



NEBRASKA

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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.

March 17, 2022 – AGENDA

ATTENDANCE IS IN-PERSON ONLY

Embassy Suites
1040 P. Street
Lincoln, NE 68508

8:30 REGISTRATION

9:00 WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Kris Elmshaeuser
Terry Houlton

COUNCIL BUSINESS

Terry Houlton

- Open Meetings Law Announcement
- Notification posted in the Omaha World-Herald on March 3, 2022
- Approval of March 17, 2022 agenda *
- Approval of December 9, 2021 Minutes *
- Notice of Conferences/Meetings
- NASES Update – Lona Nelson
- SEAC Member Updates/News/Sharing
- Executive Board Meeting Report

PUBLIC COMMENT **

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Kris Elmshaeuser

- Creating a Brief Document to Share About SEAC
- Assessment Scores So Parents Can Understand
- Professional Development from the Universities/Colleges that is Available for Special/Regular Education Teachers to Increase Their Knowledge
- State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report – Targets Submitted
- State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP)

NDE OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION TEAM REPORTS

Amy Rhone
Kelly Wojcik &
Kris Elmsheuser

- Journey to Inclusion
- Legislative Update
- Disproportionality Discipline Update
- Policies and Procedures
- State Complaint Update
- IDEA Part B & C Federal Applications
- Parent Surveys

ADJOURN

Terry Houlton

NEXT MEETING DATE: MAY 12, 2022

A VIRTUAL OPTION WILL NOT BE OFFERED FOR THE MAY 12, 2022 MEETING

2021-2022 MEETING DATES

- September 9, 2021 – Hybrid
- December 9, 2021 – Hybrid
- March 17, 2022 – **IN-PERSON ONLY**
- May 12, 2022 – **IN-PERSON ONLY**

UPCOMING CONFERENCES:

- April 7-8, 2022 – ASD Network State Conference – Hybrid / Younes Center North, Kearney, NE
- June 1-2, 2022 – Nebraska School Mental Health Conference – Embassy Suites, La Vista, NE)
- June 28-29, 2022 – Young Child Institute – Younes Conference Center, Kearney, NE

NE SEAC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Chairman – Terry Houlton, (2021-2022) Director of Special Education Millard Schools, Omaha, NE
Kasey Alexander, (2022-2023) Educator, West Point Schools, West Point, NE
Sr. Janelle Buettner, (2023-2024) Principal, North American Martyrs Catholic School, Lincoln, NE
Graciela Sharif, (2024-2025) Parent of a Student with a Disability, Community Parent Resource Coordinator-UNMC

* Items requiring Council action

** Per the SEAC Operating Procedures, opportunity for public comment is requested in advance

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 educations 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 findings 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€
 - 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 findings 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 ration 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)