laura Barrett	Special Education Director, ESU #13	Scottsbluff
Marge Beatty	Administrator, ESU#16	Ogallala
Mike Brummer	D/HH Activity Coordinator, ESU #3	Omaha
Kimberly Davis	NE Commission for D/HH	Lincoln
Kara Delano	SLP, ESU #15	Trenton
Julie Delkamiller	UNO SpEd and Communication Disorders	Omaha
Matt Fenster	Special Education Director, Bellevue	Bellevue
Nancy Flearl	Supervisor, NE Comm.Blind/VI	Omaha
Angel Foster	Early Childhood, ESU #15;	Trenton
Sherri Frisbie	TVI and O & M Contract	
Penny Gildea	Parent	Omaha
Phyllis Graney	ATP Western Coordinator	Ogallala
Barbara Johnson	VI Teacher, Lincoln Public Schools	Lincoln
LeAnna MacDonald	TVI and O & M, Westside Community Schools	Omaha
Julie McGuire-Cornwell	DB Parent Leadership Team	Omaha
Diane Meyer	Coordinator, Metro Regional Programs Deaf/HH	Omaha
Kathy Northrop	DHHS	Lincoln
Ryan O'Grady	Special Education Director, Grand Island	Grand Island
Joyce Olson	TVI, Private Provider	Genoa
Mackenzie Savaiano	VI Program Coordinator, UNL	Lincoln
Ellin Siegel	Retired Associate Professor, UNL	Lincoln
Jennifer Stuhmer	Parent, DB Parent Leadership Team	Lincoln
Dixie Trevarthen	ATP Southeast Coordinator	Fremont
Susan Weber	Private Provider	Lincoln
Teresa Coonts	NDE Project Director	Omaha
Tanya Hilligoss	Project Coordinator	Nebraska City

DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING COMMITTEE

The Deaf and Hard of Hearing Committee is composed of stakeholders representing D/HH Regional Programs, parents, school administrators, Nebraska School for the Deaf alumni, higher education, and agencies providing services to children who are deaf and hard of hearing. Committee members present information about the activities of their organizations and meet two times each year. The purpose is to coordinate and prevent redundancy of services and activities, as well as to gather input regarding services for and activities of youth with hearing impairments.

Name	Representation	City
Laura Barrett	Central Western Nebraska Partnership	Scottsbluff
Lori Bartels	Millard Public Schools	Omaha
Frances Beurivage	Boys Town National Research Hospital	Omaha
Jill Bird	Southeast NE Regional Program	Lincoln
Pat Bracken	Vocational Rehabilitation	Lincoln
Thomas Beyer	NeRID	
Mike Brummer	Metro Regional Program	Omaha
Teresa Coonts	NDE Low Incidence Team Leader	Omaha
Sue Czaplewski	Central Western Nebraska Partnership	Hastings
Lindsay Darnall, Jr.	NeAD	Polk
Julie Delkamiller	UNO	Omaha
Renee Engel	Grand Island Public Schools	Grand Island
Cara Frost	Lincoln Public Schools	Lincoln
Jenny Fundus	Lincoln Public Schools	Lincoln
Greg Gaden	ESU #3	Omaha
Sheri Harrington	NeRID	Lincoln
Tanya Hilligoss	NCECBVI	Lincoln
Jill Hoffart	Northeast Regional Program	Norfolk
Shelli Janning	GBYS	Blair
Lynn Johnson-Romero	Westside Community Schools	Omaha
Mary Luhr	Norfolk Public Schools	Norfolk
Stacy Luther	Nebraska Hands and Voices	Omaha
Diane Meyer	Metro Regional Program	Omaha
Nancy Meyer	ESU #6	Milford
Donna Moss	Hastings Public Schools	Hastings
Jessica Nichols	Nebraska Vocational Rehabilitation	Omaha
Sara Peterson	ESU #13	Scottsbluff
Kaylene Randall	Bellevue Public Schools	Bellevue
Jonathan Scherling	UNO	Omaha
Lindsey Schubert	Bellevue Public Schools	Bellevue
Peter Seiler	Deaf Community Representative	Lincoln
Deb Siemers	Gretna Public Schools	Gretna
Vickii Steinhauer-Campbell	Vocational Rehabilitation	Lincoln
Missy Stithem	AMPLIFY	Lincoln
Ellen Stokebrand	ESU #4	Auburn
Anne Thomas	UNL	Lincoln
Deb Vapenik	ESU #16	North Platte
Denise Wolfe	Grand Island Public Schools	Grand Island
John Wyvill	NCDHH	Lincoln
Rhonda Fleischer	Facilitator, NDE	Hastings

TRANSITION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Transition Advisory Committee meets three times a year to discuss statewide topics related to the transition of students from high school to adult living. This committee generates recommendations specific to state planning for trainings, technical assistance resources, and state procedures for collecting and analyzing specific transition data.

Name	Representation	City
Nina Baker	PTI Nebraska	Omaha
Marie Barrett	Parent	Lincoln
Pamela Brezenski	ESU #13	Scottsbluff
Tami Clay	ESU #9	Hastings
Sharon Dalrymple	Families Inspiring Families	Lincoln
Debbie Forshee-Sweeny	Union College	Lincoln
Shana Frodyma	Omaha Public Schools	Omaha
Angela Fujan	Nebraska Vocational Rehabilitation	Lincoln
Greg Gaden	ESU #3	Omaha
Brigid Griffin	Nebraska Vocational Rehabilitation	Norfolk
Cindy Hahn	Central Community College	Hastings
Rita Hammit	NDE, Committee Chair	Omaha
Megan Hoeft	NYLC	Lincoln
Amy Mazankowski	ESU #7	Columbus
Lona Nelson-Milks	ESU #11	Holdrege
Elizabeth Paesl	Nebraska Vocational Rehabilitation	Columbus
Lisa Parish	Parent	North Platte
Mary Philips	Lincoln Public Schools	Lincoln
Daria Pierorazio	Program Supervisor, CNSSP	Grand Island
Victoria Rasmussen	Director, Client Assistance Program	Lincoln
Michelle Salberg	Parent	Sterling
Amy Slama	ESU #7	Columbus
Tammy Stephens	Munroe-Meyer Institute	Omaha
Dr. Pearl VanZandt	NCBVI	Lincoln





NEBRASKA YOUTH LEADERSHIP COUNCIL (NYLC)

The Nebraska Youth Leadership Council (NYLC) has been in place as a SEAC Committee since 2008. The NYLC is comprised of students ages 15-21 years with various disabilities who live across Nebraska. The NYLC provides input from the student perspective regarding school services and employment, including academic, social, and transition activities.

Name	City
Jessica Barrett	Morrill
Andre Braun	Humphrey
Abbey Buettgenbach	Pierce
Forrest Burroughs	Lincoln
Tresa Christensen	Kearney
Nicole Daake	Elwood
Valarie Dowling	Newcastle
Kaitlyn Ericson	York
Justyn Free	Lincoln
Gina Geiger	York
Kathryn Heng	York
Brice Hilfiker	David City
Brionna Hoos	Grand Island
Kenneth Hoselton	Grand Island
Addy Hunter	Omaha
Samantha Jacobson	Norfolk
Jamie Krien	Waverly
Tia Kumwenda	Lincoln
Travis O'Connell	Hastings
Bruce Peoples, II	Papillion
Kaylee Pierce	David City
Adam Scott	Gering
Julia Sullivan	Aurora
Nicole Sullivan	Pierce
Justin Valentine	Bellevue
Cassidy Wall	Ashland
Michaela Wells	Omaha
Clarissah Woten	Omaha
Gabrielle Zeger	Elkhorn
Elizabeth Paesi, Facilitator	Nebraska Department of Education

VISION STAKEHOLDER TEAM

Members of the Vision Stakeholder Team represent individuals, agencies and groups interested in the provision of educational and mobility services to students with visual impairments. Annually, the members review activities conducted by the Nebraska Center for the Education of Children Who Are Blind and Visually Impaired, including residential, education and outreach services across Nebraska.

Name	Representation	City
Cindy Barr-McNair	Millard Public Schools	Omaha
Scott Eckman	Lincoln Public Schools	Lincoln
Jon Fisher	Educational Service Unit #4	Auburn
Sherri Frisbie	Independent Service Provider	Omaha
Audrey Graves	NCECBVI*	Nebraska City
Shelly Gray	Consumer	Omaha
Elissa Heibel	ESU #7	Columbus
Tanya Hilligoss	NCECBVI	Nebraska City
Jason Hippen	Nebraska City Public Schools	Nebraska City
Meribeth Jackson	Omaha Public Schools	Omaha
Lisa Kelly	Outlook Nebraska, Inc.	Omaha
Wendy Kemling	Scottsbluff Public Schools	Scottsbluff
Karen Kindred	NCECBVI	Nebraska City
Jean Loberg	Parent	Wayne
Barb Loos	Consumer	Lincoln
Norma Mercer	Parent	Beatrice
Darus Mettler	ESU #7	Columbus
Patti Neill	ATP	Cozad
Linda Plager	Region V	Nebraska City
Susan Pope	NCECBVI	Nebraska City
Mary Robinson	Fremont Public Schools	Fremont
Mackenzie Savaiano	UNL	Lincoln
Troy and Nancy Solsaa	Parents	Waverly
Pearl Van Zandt	NE Comm.-Blind and Visually Impaired	Lincoln
Dana Welch	NCECBVI	Nebraska City
Cheryl Wichman	Parent	Nebraska City
Sharon Wordekemper	McCook Public Schools	McCook
Teresa Coonts	Facilitator, NDE Special Education Office	Omaha
Sally Giittinger	Facilitator, NCECBVI*	Nebraska City

*Nebraska Center for the Education of Children Who Are Blind and Visually Impaired

AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS (ASD) COMMITTEE



The ASD Committee provides advice to NDE, the Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC), and the University of Nebraska (UNL) concerning the following:

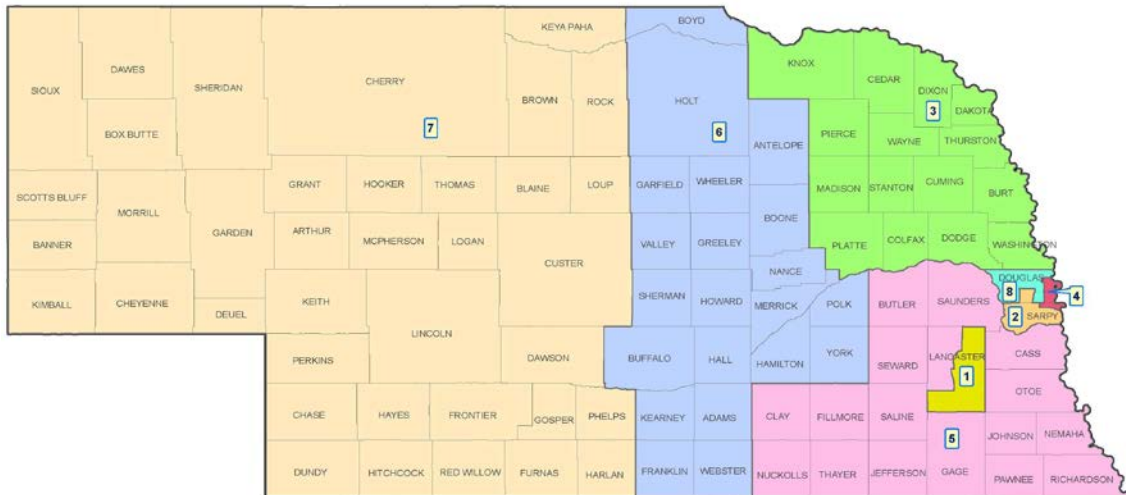
- The ASD Network’s role in teaching the delivery of appropriate services for children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD);
- The review of current pertinent research and information regarding methodologies and delivery systems for ASD;
- The review of all due process trends associated with children with ASD;
- Recommendations for ASD training of educators, parents and community; and
- Recommendations for ASD teaching competencies/standards.

Name	Representation	City
Dr. Cindy Ellis	UNMC-MMI	Omaha
Rene Ferdinand	Autism Center of Nebraska	Omaha
Jamie Lewis	Occupational Therapist	Holdrege
Brenda McNiff	Special Education Director	Beatrice
Nancy Meyer	ESU 6 Special Services	Milford
Jacquelyn Miller	Nebraska Vocational Rehabilitation	Lincoln
Jennifer Splichal	Speech Language Pathologist	Scottsbluff
Lenette Sprunk	ESUs 5, 6 and 7 Assistive Tech Specialist	Columbus
Torri Tejral	Autism Leadership Academy Coordinator	Omaha
Staff	Agency	City
Teresa Coonts	Facilitator, NDE Special Education Office	Omaha
Sonja Chatfield-Peetz	ASD Northeast Region Coordinator	Columbus
Mary Flory	ASD Southeast Region Coordinator	Milford
Melinda Henson	ASD Behavior Consultant	Lincoln
Terri McGill	ASD Metro Region Coordinator	Omaha
Ashley Meyer	ASD Western Region Coordinator	Scottsbluff
Megan Misegadis	ASD Network Assistant/Parent	Lincoln
Dawna Sigurdson	ASD Central Region Coordinator	Kearney
Annette Wragge	Facilitator, ASD Network Coordinator	Lincoln

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Nebraska State Board of Education District Map



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Copies of this report and additional information regarding the
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Nebraska Department of Education's Special Education Office can be obtained at:
<http://www.education.ne.gov/SPED/sped.html>