

Washington State Special Education Advisory Council

May 6, 2015

Members Present: Andres Aguirre, Megan Bale, Shari Cotes, Lou Oma Durand, Carrie Fannin, Sherry Krainick, Rebecca Lockhart, Marcia Mongrain, Nancy Pack, Anne Shureen, Ann Waybright

Excused Absences: Cheryl Fernandez

Presenter: Robin Munson

OSPI Staff: Doug Gill and Aubry Deaver

Minutes Taken By: Aubry Deaver

Topic	Discussion	Action	Who/When	Completed
Classroom Observation	SEAC members visited Washington State School for the Deaf to observe classrooms and tour the facility. The visit also included an opportunity to discuss the provision of special education services with School leaders unique to the students enrolled in the School.			
Classroom Observation	SEAC members visited Washington State School for the Blind to observe classrooms and tour the facility. The visit also included an opportunity to discuss the provision of special education services with School leaders unique to the students enrolled in the School.			
Called to Order	Ann Waybright, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:12 p.m.			
Approval of February 2015 Minutes	February meeting minutes were reviewed. 1 st motion: Nancy Pack	February 4, 2015: Correct typo in Action column on page 5, and	Aubry Deaver	6/24/15

Topic	Discussion	Action	Who/When	Completed
<i>Ann Waybright</i>	2 nd motion: Marcia Mongrain All approved: Ann Waybright	correct typo in discussion column on page 6. Post the revised minutes to the OSPI-SEAC website.	Aubry Deaver	7/1/15
Review of May's Agenda <i>Ann Waybright</i>	The two-day agenda was reviewed with SEAC members. Some adjustments were made to accommodate the availability of speakers.			
OSPI <i>Robin Munson</i>	<p>The federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) formerly No Child Left Behind is in the process of reauthorization.</p> <p>There are three pending ESEA proposals (Attachment #1), but not much difference in the proposals with regard to statewide testing requirements for students eligible for special education. All of the current proposals in Congress still keep requirements for states to have a test that has content appropriate for students identified as significantly cognitively impaired (approximately 1% of the total tested population).</p> <p>There was also discussion about HB 2214 related to assessment. HB 2214 would change assessment graduation requirements for all students and eliminate the Biology End of Course (EOC) requirement for this year's graduating class.</p>			

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	<p>Superintendent Dorn proposed using the Smarter Balance test in the 11th grade to earn certification of academic achievement. HB 2214 gives local control for students getting over the hurdle. If this legislation is moved forward, it will save the state approximately \$30 million dollars in the costs associated with test administration. If this bill doesn't pass, the legislature recognizes that the Smarter Balance test is more difficult, and OSPI can choose to set a lower cut score to meet standards for graduation purposes.</p> <p>Community colleges have been working with OSPI on establishing transition/bridge courses for students who score at level two—they can take a concentrated course their senior year. If the student earns a “B” or better, they'll get same pass in credit-bearing courses and won't have students take remedial courses in college.</p> <p>Robin responded to questions from SEAC members.</p>			
<p>Legislative Update and Assistant Superintendents Report <i>Doug Gill</i></p>	<p>Dr. Gill provided an update on the legislative session.</p> <p>Currently in the midst of a second, supplemental session. There are two differences in how to fund McCleary:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Property Tax (Senate proposal) 2. Capital Gains Tax (House proposal). <p>Neither has majority at this time.</p>			

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	<p>However, in both House and Senate budget proposals, Special Education is a beneficiary of approximately \$273 million per biennium increase in state apportionment dollars. OSPI is not sure how increased funding will impact local district programming and practices yet.</p> <p>Two Bills have passed and gone to the governor for signature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSHB 1240 (Attachment #2): A CR-101 (intent to amend state regulations) has been filed, and is intended to insert SSHB 1240 language into state special education regulations. Public comment will be taken on the proposed regulations during the summer. • SB 5679 (Attachment #3): transition bill. This bill is related to the provision of post school transition services. It does not amend current regulatory language, but does reemphasize the need for meaningful postsecondary planning on behalf of students eligible for special education services. • Every Child Achieves Act (Attachment #4). The Every Child Achieves Act is a US Senate rewrite of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). This bill was referred to by Robin Munson, and will likely be accompanied by a proposed ESEA rewrite in the US House of 			

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	<p>Representatives as well.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Superintendent Dorn’s upcoming press conference is intended to help break the state Legislative stalemate by initiating discussion, and provoking thought and start a different conversation to help move the state budget discussions forward. 			
Annual Report	<p>Ann and members discussed a variety of items to be included in the 2014–15 SEAC Annual Report to Superintendent Dorn.</p> <p>Please see (Attachment #5) for the completed 2014–15 Annual Report.</p>	<p>Change Aguirre’s Representation Title to Division instead of Department. Remove Ron Hoxie from membership roster.</p>	Aubry Deaver	6/19/15
Committee Comments	<p>SEAC members enjoyed visiting WSD and WSSB. Members noted it was good to see how much difference enrollment in the state schools can make for students who are well served by being enrolled in these programs. SEAC members also appreciated the discussions regarding state testing issues, reauthorization of federal legislation and the legislative updates.</p>	<p>In addition to legislature visits in Olympia next school year, the SEAC is to visit Evergreen State College and look at their eLearning program. Evergreen has incorporated IRIS modules from Vanderbilt University—a great PD opportunity for teachers.</p>		
Public Comment	None.			
Adjourned	Adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m.			