

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT



2017-2018

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COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

Matthew Blomstedt, Ph.D.

OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION (SPED)

Steve Milliken
Administrator

Amy Rhone
Assistant Administrator

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SEAC)

Mark Draper
Facilitator

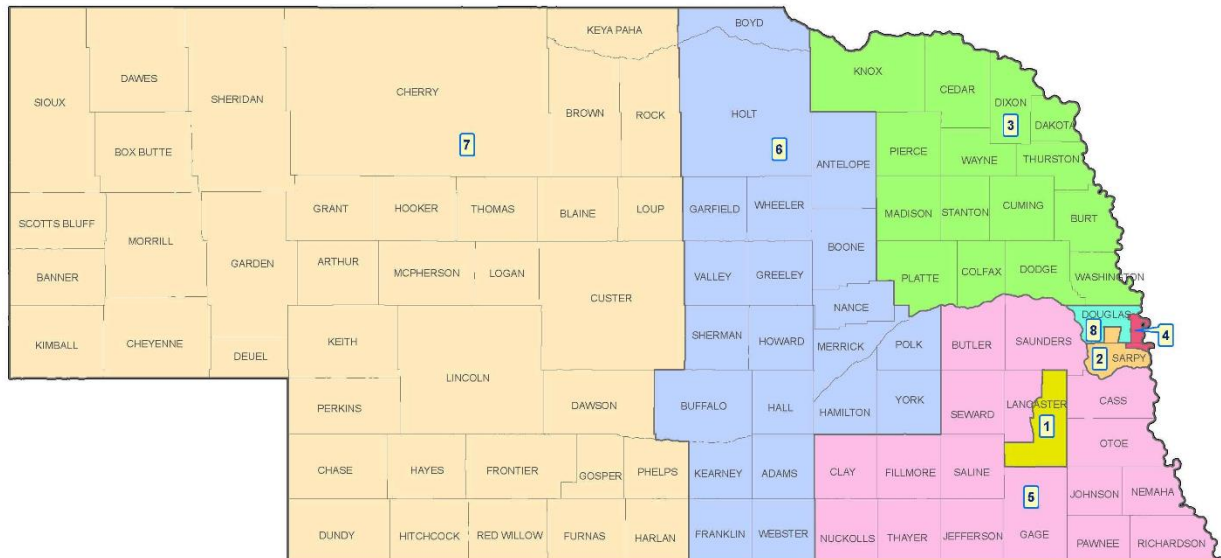
Leslie Galloway
Recorder

STATE BOARD MEMBERS

DISTRICT

Patsy Koch Johns		1
Lisa Fricke		2
Rachel Wise		3
John Witzel	Vice President	4
Patricia Timm	President	5
Maureen Nickels		6
Molly O'Holleran		7
Patrick McPherson		8
Matthew Blomstedt, Ph.D.	Commissioner of Education	

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION DISTRICT MAP



Funded by Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) Part B funds, grant H027A160079. Copies of this report, and additional information regarding SEAC and the NDE Office of Special Education can be obtained at <https://www.education.ne.gov/sped>



A NOTE FROM THE SEAC CHAIR



I have been so fortunate this past four years to serve as a member of the Special Education Advisory Council, and as a member of the Executive Committee. I was especially honored to serve as your Chairperson this past year.

This council, bringing together as it does professionals, administrators, parents, and individuals with disabilities, is really such an amazing model for an advisory body. I have learned so much during my tenure – as much from each of you as from the legislation and policy that we have read.

During the past two years, SEAC has seen a number of transitions in members, coordinators and leadership, but it continues to be a strong and effective council. I think this is the ultimate evidence that the diversity, inclusiveness and flexibility of the group is working.

One of my major concerns as a professional and a parent has always been insuring that the isolated rural areas (such as my community) are represented fully in our state's legislation and governance, and so it has meant a great deal to be part of this group.

I leave you all to continue the work of SEAC, with great respect and appreciation for all that you do – in and out of that meeting room.

Best Wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cate Jones-Hazledine, Ph.D." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Cate Jones-Hazledine, Ph.D.

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.



Steve Milliken, Administrator of the Office of Special Education,
Cate Jones-Hazledine, Kristen Larsen, Ann Auten (Not Pictured: Brian Wojcik)

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.



Renee Kiernan, Mary Jorgensen

2017-2018 SEAC MEMBERSHIP

	TERM EXPIRATION	
Kasey Alexander ^{i, ii} Wisner	2019	State Board District 3 kpestel@igators.org
Ann Auten ^{†, i, iii} Blue Hill	2020	State Board District 5 aauten@hastings.edu
Paul Bohn ^{iv} Papillion	2020	State Board District 2 pbohn@paplv.org
Adia Brightman ^{§, v} Omaha	2021	State Board District 4 adia.brightman@gmail.com
Julie Czepa ⁱ Papillion	2020	State Board District 2 julie.czepa@gmail.com
Millie Demuth ⁱ Lincoln	2018	State Board District 1 millie@nsecu.org
Jeremy Ekeler ^{i, vii} Lincoln	2020	State Board District 1 Jeremy-ekeler@cdolinc.net
Barb Gentrup ^{i, ii} Ravenna	2018	State Board District 6 barb.gentrup@gibbonpublic.org
Terry Houlton ^v Omaha	2018	State Board District 2 thoulton@mpsomaha.org
Samantha Jacobson ^{§, i, viii} Lincoln	2021	State Board District 5 sammy.201213@gmail.com
Kami Jessop ^v Omaha	2018	State Board District 8 jessop.kami@westside66.org
Cate Jones-Hazledine ^{†, ‡, i, vi} Rushville	2018	State Board District 7 dr cate@westernnebraskabehavioralhealth.com
Mary Jorgensen ⁱ Omaha	2018	State Board District 2 maryjorgensen@fnni.com ; Poulicek@yahoo.com
Seamus Kelly ⁱ Omaha	2019	State Board District 8 seamus.3668@gmail.com

† SEAC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

‡ SEAC SPEAKER & CHAIR

§ NEW OR REAPPOINTED MEMBER

2017-2018 SEAC MEMBERSHIP (CONT.)

	TERM EXPIRATION	
Renee Kiernan ⁱ <i>Papillion</i>	2018	<i>State Board District 2</i> rkiernan123@gmail.com
Kristen Larsen ^{†, vi} <i>Lincoln</i>	2019	<i>State Board District 1</i> kristen.larsen@nebraska.gov
Steve Larsen ^x <i>Gering</i>	2018	<i>State Board District 7</i> slarsen@scottsbuffcounty.org
Heidi Reelfs ^{ii, vi} <i>Omaha</i>	2020	<i>State Board District 4</i> heidi.reelfs@unmc.edu
Linda Safranek ^{§, i, ii} <i>Bennington</i>	2021	<i>State Board District 8</i> lmsafranek@gmail.com
Kara Saldierna ^{§, v} <i>Omaha</i>	2021	<i>State Board District 4</i> Kara.saldierna@ops.org
Graciela Sharif ^{§, i, vi} <i>Omaha</i>	2021	<i>State Board District 8</i> gsharif@pti-nebraska.org
Nanette Simmons ^{§, ix} <i>Lincoln</i>	2021	<i>State Board District 1</i> Nanette.simmons@nebraska.gov
Marie Wohlers ⁱ <i>Crawford</i>	2019	<i>State Board District 7</i> mmwohlers@gmail.com
Brian Wojcik ^{†, §, i, iii} <i>Kearney</i>	2021	<i>State Board District 6</i> wojcikbw@unk.edu

LEGEND: **(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.

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

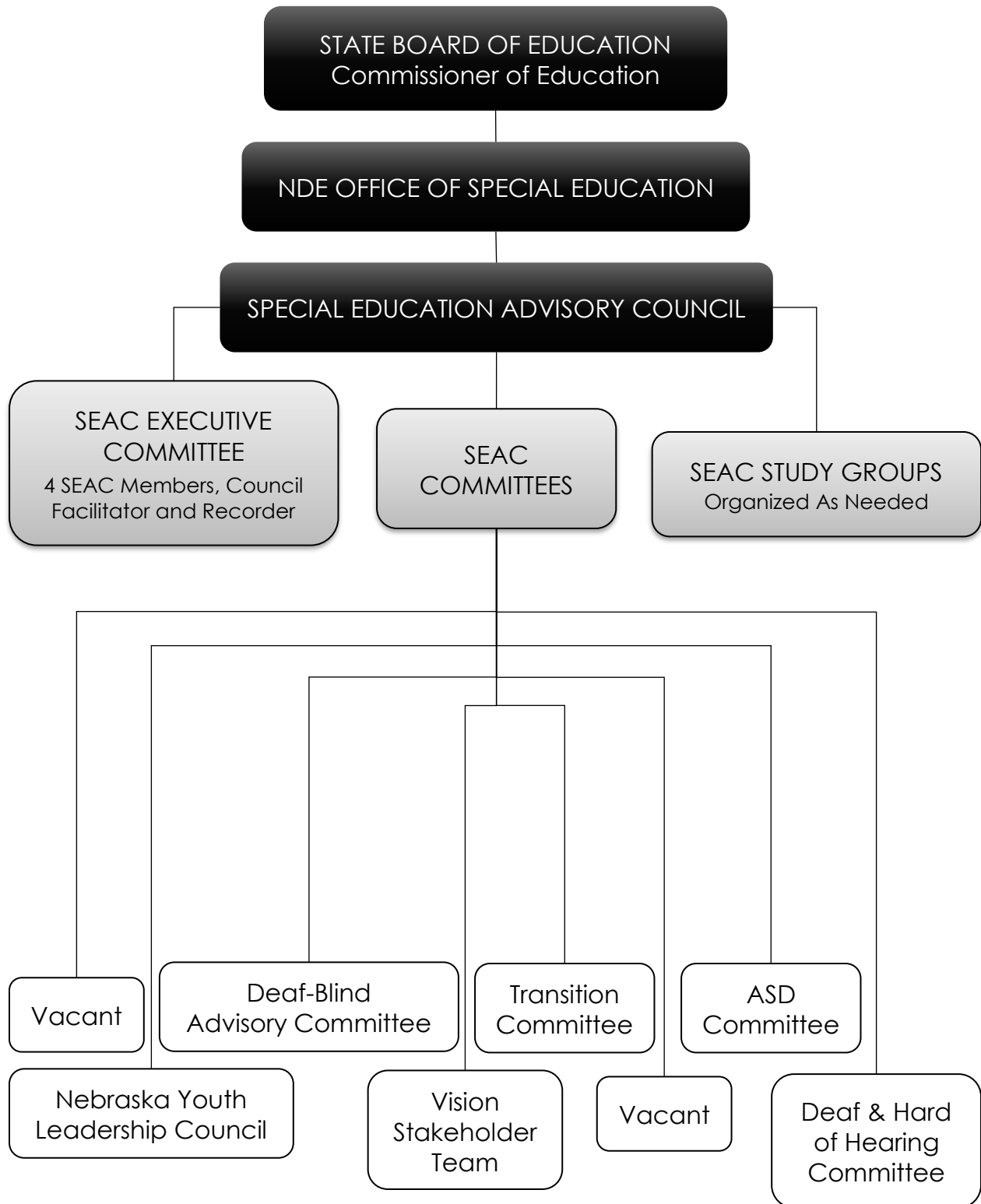
For the purpose of providing policy guidance to the Nebraska Department of Education with respect to special education and related services for children with disabilities, the following priorities were established for 2015-16 through 2017-18:

- 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.



April 2018 Meeting

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL STRUCTURE



REVIEWING THE WORK OF SEAC 2017-2018

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 14, 2017, November 15, 2017, January 18, 2018 and April 26, 2018. All meetings were held in Lincoln, NE.

The 2017-18 SEAC year began on September 14th, 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
- 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
- State Systemic Improvement Plan (Monitoring and progress of data and activities)
- Multi-tiered Systems of Support (MTSS)

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 NDE Special Education Office Administrators. Agendas for all SEAC meetings are included herein.

NEBRASKA SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

An advisory panel providing policy guidance to the Nebraska Department of Education with respect to special education and related services for children with disabilities.

AGENDA

Embassy Suites
1040 P Street
Lincoln, NE

SEPTEMBER 14, 2017

- | | | |
|-------|--|--|
| 8:00 | Registration | |
| 8:30 | Welcome | Cate Jones-Hazledine
Steve Milliken |
| 8:40 | Welcome/Ice Breaker Activity | Amy Rhone |
| 8:50 | SEAC Orientation | Amy Rhone
John Copenhaver, TAESE |
| 9:45 | Break | |
| 10:00 | SEAC Orientation Resume | |
| 10:50 | Council Business | Cate Jones-Hazledine |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Open Meetings Law Announcement• Approval of April 20, 2017 Minutes*• Approval of September 14, 2017 Agenda*• Notice of Conferences/Meetings• Approval of 2017 Operating Procedures | Mark Draper |
| 11:00 | Introduction of Nebraska Department of Education
– Office of Special Education Staff | Steve Milliken |
| 11:30 | SEAC Committee Report: Executive Committee | Cate Jones-Hazledine |
| 12:00 | Working Lunch | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dyslexia – Legislative Update• Moving into MTSS• New Disproportionality Regulations | Steve Milliken
Amy Rhone
Amy Rhone |

SEPTEMBER 14, 2017 AGENDA (CONT.)

- 1:00 NDE SpEd Office Team Reports
- Director's Report Steve Milliken
 - Part B Programming Amy Rhone
 - Early Childhood (Birth – 5) Amy Rhone
 - MTSS Teresa Berube
 - Systems Alignment Kelly Wojcik
 - Data Systems Robyn Gonzales
 - Fiscal Greg Prochazka
- 2:15 Election of new Exec Comm Member Cate Jones-Hazledine
- 2:45 SEAC Logistic and information follow-up Amy Rhone
- Mark Draper
- 3:00 Public Comment
- 3:30 Adjourn

*Items requiring Council action

**Lunch is provided for SEAC members and scheduled presenters

Next Meeting Date: November 15, 2017

Upcoming Conferences: November 2-3, 2017 - Omaha, NE: Tri-State Regional Special Education Law Conference

[Included with agenda: Understanding the Advisory Council Functions under IDEA]

NEBRASKA SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

An advisory panel providing policy guidance to the Nebraska Department of Education with respect to special education and related services for children with disabilities.

AGENDA

Embassy Suites
1040 P Street
Lincoln, NE

NOVEMBER 15, 2017

- | | | |
|-------|--|--|
| 8:00 | Registration | |
| 8:30 | Welcome | Cate Jones-Hazledine
Steve Milliken |
| 8:40 | Welcome/Get to Know you activity | Mark Draper |
| 9:00 | Council Business | Cate Jones-Hazledine
Mark Draper |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Open Meetings Law Announcement• Approval of November 15, 2017 Agenda*• Approval of April 20, 2017 Minutes*• Approval of September 14, 2017 Minutes*• Welcome of New Member(s)• Discussion of Open Position• Approval of 2017 Operating Procedures• Acknowledgement of 2016/17 Annual Report*• Notice of Conferences/Meetings | |
| 9:45 | SEAC Committee Report: Executive Committee | Cate Jones-Hazledine |
| 10:00 | Part B – RDA Stakeholder Update, Presentation from October 26th
follow up
Determination
Part B SSIP
Disproportionality | |
| 10:30 | Break | |
| 10:30 | Part B – RDA Stakeholder Update Cont... | |
| 12:00 | Working Lunch
NE Loves PS – Norris Public Schools: Special Education Film | |

NOVEMBER 15, 2017 AGENDA (CONT.)

- 1:00 NDE SpEd Office Team Reports
- Director's Report Steve Milliken
 - Part B Programming Amy Rhone
 - RTI in Nebraska Jessica Radford
 - Assessment Sharon Heater
 - Early Childhood (Birth – 5) Amy Bunnell
 - Breaking the Suspension to Prison Pipeline
 - MTSS Teresa Berube
 - Systems Alignment Kelly Wojcik
 - Data Systems Robyn Gonzales
 - Child Count Discussion
 - Fiscal Greg Prochazka
- 2:30 NDE Guidance and Federal Regulation Update Cate Jones-Hazledine
*Friday Blast Information Amy Rhone
- 2:45 SEAC Member Updates Mark Draper
- 3:00 Public Comment
- 3:30 Adjourn

*Items requiring Council action

**Lunch is provided for SEAC members and scheduled presenters

Next Meeting Date: January 18, 2018

Upcoming Conferences:

February 22,23 & 24, 2018	Annual Midwest Symposium on Leadership in Behavior Disorders, Kansas City, Missouri, http://mslbd.org/symposium-conference/
April 19-20	ASD State Conference, Embassy Suites convention Center, La Vista, http://www.unl.edu/asdnetwork/nebraska-asd-network-state-conference
June 7, 2018	NDE Annual Symposium on Special Education and Beginning Teaching, Lincoln
July 16-19	Deaf Blind Summer Institute, Sheridan Lutheran Church, Lincoln

[Included with agenda: Understanding the Advisory Council Functions under IDEA]

NEBRASKA SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

An advisory panel providing policy guidance to the Nebraska Department of Education with respect to special education and related services for children with disabilities.

AGENDA

Embassy Suites
1040 P Street
Lincoln, NE

JANUARY 18, 2018

- | | | |
|-------|--|--|
| 8:00 | Registration | |
| 8:30 | Welcome | Cate Jones-Hazledine
Steve Milliken |
| 8:40 | Welcome/Get to Know you activity | Mark Draper |
| 9:00 | Council Business | Cate Jones-Hazledine
Mark Draper |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Open Meetings Law Announcement• Approval of January 18, 2018 Agenda*• Approval of November 15, 2017 Minutes*• Welcome of New Member(s)• Notice of Conferences/Meetings | |
| 9:45 | SEAC Committee Report: Executive Committee | Cate Jones-Hazledine |
| 10:00 | PTI in Nebraska | |
| 10:45 | Break | |
| 11:00 | MTSS in Nebraska | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MTSS Consultation and Self-Assessment• UNL Consortium | |
| 12:00 | Working Lunch | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continued MTSS discussion including Districts represented on SEAC to talk about work being done with MTSS | |

JANUARY 18, 2018 AGENDA (CONT.)

- 1:00 NDE SpEd Office Team Reports
- Director's Report Steve Milliken
 - Endrew Case Follow Up
 - Part B Programming Amy Rhone
 - Dyslexia – What's happening in Nebraska
 - Early Childhood (Birth – 5) Teresa Berube
 - Breaking the Suspension to Prison Pipeline – Part II
 - Systems Alignment Kelly Wojcik and Teresa Berube
 - Impact – Leading by Convening
 - Data Systems Robyn Gonzales
 - Child Count Discussion – Disproportionality
 - Discussion around District Supports through MTSS
 - SPP/APR Data Discussion
- 2:30 NDE Guidance and Federal Regulation Update Cate Jones-Hazledine
 Stakeholder Meeting Update Amy Rhone
- 2:45 SEAC Member Updates Mark Draper
- 3:00 Public Comment
- 3:30 Adjourn

*Items requiring Council action

**Lunch is provided for SEAC members and scheduled presenters

Next Meeting Date: April 26, 2018

Upcoming Conferences:

February 22,23 & 24, 2018	Annual Midwest Symposium on Leadership in Behavior Disorders, Kansas City, Missouri, http://mslbd.org/symposium-conference/
February 27 and 28, 2018	Annual Transition Conference, Kearney, NE – Younes Conference Center
April 19-20	ASD State Conference, Embassy Suites convention Center, La Vista, http://www.unl.edu/asdnetwork/nebraska-asd-network-state-conference
June 7, 2018	NDE Annual Symposium on Special Education and Beginning Teaching, Lincoln
July 16-19	Deaf Blind Summer Institute, Sheridan Lutheran Church, Lincoln

[Included with agenda: Understanding the Advisory Council Functions under IDEA]

NEBRASKA SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

An advisory panel providing policy guidance to the Nebraska Department of Education with respect to special education and related services for children with disabilities.

AGENDA

Embassy Suites
1040 P Street
Lincoln, NE

APRIL 26, 2018

- | | | |
|-------|--|---|
| 8:00 | Registration | |
| 8:30 | Welcome | Cate Jones-Hazledine
Steve Milliken |
| 8:45 | Council Business | Cate Jones-Hazledine
Mark Draper |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Open Meetings Law Announcement• Approval of April 26, 2018 Agenda*• Approval of January 18, 2018 Minutes*• Notice of Conferences/Meetings | |
| 9:00 | SEAC Committee Report: Executive Committee | Cate Jones-Hazledine |
| 9:15 | Nebraska State Systemic Improvement Plan Phase III Submitted April 1, 2018 | Kelly Wojcik |
| 10:15 | Break | |
| 10:30 | Systems Alignment - Impact – Leading by Convening | Kelly Wojcik &
Teresa Berube |
| 11:30 | Working Lunch | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Recognition of departing members○ 2019 SEAC Membership Recruitment Discussion | Mark Draper
Mark Draper |
| 1:00 | | NDE SpEd Office Team Reports |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Legislative Updates• Part B Federal Application• Nebraska Transition Update• Assistive Technology Program – new direction• Medicaid in Public Schools Update• Nebraska Low Incidence Report Out<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Nebraska Deaf Blind Project○ ASD Network Report | Steve Milliken
Amy Rhone
Amy Rhone
Steve Milliken
Cole Johnson
Teresa Coonts
Annette Wragge |

APRIL 26, 2018 AGENDA (CONT.)

- Nebraska Regional Programs for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Rhonda Fleischer
 - NCECBVI Annual Report Sally Schreiner
 - Early Childhood (Birth – 5) Teresa Berube
 - Kindergarten Enrollment Requirements
 - Data Systems Robyn Gonzales
 - SPP/APR Data Discussion
- 2:30 NDE Guidance and Federal Regulation Update Cate Jones-Hazledine
Provisional Certification Updates Amy Rhone
Stakeholder Meeting Update Amy Rhone
- 2:45 SEAC Member Updates Mark Draper
- 3:00 Public Comment
- 3:30 Adjourn

*Items requiring Council action

**Lunch is provided for SEAC members and scheduled presenters

Next Meeting Date: August 2018

Upcoming Conferences:

June 7, 2018	NDE Annual Symposium on Special Education and Beginning Teaching, Lincoln
July 16-19	Deaf Blind Summer Institute, Sheridan Lutheran Church, Lincoln

[Included with agenda: Understanding the Advisory Council Functions under IDEA]

UNDERSTANDING THE ADVISORY COUNCIL FUNCTIONS UNDER IDEA

All Council activities should relate to one or more of the functions

1. Advise the SEA of unmet needs within the State in the education of children with disabilities. CFR 300.169(a)
 - a. Training educators on working with children with Autism
 - b. Students not being adequately served in juvenile and adult correctional facilities
2. Comment publicly on any rules or regulations proposed by the State regarding the education of children with disabilities. CFR 300.169(b)
 - a. The federal law is reauthorized and the State makes revisions to their regulations
3. Advise the State in developing evaluations and reporting on data to the Secretary under Section 618 of the Act. CFR 300.169(c) *Grown the most since 2004
 - a. The SEA is reviewing and refining APR improvement strategies
 - b. Upon completion of a State and school district drill down, it was concluded that students with disabilities had lower graduation rates than students without disabilities.
4. Advise the State in developing corrective action plans to address finding identified in federal monitoring reports under Part B of the Act. CFR 300.169(d)
 - a. The State has just experienced an OSEP Visit and was found to be in noncompliance on various fiscal issues.
5. Advise the State in developing and implementing policies relating to the coordination of services for children with disabilities. CFR 300.169(e)
 - a. The SEA is proposing a new MOU with the Department of Corrections
 - b. The SEA is revising its MOU with the Department of Health
6. The SEA, after deleting personally identifiable information must
 - Provide the Advisory Council with the DPH findings and decisions and
 - Make those finding and decisions available to the public. CFR 300.513(d) & 300.514(c)
 - a. DPH decisions identify consistent issues.
 - b. The SEA has experienced a spike in DPHs
7. Waiver of non-supplant requirement. State must consult with the Advisory Council regarding provisions of FAPE. CFR 300.164(c)(4)
8. States retain discretion to determine the risk ratio threshold above which disproportionality is significant so long as that threshold is reasonable and based on advice from their stakeholders, including their State Advisory Councils. 34 CFR 600.647(b)(iii)(A)

SEAC COMMITTEES 2017-2018

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
Teresa Coonts	NDE Project Director	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
Tanya Hilligoss	Project Coordinator	Nebraska City
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
Joyce Olson	TVI, Private Provider	Genoa
Sandy Peterson	PTI-Nebraska	Omaha
Mackenzie Savaiano	VI Program Coordinator, UNL	Lincoln
Jennifer Stuhmer	Parent, DB Parent Leadership Team	Lincoln
Dixie Trevarthen	ATP Southeast Coordinator	Fremont

SEAC COMMITTEES 2017-2018

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 Beaurivage	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

DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING COMMITTEE (CONT.)

NAME	REPRESENTATION	CITY
Rhonda Fleischer	Facilitator, NDE	Hastings
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
Vicki 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

SEAC COMMITTEES 2017-2018

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

SEAC COMMITTEES 2017-2018

NEBRASKA YOUTH LEADERSHIP COUNCIL (NYLC)



The Nebraska Youth Leadership Council (NYLC) has been in place as a SEAC Committee since 2008, and is funded jointly by the Nebraska Department Office of Special Education and Vocational Rehabilitation. 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	NAME	CITY
Jessica Barrett	Morrill	Nicole Sullivan	Pierce
Andre Braun	Humphrey	Justin Valentine	Bellevue
Abbey Buettgenbach	Pierce	Cassidy Wall	Ashland
Forrest Burroughs	Lincoln	Michaela Wells	Omaha
Tresa Christensen	Kearney	Clarissah Woten	Omaha
Nicole Daake	Elwood	Gabrielle Zeger	Elkhorn
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		
Tia Kumwenda	Lincoln		
Travis O'Connell	Hastings		
Bruce Peoples, II	Papillion		
Elizabeth Paesl,	Nebraska Dept.		
Facilitator	of Education		
Kaylee Pierce	David City		
Adam Scott	Gering		
Julia Sullivan	Aurora		



SEAC COMMITTEES 2017-2018

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
Teresa Coonts	Facilitator, NDE Special Education Office	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
Alie Kropp	ATP	Cozad
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
Linda Plager	Region V	Nebraska City
Susan Pope	NCECBVI	Nebraska City
Mary Robinson	Fremont Public Schools	Fremont
Mackenzie Savaiano	UNL	Lincoln
Sally Schreiner	Facilitator, NCECBVI*	Nebraska City
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

SEAC COMMITTEES 2017-2018

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
Greg Gaden	Special Education Director ESU #3	Omaha
Queen Greene	SEAC Committee Member	Omaha
Jamie Lewis	Occupational Therapist	Holdrege
Brenda McNiff	Special Education Director	Beatrice
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

2018-2019 SEAC MEETING SCHEDULE

All meetings are held from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Embassy Suites, located at 1040 P Street in Lincoln, Nebraska.

September 13, 2018

December 13, 2018

March 21, 2019

May 2, 2019

Further information regarding SEAC or this report may be directed to Mark Draper at markcdraper@gmail.com.