

Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE)
Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP)

Friday, February 8, 2013

Minutes – Official

The meeting of the Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP) was called to order at 9:05 A.M. Members present were: Dr. Donna Alleman, Ms. Cindy Arceneaux, Ms. Holly Boffy, Ms. Bonnie Buckelew, Ms. Ella Fairchild, Dr. Elizabeth Marcell, Ms. Rana Ottallah, Ms. Susan Vaughn, Ms. Pittre Walker, Ms. Patsy White, and Ms. Ramona Wynder. Ms. Toni Buxton served as a proxy for Dr. Rhenda Hodnett. Ms. Avis Brown served as a proxy for Mr. Mark Martin. Ms. Linda Fonger served as a proxy for Ms. Amanda Trahan Sonnier.

Representing the Louisiana Department of Education were Superintendent John White, Erin Bendily, Bernell Cook, Bridget Devlin, Tyrell Manieri, Stephen Osborn, and Beth Scioneaux.

Public comments were received from Christy Cormier (LaTEACH), Shawn Fleming (Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council), Larry Gage (Vermilion Parish and LASEA), Vickie Irwin (Monroe City Schools and LASEA), and Kathryn Shipp (Lincoln Parish Schools and LASEA).

The meeting was called to order by co-chair, Ms. Holly Boffy.

Ms. Arceneaux requested a motion to approve the amended minutes of the December 12, 2012 Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP) meeting. The Committee's response was as follows:

- 1 On motion of Ms. Buckelew, and seconded by Ms. Ottallah, the Special Education Advisory Panel approved the minutes of the December 12, 2012 meeting of the Panel.
- 2 On motion of Ms. Fairchild, and seconded by Ms. Buckelew, the Special Education Advisory Panel approved the minutes of the January 9, 2013 meeting of the Panel.
- 3 On motion of Ms. Vaughn, and seconded by Ms. Arceneaux, the Special Education Advisory Panel amended the agenda to move the item relating to the Special Education Advisory Panel bylaw revisions from item ten to item six.

Superintendent White's report included the Minimum Foundation Program's (MFP) guiding principles, and proposed Special Education weight revisions to the MFP formula.

- 4 On motion of Ms. Arceneaux, and seconded by Dr. Marcell, the Special Education Advisory Panel received the report regarding the weighted funding for special education students in the MFP.

- 5 On motion of Ms. Vaughn, and seconded by Dr. Alleman, the Special Education Advisory Panel recommended that the Louisiana Department of Education and the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education retain the current special education funding structure in the FY 2013-2014 formula and convene a local stakeholder task force to study the Special Education funding in the MFP and recommend revisions to the 2014-2015 formula.

A Roll Call Vote was taken.

Yeas: Ms. Arceneaux, Dr. Alleman, Ms. Buckelew, Ms. Fairchild, Ms. Vaughn, Ms. Walker, Ms. White, and Ms. Wynder

Nays: Dr. Marcell and Ms. Ottalah

Abstentions: Ms. Boffy

Absences: Mr. Browhow, Ms. Gazzolo, Dr. Hodnett, Mr. Martin, Ms. Trahan Sonnier and Ms. Taylor

The motion passed.

Bridget Devlin reviewed revisions to the Special Education Advisory Panel bylaws with the Panel.

- 6 On motion of Ms. Vaughn, and seconded by Ms. Buckelew, the Special Education Advisory Panel moved to address revisions to the Panel's bylaws individually.
- 7 On motion of Ms. Vaughn, and seconded by Ms. Buckelew, the Special Education Advisory Panel moved, with respect to Article 3, Section 1 of the Panel's bylaws relative to Panel membership, to retain the language from the Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and to approve, as amended. Ms. Arceneaux was recorded as objecting the motion.
- 8 On motion of Ms. Ottallah, and seconded by Ms. Vaughn, the Special Education Advisory Panel moved to approve, as amended, revisions to Article 3, Section 3 of the Panel's bylaws relative to the selection of Panel members.
- 9 On motion of Ms. Vaughn, and seconded by Dr. Marcell, the Special Education Advisory Panel moved to approve, as revised, Article 3, Section 4 of the Panel's bylaws relative to vacancies on the Panel.
- 10 On motion of Ms. Vaughn, and seconded by Ms. Arceneaux, the Special Education Advisory Panel moved, with respect to Article 3, Section 5 of the Panel's bylaws relative to membership terms, to retain subsection (2) , and approve the revisions, as amended.

- 11 On motion of Ms. Vaughn, and seconded by Ms. Fairchild, the Special Education Advisory Panel moved to approve, as revised, Article 3, Section 6 relative to Panel co-chairs.
- 12 On motion of Dr. Alleman, and seconded by Ms. Vaughn, the Special Education Advisory Panel moved to approve, as amended, revisions to Article 4, Section 1 of the Panel's bylaws relative to Panel meetings, with the addition that the Panel's Executive Committee be responsible for planning the meeting agenda around standing items.
- 13 On motion of Ms. Buckelew, and seconded by Dr. Alleman, the Special Education Advisory Panel moved to approve, as revised, revisions to Article 4, Section 2 relative to Panel member's attendance.
- 14 On motion of Ms. Buckelew, and seconded by Ms. Vaughn, the Special Education Advisory Panel moved to remove "or through designated proxy" from and approve, as amended, revisions to Article 4, Section 3 relative to Panel quorum requirements.
- 15 On motion of Ms. Arceneaux, and seconded by Dr. Alleman, the Special Education Advisory Panel moved to approve, as amended, Article 4, Section 4 relative to Panel member proxies.
- 16 On motion of Dr. Alleman, and seconded by Ms. Fairchild, the Special Education Advisory Panel moved to add a clause to Article 4, Section 4 relative to Panel member proxies to read that, "Proxies shall not retain voting privileges per Open Meetings Act (R.S. 42:11-14)," and approve, as amended.
- 17 On motion of Ms. Ottallah, and seconded by Ms. White, the Special Education Advisory Panel moved to approve, as amended, revisions to Article 4, Section 5 relative to public comment, and remove subsection (3) relative to the presiding chair's right to limit the length of discussion on each motion.
- 18 On motion of Ms. Arceneaux, and seconded by Ms. Wynder, the Special Education Advisory Panel moved to approve, as amended, the revisions to Article 4, Section 6 relative to Panel member orientation, with the exception that the word "Council" be replaced with "Panel."
- 19 On motion of Ms. White, and seconded by Ms. Vaughn, the Special Education Advisory Panel moved to approve the revisions to Article 6, Section 1 relative to amendments to Panel bylaws.
- 20 On motion of Ms. Arceneaux, and seconded by Ms. Walker, the Special Education Advisory Panel moved to approve the revisions to Article 6, Section 2 relative to amendments to Panel bylaws.

- 21 On motion of Dr. Alleman, and seconded by Ms. Ottallah, the Special Education Advisory Panel moved to defer the consideration of a report on the IDEA budget.

22 On motion of Dr. Alleman, and seconded by Ms. White, the Special Education Advisory Panel moved to delete item nine (9), the consideration of a presentation on Open Meetings Law, from the agenda.

23 On motion of Ms. Wynder, and seconded by Ms. Walker, the Special Education Advisory Panel moved to take a 30-minute break.

Bridget Devlin provided an update on the development of alternate assessment policy revisions.

24 On motion of Ms. Arceneaux, and seconded by Dr. Alleman, the Special Education Advisory Panel received the update on the development of alternative assessment policy revisions.

Stephen Osborn reported on the State Performance Plan and the Annual Performance Plan.

25 On motion of Dr. Alleman, and seconded by Ms. Buckelew, the Special Education Advisory Panel received the report on the Annual Performance Plan. Ms. Walker was recorded as objecting to the motion.

26 On motion of Ms. Arceneaux, and seconded by Dr. Alleman, the Special Education Advisory Panel recommended that the Louisiana Department of Education convene a workgroup comprised of volunteer Panel members, or their proxies, to assist in the development of the State Performance Plan.

27 On motion of Ms. Vaughn, and seconded by Ms. Walker, and with no further business to come before the Special Education Advisory Panel, the February meeting of the Special Education Advisory Panel was adjourned at 2:28 P.M.