



Colorado Special Education Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 21, 2023
Lakewood Library
Lakewood Meeting Room
10200 West 20th Avenue
Lakewood, CO

CSEAC Mission: Our mission is to actively represent children/youth with disabilities and impact decisions made on their behalf to enhance the quality of educational services.

CSEAC Vision: All learners are respected and challenged with high expectations, their needs are met, and student aspirations for success are fulfilled.

Members in Attendance: Shelly Agostine, Heather Alderman, Julia Allison, Susan Archuleta, Betsy Basch, Erin Camper, Cori Canty, Jessica Cuthbertson, Michel Friberg, Heidi Graber, Eva Leon, Jill Pidcock, Amy Rosengrants-Smith, Ann Wilson

Absences: Kelly Balderston, Jill Choate, Laurie Ditterline, Amy Dobronyi, Nicole Gross, Samantha Hollister, Shannon Sloane, Kaegan Smith, Cassie Sudbeck, Amanda Summers, Shelli Tillery, Kate Tshikalu-John

CDE Staff and Other Guests: Beth Donahue, Family Engagement Specialist, Exceptional Student Services Unit (ESSU), CDE; Paul Foster, Executive Director, ESSU, CDE; Gina Herrera, Supervisor, Significant Support Needs/Deaf-Blindness Specialist, ESSU, CDE; David Ramer, Program Support Assistant, ESSU, CDE; Debora Scheffel, State Board of Education Liaison; Anna Stewart

Welcome, Introductions, Public Comment and CSEAC Parent Input

- Members and guests introduced themselves.
- There was no public comment.
- CSEAC parent input:
 - Colorado Parent Coalition – working on having IEPs in languages other than English.
- The minutes from the April 20, 2023 meeting and July 20-21, 2023 planning meeting were approved without amendment.



CDE and ESSU Updates - Paul Foster, Executive Director, ESSU, CDE

- October 2023 is the rule making comment period.
- The November board meeting, which is scheduled for the 2nd Wednesday or Thursday, will be a rule making hearing; Heather and Jill Pidcock (the CSEAC co-chairs) will speak at the hearing.
- The Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) will be visiting in December.

Extended Evidence Outcomes (EEOs) - Gina Herrera, Supervisor, Significant Support Needs/Deaf-Blindness Specialist, ESSU, CDE

- The population is a very small number, 1% of the 1%.
- Need to update them every 6 years.
- Most special education students take the CMAS as part of the Colorado Academic Standards.
- EEOs are for kids with significant disabilities, they take the COALT exam.
- The medical evaluation should be done at no cost to the parent.

Subcommittee Work

- Subcommittees met and reported out.

Updates from the State Board of Education Liaison - Debora Scheffel

- The board is reviewing the achievement scores.
- Continuing to review the Colorado Academic Standards.
- There is some concern that the funds are being used properly.

Local SEAC Spotlight - Michel Friberg

- Michel gave an overview of the Cherry Creek local SEAC.

Constituent Work Groups

- Groups met and reported out.

The Power of Partnerships: Local SEACs - Anna Stewart

- Need to start with trust.
- Have open meetings with guests.
- Need to prioritize goals.
- Implementation of priority piece is vital.
- Must collaborate with the school district.
- Show that the SEAC is a useful committee.

Respectfully submitted by David Ramer, October 2023

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