



NEBRASKA

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

NEBRASKA SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

An advisory panel providing policy guidance to the Nebraska Department of Education with respect to special education and related services for children with disabilities.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, this meeting will be held via Zoom from 9 a.m. to noon, as we have clarified our ability to host a SEAC “distance” meeting due to Nebraska Governor Ricketts release from the face-to-face requirements from the public meetings act.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://educationne.zoom.us/j/95214001343>

Meeting ID: 952 1400 1343

January 21, 2021

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|--------------|--|------------------------------------|
| 9:00 | Zoom Meeting Begins | |
| 9:05 | Welcome | Kris Elmshaeuser
Linda Safranek |
| 9:15 | Welcome/Ice Breaker Activity | Kris Elmshaeuser |
| 9:30 | Council Business | Linda Safranek |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Open Meetings Law Announcement• Approval of January 21, 2021 Agenda*• Approval of April 30, 2020 Minutes*• Public Comment**• Notice of Conferences/Meetings• SEAC Member Updates/News/Sharing | |
| 9:45 | Orientation | Kris Elmshaeuser |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Responsibilities/Roles• Where to Find Information | |
| 9:45 | Introduction to the Office of Special Education Team | Amy Rhone |
| 10:15 | Covid-19 Update | Amy Rhone |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What happened March 2020-January 2021• Guidance• Federal Flexibilities/Waiver | |

- Facts
 - Increase in revocations – homeschool students, what we could see in the next few years
 - State Complaint increases (will span over the next three years)
- What’s to come

10:30 State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report Robyn Okamoto

- SPP/APR 2021 – FFY 2019 Submission
- SPP/APR 2022 – FFY 2020 Submission
- State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP)

Kelly Wojcik

11:00 NDE – OSE Monitoring Teresa Coonts

- NeCounts, 2020 Monitoring Activities, 2021 Monitoring Activities

11:15 Significant Disproportionality Update Kris Elmshaeuser

11:30 Legislative Update Amy Rhone

11:45 Plans for 2021 Amy Rhone
Executive Order extended through April

Noon Adjourn Linda Safranek

*Items requiring Council action

**Per the SEAC Operating Procedures, opportunity for public comment is requested in advance

Next Meeting Date: March 18, 2021

Upcoming Conferences:

- February 23, 2021 - Transition Conference “Dream It, Plan It, Do It!” – Virtual
- April 8-9, 2021 - ASD Network State Conference – Virtual
- June 2-3, 2021 - Nebraska School Mental Health Conference – Tentatively at the Embassy Suites La Vista Conference Center (La Vista, NE)

NE SEAC Executive Committee Members

Linda Safranek Chair (2020-2021) Parent/Educator, Omaha, NE

Terry Houlton, (2021-2022) Director of Special Education Millard Schools, Omaha, NE

Kasey Alexander, (2022-2023) Educator, West Point Schools, West Point, NE

TBD, (2023-2024)

Understanding the Advisory Council Functions under IDEA

All Council activities should relate to one or more of the functions

1. Advise the SEA of unmet needs within the State in the education of children with disabilities. CFR 300.169(a)
 - a) Training educations on working with children with Autism
 - b) Students not being adequately served in juvenile and adult correctional facilities
2. Comment publicly on any rules or regulations proposed by the State regarding the education of children with disabilities. CFR 300.169(b)
 - a) The federal law is reauthorized, and the State makes revisions to their regulations
3. Advise the State in developing evaluations and reporting on data to the Secretary under Section 618 of the Act. CFR 300.169(c) *Grown the most since 2004
 - a) The SEA is reviewing and refining APR improvement strategies
 - b) Upon completion of a State and school district drill down, it was concluded that students with disabilities had lower graduation rates than students without disabilities.
4. Advise the State in developing corrective action plans to address finding identified in federal monitoring reports under Part B of the Act. CFR 300.169(d)
 - a) The State has just experienced an OSEP Visit and was found to be in noncompliance on various fiscal issues.
5. Advise the State in developing and implementing policies relating to the coordination of services for children with disabilities. CFR 300.169€
 - a) The SEA is proposing a new MOU with the Department of Corrections
 - b) The SEA is revising its MOU with the Department of Health
6. The SEA, after deleting personally identifiable information must
 - Provide the Advisory Council with the DPH findings and decisions and
 - Make those finding and decisions available to the public. CFR 300.513(d) & 300.514(c)
 - a) DPH decisions identify consistent issues.
 - b) The SEA has experienced a spike in DPHs
7. Waiver of non-supplant requirement. State must consult with the Advisory Council regarding provisions of FAPE. CFR 300.164(c)(4)
8. States retain discretion to determine the risk ration threshold above which disproportionality is significant so long as that threshold is reasonable and based on advice from their stakeholders, including their State Advisory Councils. 34 CFR 600.647(b)(iii)(A)