

SUMMARY
March 8, 2024
Indiana State Advisory Council (SAC)
on the Education of Children with Disabilities
 Online Virtual Meeting

Call to Order

State Advisory Council Chair pro temp Kim Dodson called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. A quorum (eleven of twenty members) attended.

A	Melaina Gant	P	Funmi Ige-Wright	A	Dr. Leah Nellis
P	Kim Dodson	A	Aleesia Johnson	P	Lesa Paddock
P	Bethany Ecklor	P	Donald Koors	P	Michelle Robinson
P	Anthony England	A	Jonathan Kraeszig	A	Tiffany Sanders
P	Paloma Garza	P	Kristi Linson	A	Sarah Watson
P	Dennis Heathfield	P	Molly McGuire	A	Lucy Witte
P	Dr. Nancy Holsapple	P	Christopher Stilwell		

P- Present A-Absent

Invited Guests: Karianne Polk-Meek, Josiah Columbo-Espinoza, Alyssa Christy, Taylor Ellison, Angie Vaughn

Action Items

Tony England moved to approve the November Meeting Summary; Don Koors seconded. The motion passed.

Information Items

Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) Updates

State Director of Special Education Dr. Nancy Holsapple shared about the Science of Reading slides included in the March meeting materials.

Karianne Polk-Meek and Josiah Columbo-Espinoza shared information about the Science of Reading and information about IDOE’s literacy center. They also shared information about legislative requirements and literacy endorsement. In discussion after the presentation the council expressed questions about the research into the science of reading in relation to students with disabilities.

Dr. Holsapple shared Results Driven Accountability (RDA) and Differentiated Monitoring System (DMS) updates including how the council will be involved in an upcoming visit from the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP).

Update on Indicator 4: Suspension and Expulsion methodology Special Education specialists Taylor Ellison and Alyssa Christy presented the results of OSE’s work to gather stakeholder

input and revise the state's methodology for calculating Part B compliance for Indicator 4: Suspension and Expulsion. In discussion after the presentation, council members said they were pleased with the changes being made.

Dr. Holsapple shared that Dr. John Nally has retired from his position at the Department of Corrections and has resigned from the state advisory council. He was the longest standing member of the council. His service is greatly appreciated.

Dr. Holsapple shared about the addition of a new fiscal specialist who is facilitating the fiscal monitoring of Maintenance of Effort (MOE) workbooks for the Part B grant. Ashley Walke who was serving as the 619 coordinator and preschool specialist has resigned and Alyssa Christy is assuming this role moving forward.

Dr. Holsapple informed the council about the State Part B Application and allocation amount as well as the Special Education Child Count Data. An increase of over 5000 students from the previous December 1 count in 2022. In the 3-5 age range the data showed an increase in Autism and developmental delay and in the 5-22 age range the data showed an increase in Other Health Impairment and Autism.

Dr. Holsapple shared today is the last day of the legislative session and an update on any bills that are passed will be shared in the June meeting.

Discussion Items

There were no council reports or concerns shared today.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Next SAC Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, June 14th. Materials will be emailed to council members prior to the meeting.

Adjournment

Dennis Heathfield motioned for the meeting to be adjourned and Lesa Paddock seconded. The meeting adjourned at 11 a.m.