

STATE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

Holiday Inn and National Conference Center
East Windsor, New Jersey

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 14, 2017

Members in attendance: Myriam Alizo, Paul Barbato, Susan Colacello, Barbara Gantwerk, Deborah Lynam, Melanie McGackin, Magaly Milton, Chris Shamburg, Leslie Rubinstein, Amy Smith, Fred Tchang, Dorothy Van Horn

Members not in attendance: Beth Kelley

Resource Representatives in attendance: Donna Holzschuh, Kelley Michalowski, Eva Scott, Cheri Thompson, Deborah Verbos

Guests and members of the public: Sol Heckelman, Matthew Korobkin, Lori Marabella, Jennifer Riccards

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Dorothy Van Horn at 9:40 a.m.

II. ELECTION/ACCEPTANCE OF JUNE MINUTES

The Council elected Deborah Lynam as Chair and Melanie McGackin as Co-chair.

The June minutes were reviewed. After being properly moved and seconded they were approved with three abstentions.

III. DIRECTORS UPDATE/PRESENTATION

John Worthington, Director of the Office of Special Education Policies and Procedures (OSEPP) presented an update of OSEPP activities. He began by asking Council members for their input on two items: Autism diagnosis (N.J.A.C. 6A:14-3.5(c)2 and ESSA Waivers. Status updates were given on: Comprehensive Coordinated Early Intervening Services (CCEIS), Mediators, Ombudsman, Dyslexia and the Dyslexia Handbook, IEP Tool Sheets, Telepractice, DLM Science, IEP Facilitation (data and statistics), and Complaint Investigation. Lorelei Drew-Nevola, Director of the Office of Special Education Professional Development (OSEPD) will present her update at the November SSEAC meeting.

VI. COUNCIL DISCUSSION

The Council discussed potential topics for future monthly meetings. Suggestions were: Communications Accessibility Standards, Use of Robots, DLM Science requirements, Child Study Teams (CSTs), Paraprofessionals, Dyslexia Handbook, Career Readiness, Dare to Dream, and Restorative Justice.

Council members Leslie Rubinstein and Susan Colacello shared information about their upcoming conferences.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

Matthew Korobkin from the Public Consulting Group (PCG) provided information about a CCEIS Disproportionality Conference on November 2, 2017.

Sol Heckleman spoke about School Psychologists working closely with Child Study Teams, and made a recommendation for a nationally recognized speaker on Restorative Practices.

Sol Heckelman

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The public portion of the meeting was adjourned at 11:52 a.m.

The next meeting of the SSEAC is scheduled for Thursday, November 16, 2017 at the Robert Wood Johnson Wellness and Fitness Center in Hamilton Township, New Jersey.