



State Advisory Panel

For Special Education

Twin Towers East • Suite 1870 Atlanta, GA 30334

Pamela Hunter-Dempsey, Chair
pamhd1@hotmail.com

Kimberleigh Beard, Vice Chair
bkimberleigh@gmail.com

State Advisory Panel Meeting Agenda

May 4-5, 2017

Macon Marriott (Macon, Georgia)

May 4, 2017

Time		Final Decision(s)
9:30 am – 9:45 am	Welcome/Opening Pam Hunter, Chair Kimberleigh Baird, Vice Chair	Pam Hunter, Chairperson opened the meeting. The first activity was a group “ice-breaker”.
9:45 am – 12:00 pm	<i>SAP Operating Procedures Review</i> (Shauna Crane, Associate Director, TAESE)	Zelpine Smith- Dixon gave a background to the Operating Procedures review session outlining the SAP Operating Procedures and introduced Shauna Crane who led the panel session. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The purpose will be to review and consider revisions to the SAP, ensure future Agendas to reflect revisions, and set a foundation for future meetings. • Ice Breaker: “What is your favorite part of the Panel?” “What can be improved on the Panel?”, “What do you see as the most important thing the Panel does?” • Shauna reviewed the SAP’s 2015-2016’s six recommendations. Three were operating procedures, and it was recommended this year’s recommendations to be focused on student outcomes. • Reviewed Federal Regulations for a State Advisory Panel including Duties of the SAP • Compared the Ga SAP Operating Procedures with Other States [Colorado, Kansas, Maryland, NC, and Louisiana] • Reviewed member requirements • Discussed standing committees Standing Committees: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due Process Committee could focus more holistically on dispute resolution. The ongoing data could be incorporated in the DOE update. • Membership and Operating Procedures Committees: Recommendation Move to executive committee. Operating procedures will be reviewed annually. • Recommendation: Yearly: Executive committee to determine committees for the year based in needs of the group. • Discussion: Priority setting and incorporating “Family Engagement throughout.” Final Recommendation to remove “Family Engagement” as a standing committee

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		<p>since it is an essential purpose of the SAP. The Panel should integrate with the Title I Family Engagement Conference.</p> <p>Public Comment Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should the “work” of the committee be everyone on the SAP’s responsibility? Recommendation: close the Public Comment Committee - An “Executive Committee” is the remaining “Standing Committee” at this time. • How should the SAP handle requests to access the meetings? It was recommended that the SAP will adhere to GA’s open meetings act. • The SAP reviewed various agendas and determined that the executive committee will be responsible for agenda development.
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	LUNCH (PROVIDED)	
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm	SAP Operating Procedures Review	
3:00 pm – 3:30 pm	BREAK/CHECK-IN	
3:30 pm – 5:00 pm	Next Steps and GaDOE Updates (Zelphine Smith-Dixon)	<p>Zelphine introduced her staff present. Wina Low – Program Specialist for Transition, Camilla Moss, Program Specialist for Speech and PK/Early Childhood, Ann Ladd, Family Engagement Specialist, and Lynn Holland, Program Manager.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GaDOE Update: GA Systems of Continuous Improvement: Improve schools by being intentional: Professional Capacity (train and recruit talent), Coherent Instructional System, Leadership, Learning Climate (including Family and Community Engagement) – all of these systems need to work together. • Zelphine explained the link to federal programs and access to federal funds. • SSIP Plan: SWD graduation as a target, numerous factors outside of special education factor in, (Access to the General Curriculum, Access to a Positive School Climate for all students, Access to specialized instruction), now with this new process (Systems of Continuous Improvement model) all impacting factors are considered. • This past legislative session provided funding to PBIS with the hiring of full-time climate specialists at each RESA and two additional state-level personnel at the GaDOE. • Zelphine also shared that Emily Rubin has provided support for Social Emotional Engagement Knowledge Skills (SEEKS) for GA districts. Zelphine explained the PBIS (Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports)

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		<p>framework and its relationship to School Climate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zelfine shared the Oconee region will have its own GLRS. • State Schools will have a video explaining their roles and services. • Zelfine updated the Panel on applying for an extension of the State Personal Development Grant and application of a new Grant. • Wina shared with the collaborative efforts with the VR agency and CTAE panel. This provides the opportunity to increase services for school aged students. • Zelfine shared an update from the ASPIRE forum – student-led IEPs. SWD are not the only students who need self-determination skills and the importance of “resilience”.
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Public Comment(s)	<p>Public Comment topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase 1:1 instruction, increase time with students • Improve communication, more resources • Smaller classrooms • Inclusive settings, increase inclusion and resources • Increase assistive technology, more teaching methods needed • Increase after school tutoring • Include cameras, increase inclusive opportunities • Increase qualified teachers • Schools need to listen to parents • Avoid “labels” for SWD, bullying concern • Increase physical access • Increase transportation within a system, smaller class sizes • Increase diagnostic testing, educate other children re SWD • Gen Ed teacher training • Increase special ed teacher’s pay • Increase funding, improve teacher training • Parent training LRE, Inclusion • Increase teacher input, resources, and training. • Need for Dyslexia interventions • Creation of a GNET parent advisory panel, inclusive opportunities for GNET students • Improve IEP implementation, data collection, and communication • Public comments concluded.
6:00 pm	DINNER (PROVIDED)	

May 5, 2017 – Macon Marriott

Time	Final Decision(s)	
7:30 am – 8:30 am	BREAKFAST (PROVIDED)	
8:30 am – 9:30 am	Young Children Updates	<p>Young Children Updates (Camilla Moss, GaDOE Education Program Specialist)</p> <p>PowerPoint: Partnering to Create a Culture of Inclusion in Georgia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared NTACTION “flow chart” of how coordinating systems work together. • Current 3 year trends Ages 3-5 Inclusion trending down slightly (-1%), challenges: GA does not require universal PK, availability of PK opportunities/daycares in a community, etc. • Group discussion on different areas-challenges of early childhood transition • Camilla shared a family resource: Parent 2 Parent of GA PK transition resource. Also shared was Gwinnett County’s Parent Mentor Project- PEECE: Parents Engaging in Early Childhood Development; Shared Preschool LRE Dear Colleague Letter – LRE applies to all school age children even ages 3-5. • Parent members shared frustration of how early childhood transition information is shared with their communities. They shared that many parents are unaware of the continuum of options.
9:30 am – 10:30 am	Disproportionality	<p>(Carol Seay, GaDOE, Data Manager)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carol shared her PowerPoint Presentation. Rate of Identification, Service Location, and Suspension data of SWD as compared to other subgroups. • Carol shared the formula to calculate Disproportionality. Benefits of new Regulation brings awareness to all in the education community: Superintendents, Principals, etc. • Risk ratio: Federal regulation defines disproportionality to be at or above 3.0; for example 3.0 means “three times higher as compared to other subgroups all together in that particular District. • New regulation requires the Risk Ratio for Placement and Identification as a comparison to other subgroups in the District unless the subgroup size is too small. • Discussion: Current Risk Ratio versus alternate Risk ratio with smaller subgroups and compare to the State data because there is not a subgroup size comparable. OSEP recommends no greater than a subgroup size is 10 for comparison of Discipline. OSEP recommends a subgroup size of 30 for Placement for comparison. • In GA, both ISS and OSS are reviewed for Discipline. Carol explained data elements of “durations”, and “events.” New regulations will keep disproportionality data on ISS/OSS less than 10 days, greater than 10 days, and Total Disciplinary

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		Removals. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Placement: New OSEP calculations: Less than 40% in general education, and separate settings (Removes 40-79% category); • New Disproportionality regulation takes place July 2018; current methodology will be reported for this school year. • SAP Input: Discussion on the importance of systems utilizing resources.
10:30 am – 10:45 am	BREAK	
10:45 am– 12:00 pm	Wrap Up	Pam Hunter, Chair Kimberleigh Beard, Co-Chair Pam shared closing information, and thanked Panel members for their collaboration. Pam introduced Kimberleigh Beard as the SAP Chair for 2017-2018 and Paul West as SAP Co-Chair for 2017-2018.

Please note that the times listed above are approximate and may change except the public comment period. Every effort is made to begin the public comment at the appointed time. Pursuant to Panel Policies and Procedures, a full 30 minutes is always allowed even if the start has been delayed. Comment time is limited 5 minutes per speaker so that all have a chance to be heard. For individuals desiring to make comment via telephone conference call, comment time needs to be scheduled with the SAP Chair a minimum of 3 business days prior to the meeting.

Complete	To Do
	Carol will send presentation to SAP members and permit opportunities for feedback. The SAP leadership will update the new procedures per the recommendations and consider strategies to expand the executive committee. Consider strategies to bring greater awareness to the continuum for young children.