

**Special Education State Advisory Panel (SAP) Meeting
Thursday, September 14, 2022**

The SAP advises on the unmet needs related to the education of children with disabilities within the State and provides feedback on any rules or regulations proposed by the State regarding special education.

In attendance virtual

Martha Jones
Devon Orland
Saskia Orland
Sabine Claster
Lauren Young
Leroy Hutchinson
DeAnna Julian
[Kelly Vandagriff](#)
Alyssa Barnes

In attendance from sign-in sheet

Meridith Harris
Patti Grayson
Dleephia Riley
Tricia Troester
Cynthia Banks
Julianne Hunter
Kimberly Washington
Anne Fernandez
Davena White
Lisa Lake
Tyler Sapp
Vicki Hipp
Karin Fisher
Jennifer Irvin
Mitzi Proffitt
Sean Cooper
[Winifred Pierce](#)
Day Patterson



Greg McElwee



| Time | Activity |
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| 9:30 am – 9:45 am | <p>Welcome/Opening Activity Patti Grayson, Chair</p> <p>Ms. Grayson called to order at 9:30am. She introduced the executive committee and Ms. Low. Ms. Low introduced Dr. John Copenhaver</p> |
| 9:45 am – 12:00 pm | <p>SAP Member Orientation and Professional Learning Dr. John Copenhaver, Technical Assistance for Excellence in Special Education (TAESE), Utah State University</p> <p>Dr. Copenhaver provided training on SAP member roles and responsibilities. He reviewed IDEA and Ga. state law SAP requirements, the history of special education, and the specific roles and responsibilities of the state special education director, the executive committee, and SAP members.</p> |
| 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm | Lunch on your own/Emails/Phone Calls |
| 1:00 pm - 1:30 pm | <p>Data – Linda Castellanos, Program Manager and Dr. Dawn Kemp, Part B Data Manager</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Stakeholder Feedback <p>Ms. Castellanos and Dr. Kemp requested feedback on setting new baseline targets for graduation rates because OSEP baseline calculations changed. Students with disabilities who graduate with a GAA diploma no longer count as a regular diploma. The previous baseline (73%) included students who earned a GAA diploma. SAP members discussed and stated they would like</p> |

| Time | Activity |
|-------------------|--|
| | to see a gradual approach to setting a new baseline. GaDOE is suggesting a revised baseline of 69% and will ask for feedback again in November meeting for Feb 2023 reporting to OSEP. |
| 1:30 pm – 2:00 pm | <p>Family Engagement and Outreach - Dr. LaTanya Barkley Washington, Program Manager</p> <p>Dr. Barkley Washington introduced herself and her new role. She will be connecting districts and parents in her new role.</p> |
| 2:00 pm – 2:30 pm | <p>State Director's Updates – Wina Low</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Proposed revisions to State Board Rules <p>Ms. Low further defined Dr. Barkley Washington's new role to include family engagement, parent mentor partnership, special education helpdesk, facilitated IEPs, and section 504 support. She discussed professional learning being held to provide training on the new discipline guidance from OSEP. She also provided information about the 1% participation rate for students taking the GAA and that 80% of Ga LEAs exceed the 1%. Ms. Low reviewed the OSEP guidance that under federal law, students with disabilities must be taught by certified special education teachers. She reviewed the special education and school administrator academy for 2023. She said over 350 administrators have registered, expecting over 500 by the end of the year. Ms. Low reviewed the synopsis of a proposed amendment to Rules 160-4-7-03 to remove the need for interventions before referral to special education and Rule 160-04-16 to define GLRS better. Lastly, she reviewed the proposed amendment to Rule 160-4-7-18 about grants for services to LEAS.</p> |
| 2:30 pm – 3:00 pm | <p>Public Comment Public Comment(s)</p> <p>This portion of the SAP Meeting is open to the public. The Public Comment procedures can be obtained using the following weblink: Procedures. Public Comment Online Survey Link: Survey Link Public Comment Printable Form: Form Link</p> <p>Requests to provide Public Comments, either by Phone or written submissions, must be received no later than 9/12/2022 and accommodation requests necessary for participation in the public comment process.</p> <p>There were no public comments.</p> <p>The meeting was adjourned at 3:05pm.</p> |

Respectfully Submitted by *Karin Fisher*, Past Chair