



Colorado Special Education Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 16, 2023
Civic Center Plaza (ESSU Offices)
19th Floor Conference Room
1560 Broadway
Denver, CO

CSEAC Mission: Our mission is to actively represent children/youth with disabilities and impact decisions made on their behalf to enhance the quality of educational services.

CSEAC Vision: All learners are respected and challenged with high expectations, their needs are met, and student aspirations for success are fulfilled.

Members in Attendance: Heather Alderman, Julia Allison, Susan Archuleta, Betsy Basch, Erin Camper, Cori Canty, Jill Choate, Jessica Cuthbertson, Laurie Ditterline, Amy Dobronyi, Heidi Graber, Nicole Gross, Eva Leon, Jill Pidcock, Amy Rosengrants-Smith, Shannon Sloane, Ann Wilson

Absences: Shelly Agostine, Kelly Balderston, Michel Friberg, Samantha Hollister, Kaegan Smith, Cassie Sudbeck, Amanda Summers, Shelli Tillery, Kate Tshikalu-John

CDE Staff and Other Guests: Beth Donahue, Family Engagement Specialist, Exceptional Student Services Unit (ESSU), CDE; Gloria Durosko, Supervisor, Data and Monitoring Liaison, ESSU, CDE; Kat Rains, Dispute Prevention and Assisted Resolution Supervisor, ESSU, CDE; David Ramer, Program Support Assistant, ESSU, CDE; Debora Scheffel, State Board of Education Liaison; Hunter Smith, Multilingual Learners with Educational Disabilities Specialist, ESSU, CDE

Welcome, Introductions, Public Comment and CSEAC Parent Input

- Members and guests introduced themselves.
- There was no public comment.
- CSEAC parent input:
 - Staff shortages continue to be a concern.
 - Families are having great difficulties if English is not their first language – El Grupo Vida is an excellent organization.
 - General Education students need to be made aware of students with disabilities.



Approval of Minutes

- Minutes of the September 21, 2023 meeting were approved unanimously without amendment.

CDE and ESSU Updates - Gloria Durosco, Supervisor, Data and Monitoring Liaison, ESSU, CDE

- The Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) will be conducting an onsite monitoring visit in early December.
- States getting their reports from OSEP have taken an extremely long time, in some cases over a year.
- Colorado will share the report with CSEAC.
- Indicator 4 – measures suspensions and expulsions greater than 10 days in a school year.
- Data is reported to OSEP one year behind.

Updates from the State Board of Education Liaison - Debora Scheffel

- Continuing to review the Colorado Academic Standards.
- Working on legislative priorities.

Information Session: HB23-1263 - Hunter Smith, Multilingual Learners with Educational Disabilities Specialist, ESSU, CDE

- Hunter gave an overview of Colorado's new state law, Translating Individualized Education Programs (IEPs).

Local SEAC Spotlight: Poudre School District

- Heidi Graber and Erin Camper gave an overview of their local SEAC.

Constituent Work Groups

- Groups met and reported out.

Subcommittee Work

- Subcommittees met and reported out.

Respectfully submitted by David Ramer, December 2023

The contents of this handout were developed under a grant from the Department of Education. However, those contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.