

Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC)

Meeting Minutes

May 23–24, 2023

Meeting Information

Date and Time: May 23, 2023; 8:30 am–4:30 pm

Location: Washington School for the Blind, Vancouver, WA

Members in person: Tammie Jensen-Tabor, Diana Marker, Jennifer Lee, Amie Verellen-Grubbs, Tanya Cochran, Tamara Rosario, Laura Staley, Sean McCormick, Laurie Thomas,
Members virtual: Scott Hampton, Vanessa Tucker, Jen Chong Jewell, Samantha Fogg, Natasha Hays, Patty Delgado,

OSPI: Tania May, Bev Mitchell

Presenters: Alyssa Fairbanks, OSPI; Scott Raub, OSPI; Jeffrey Niess, ESD 112; Jillany Wellman, ESD 112 Spero Center

Pre-reading for Meeting: Draft February 2023 minutes

Open Meeting | 8:30 am–9 am (30 min)

Presenter(s):

- Call to order - **Tammie Jensen-Tabor, Executive Chairperson**
- Land Acknowledgement - **Jen Chong Jewell, Executive Vice-Chairperson**
 - Text 907-312-5085 or [click here](#) to identify Native Lands on which you are currently located and please add to the chat box to honor the Native Lands.
- Introduction of members - **Tammie Jensen-Tabor, Executive Chairperson**
- Review agenda, SEAC [Bylaws](#) and [Group Norms](#) – **Diana Marker, Executive Member**
 - **Accepted the new bylaws with the change in the WAC noted. The motion passes with no oppositions.**
- Review and accept minutes from February 2023 meeting - **Jen Chong Jewell, Executive Vice-Chairperson**
 - **No edits were needed.**
- **Action Item(s):** Review and accept February 2023 minutes. Motion made to accept the minutes and approved the minutes. Diana Marker abstained.



Welcome WSSB Team | 9 am–9:15 am (15 min)

Presenter(s): Scott McCollum welcomed the group and gave a brief history of the WSSB.

WSSB presentation/tour | 9:15–10 am (45 min)

Presenter(s): Sean McCormick took the members on a tour of the WSSB campus. The members reflected on their tour of the WSSB facility. About the beautiful campus, but mostly how well thought out the design was of the campus.

Sean shared that the goal for WSSB students is that when they walk through WSSB doors in the morning they walk through as kids first.

SPERO Center Presentation | 10:00 am–10:30 am (30 min)

Presenter(s): Jeffrey Niess, Executive Director Special Education and Jillany Wellman, Director SPERO Center, ESD 112

- **SPERO means hope in Greek and Latin.**
- **Therapeutic Learning Center**
- **Intermediate step for students to return to their typical educational settings**
- **Provides services in all three settings on the path back to school**
 - **Home**
 - **Therapeutic Education Setting**
 - **Public School**
- **Located on ESD 112 campus**
- **Took shape after a visit to Utah with the ESD leadership and Glenna Gallo**
- **Grades 6–12**
- **Spero offers**
 - Educational support
 - Therapeutic environment
 - Outreach services
 - Counseling services
 - Parent ed and support services
- **Future goals and planning**
 - Moving into a new constructed mental health facility on the ESD 112 campus.
 - Add elementary aged students.
 - Move from a special education setting to an integrated setting.
 - Develop additional Spero Center programs for the state of Washington.

Break | 10:30 am (15 min)

NPA, Interagency Agreements, Class Action Lawsuit Update | 10:45 am–11:30 am (45 min)

Presenter(s): Tania May, Scott Raub, and Matt Schultz

- Scott presented on the NPA process

Public Comment | 11:30 am–Noon

- Two people made public comments.

Working Lunch | Noon–12:30 pm

Due Process, Supreme Court Ruling Perez v. Sturgis PS update | 12:15 am–12:30 am (15 min)

Presenter(s): Alyssa Fairbanks

- Alyssa went through the due process summaries.
- And Alyssa walked the members through the Perez v. Sturgis court ruling.

Break | 12:30 pm–12:45 pm (15 min)

Special Education Funding and Funding Code 3121 | 12:45 pm–1:15 pm (30 min)

Presenter(s): Tania May

Annual Report Writing | 1:15 pm–2 pm (45 min)

Presenter(s): Executive Team

Break | 2 pm (15 min)

Continue Annual Report Writing | 2:15 pm–3:15 pm

Presenter(s): Executive Team

Discussion about setup for Community Forum | 3:15–4 pm (45 min)

Break | 4 pm (15 min)

Summary of Actions| 4:15 pm–4:30 pm (15 min)

Presenter(s): Tammie Jensen- Tabor

Meeting Information

Date and Time: May 24, 8:30 am–4:30 pm

Members in person: Tammie Jensen-Tabor, Diana Marker, Tanya Cochran, Jennifer Lee, Laurie Thomas, Haley Lowe, Tamara Rosario, Sean McCormick, Amie Verellen-Grubbs, Laura Staley

Members virtual: Samantha Fogg, Natasha Hays, Jen Chong Jewell, Scott Hampton, Vanessa Tucker, Patty Delgado

OSPI: Tania May, Bev Mitchell

Presenters: Paula Kitzke, OSPI; David Green, OSPI, Mary Kay Dugan, AIR;

Location: Washington School for the Blind, Vancouver, WA or virtually via Zoom

Open Meeting | 8:30 am–8:45 am

Presenter(s): Tammie Jensen-Tabor

- Announcement was made about Glenna Gallo being confirmed into her new role as assistant secretary for the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services at the U.S. Department of Education.
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Institutional Education | 8:45 am–9:30 am (45 min)

Presenter(s): Haley Lowe – DCYI K–12 Education Program Administrator, Paula Kitzke – OSPI Special Education, Special Project Lead, Mary Kay Dugan – Consultant American Institutes for Research, and team

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LOg7g2tfoys&t=4s>
 - Mary Kay Dugan from AIR presented.
 - Paula Kitzke presented.
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Legislative Update | 9:30 am–10 am (30 min)

Presenter(s): Tania May and David Green

- **Topic(s):** Legislative update, transition kindergarten, funding.
 - Secretary Cardona visiting WA state June – Samantha made motion to invite Secretary Cardona and the vote was unanimous.
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Break | 10 am (15 minutes)

Annual Report Writing | 10:15 am–11 am

Presenter(s): Executive Team

Discussion about 2023–24 Community Forum | 11 am–12 pm

Presenter(s): Diana Marker/Tania May

- Motion was made by Tanya Cochran to create social media accounts for the SEAC. Unanimously passed by the SEAC.
 - Who will create, who manages, etc.?
 - Diana Marker moved to add this to the Executive Member position, and Tanya Cochran seconded the motion.
 - With support of a sub-committee.
 - Unanimously approved.
 - Building a social media page for the SEAC was put on hold by the OSPI Communications who asked the SEAC not to move forward with this idea for now.
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Working lunch | Noon–12:30 pm

Review SEAC 2023–24 Focus Areas/Recommendations, and review 2022–23 annual report | Noon–1:30 pm

Presenter(s): Executive Team

- **Topic(s):**
 - Recommendation 1: Creation of a new two-way system of accountability through which the SEAC requests concrete and measurable actions aligned with recommendations and OSPI provides regular updates on these requests.
 - Recommendation 2: Continue collection and analysis of disaggregated data and recommendations regarding graduation pathways. Clarify where the accountability lies for ensuring access to graduation pathway options with significant disabilities, such as behaviors.
 - Recommendation 3: Continue the efforts of OSPI to leverage best practices in providing technical assistance and partnership to districts, families, and education groups.
 - Recommendation 4: Convening of joint meeting between the SEAC and DCYF Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC).
 - Recommendation 5: Collection and analysis of data on the collective impact of special education funding in relation to braided funding and impacts on BIPOC students with disabilities.
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Break | 1:30 pm (15 minutes)

Discussion and writing recommendation papers | 1:45 pm–2:45 pm

Presenter(s): Executive Team – Diana Marker

- Topic(s): Draft recommendation report or position paper
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Break | 2:45 pm (15 minutes)

Continue discussion and writing recommendation papers | 3 pm–3:30 pm

Presenter(s): Executive Team – Diana Marker

- Topic(s): Draft recommendation report or position paper
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Action Item(s): Summary of Actions | 3:30 pm–4 pm

Presenter(s): Tammie Jensen-Tabor

- Action Item(s):
 - Pause on the social media piece.
 - Dates for meetings are scheduled through the 2025 school year.
 - October 24–25, ESD 189, Anacortes
 - January 16, 2024, Legislative Update and TAESE Training – Executive Session – Virtual
 - February 27–28, 2024 (virtual)
 - May 21–22, 2024, Walla Walla – location TBD
 - Annual report changes due back to the executive team by June 2. Make changes and submit annual report to Superintendent July 1.
- Meeting adjourned at 4 pm

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