

SUMMARY
September 9, 2022 Meeting
Indiana State Advisory Council (SAC)
on the Education of Children with Disabilities
 Online Virtual Meeting

<u>Council Members:</u>	<u>Present</u> <u>(Yes/No)</u>
Kim Dodson , The Arc of Indiana	Y
Bethany Ecklor , Division of Mental Health & Addiction, Indiana FSSA	Y
Melaina Gant , Department of Child Services	N
Dennis Heathfield , Cummins, Inc.	Y
Dr. Nancy Holsapple , Office of Special Education, Department of Education	Y
Theresa Koleszar , Division of Disability & Rehabilitation Services, Indiana FSSA	N
Funmi Ige-Wright , parent representative	Y
Aleesia Johnson , Indianapolis Public Schools	N
Donald Koors , Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired	Y
Kristi Linson , Children’s Special Health Care Services, State Department of Health	Y
Molly McGuire , parent representative	Y
Dr. John Nally , Department of Correction	N
Dr. Leah Nellis , Indiana University-Kokomo	N
Aura Roblero , Family Voices Indiana	N
Tiffany Sanders , parent representative	Y
Linda Schroeder , Old National Trail Special Services	Y
Dr. George Van Horn , SAC Chair, Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation	Y
Sarah Watson , Archdiocese of Indianapolis	Y
Lucy Witte , Indiana School for the Deaf	N

Also Present:
 Tracy Brunner, Department of Education

Call to Order

Council Chair Dr. George Van Horn called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. A quorum (twelve of twenty members) attended.

Action Items

Sarah Watson moved to approve the June meeting summary. Dennis Heathfield seconded. The motion passed.

Informational Items

1. State Advisory Council (SAC) Chair Dr. George Van Horn reiterated that federal reviewers intend to interview Council members during Indiana's upcoming federal IDEA Part B monitoring review and called their attention to related national technical assistance resources that were included with today's meeting materials. George also reminded members that components of the State's system of general supervision of special education programs are routinely reviewed with them under various standing agenda items over the course of the Council's four meetings per year, including Results Driven Accountability (RDA), the State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report; Dispute Resolution data; legislation that impacts special education; the State Part B budget and application; and the annual "Dec 1" count of special education students. Noting that one meeting remains before the end of this year, George asked members to add the 2023 SAC meeting dates to their calendars and referred them to where they can find meeting dates, copies of meeting summaries, and other information regarding the State Advisory Council online at the SAC website.
2. Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) Updates

State Director of Special Education Dr. Nancy J. Holsapple announced that, in its latest State Determinations, the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) assigned Indiana its highest rating, which is Meets Requirements. Her update on staffing at IDOE's Office of Special Education (OSE) advised that Assistant Director of Monitoring and Compliance Angie Vaughn continues to serve as Indiana's IDEA Part B-required 619 coordinator; she said OSE continues to seek qualified candidates to fill this coordinator position and one other special education specialist. She then updated the Council on three IDOE initiatives intended to help local school corporations address the nation-wide special education personnel shortage crisis: (1) Indiana's Alternative Special Education License available for individuals who hold a bachelor's degree and are enrolled in a post-baccalaureate approved alternative preparation program for initial special education licensure or addition of special education to an existing license; (2) ASSET, which allows currently licensed Indiana educators to add a special education teaching credential upon completing an approved transition to teaching (T2T)-type program and passing the appropriate licensure exam; (3) I-SEAL, that gives current and future special educators access to accelerated preparation options and provides financial support for textbooks, coursework, and costs to complete T2T and test preparation programs.

Nancy summarized results of statewide assessments and the disproportionate impact on specific student populations, including students with disabilities. She noted that IDOE is implementing a variety of additional supports to help LEAs accelerate student learning and close outcome disparities. Under Special Education Funding Updates, she explained why Special Education Excess Costs (SEEC) allowable costs and reimbursement policies/procedures for use of this finite state appropriation had to be revised given increased numbers of students needing residential and day treatment services in the current high demand/higher cost for services business environment. Nancy also summarized the status of currently active Part B

grants and what OSE fiscal staff are doing to help LEAs meet requirements for receiving and retaining these funds when audited. She responded to questions about qualifications for special educators and their training/ability to differentiate learning to meet special education students' needs while teaching to State standards.

Discussion Item

1. Council Member Reports and Concerns

Kim Dodson reminded members regarding the origins of legislation charging the State Advisory Council with the responsibility to update a list of Hoosier Workforce Resources annually for posting on the Department of Workforce Development and IDOE websites. She asked for volunteers to serve on subcommittee that will review and update the list posted in December 2021. There was brief general discussion about the purpose and approach for developing this list, and those present expressed concern that careful consideration needs to be given to making this information helpful and accessible, using language and formatting that will be user friendly for the target population of former students with disabilities. Dennis Heathfield, Molly McGuire, Tiffany Sanders, and Kristi Linson agreed to serve on the subcommittee.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Next SAC Meeting Date

The Chair noted that, due to the Veterans Day State Holiday, the council's next meeting will not be held on the second Friday of the month but is scheduled for November 18 instead and will be the last meeting of 2022.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:22 a.m.