



## Special Education Advisory Council

### Draft Meeting Minutes

**Meeting Place:** State Office

**Address:** 103 S Main St, Waterbury, VT 05676

**Date:** June 13, 2018

#### Present:

Karen Hartman, Barb Joelle, Troy McAllister, Mill Moore, Eileen Guyette (10:30a), Joy Wilcox, Tracey Mongeon, Kascinda Fleming, Sheri Brunell

#### Agenda:

- 9:30 - 9:40 Roll Call, Assign Roles, Review/Revise Agenda as Needed - Troy
- 9:40 - 9:45 Open Meeting –Sign-in Sheet/Public Comments
- 9:45 – 9:50 Approve Minutes for May 14, 2018 Meeting
- 9:50 - 10:15 AOE Update- Update on Appointment of Secretary of Education; Rulemaking
- 10:15 - 10:45 Legislature Update
- 10:45 - 11:15 Review & Edit Letter to New Secretary of Education
- 11:15 - 12:30 State Board of Education discussion
- 12:30 - 1:30 Discuss Priorities, meeting dates and times

#### Roll Call; Assign Roles:

Roll call was taken.

Roles Assigned: Troy, facilitator; Kascinda Fleming, minutes; Eileen, vice chair; Lauren, secretary who will not be taking minutes, AOE will take minutes.

#### Review, Revise Agenda:

Reviews/Revisions: Address on agenda was incorrect, addition to agenda: Rate freeze on therapeutic independent schools, input into three therapeutic schools were given lesser approvals by board and look at what the options are for longer approval.

#### Open Meeting–Sign-in Sheet/Public Comments:

No comments

#### Approve Minutes for May14, 2018 Meeting:

Minutes will be reviewed at next meeting.

#### Legislature Update/AOE Update:

- Sheri Brunell updated on Adverse Effect-final review was completed a few weeks ago; committee is now expanding its work to look at the evaluation process, which includes eligibility. Committee will be meeting quarterly this next year and adding new members to include special educators. Karen reported AOE is not able to provide data on adverse effect at this time.

- Special education rules will be opening later in the year.
- Secretary appointment update-subcommittee of state board, unanimous on the 3 names submitted to Governor, Governor has them, no appointment at this time
- Mill Moore provided update on Special Education Rates for 2018-19 school year and copy 5-17-18 AOE memorandum from Heather Bouchey, Acting Secretary. There are questions if this was done in accordance with statute. Joy made the motion to ask for clarification of under what authority does AOE feel they can set this restriction and how does the Secretary see that this complies with IDEA mandate for individual services. Discussion: historically there are not a large number of requests, some schools haven't asked for increase in years and now looking for increase, Heather has released many memos on how things are to be done and anticipate push back, this has been in the works for over a year. Mill seconds the motion. No further discussion. All in favor- unanimous.

### **Review Draft Letter to New Secretary:**

Review of draft to focus on content editing, paragraph 2, page 2 is not clearly getting message across, need to flush this out, linking ACT 173 to the need to have a more integrated structure within the AOE, priorities have not been set but they are mentioned in the letter, need to identify the priorities. Troy made a motion to strike page 2 and keep the letter as an introductory letter with who we are, what charged with, and then send priorities later. Joy seconded. Discussion: Add Mill's name to left side of letter, remove or keep legislator, so until she is superseded no change, historically no one has consistently attended meetings, and legislative representative is a state statute not fed. All in favor: unanimous.

### **Chair Meeting with Chair of State Board of Education:**

- Troy met with Krista to introduce himself and what the Council is charged to do. Krista is excited to have a group with special education expertise.
- Council will advise on both federal and state regulations
- Joy/Eileen will be liaisons to the state board and will report to council and if members have specific questions send those to Joy/Eileen before meeting

### **Information for New Council Members:**

- Council budget, mileage reimbursement and stipend for non-state employees
- Hard and electronic copies of all Council information is available, Eileen has hard copies and Troy manages on-line site

### **Discuss Priorities:**

- Conditional/less than 5 year approval of independent schools
- Monitoring Act 173 (Sept-read before meeting/bring questions)
- Eligibility for special education
- Special "special" (alternative) education programs (Sept-Karen/Kascinda bring information)

- Comprehensive Special Education Evaluation Process (Sept-Joy )
- Students with Emotional Disturbance (Q3 2019)
- Inadequate qualified professionals/hiring & retention (Sept-Joy)
- Membership (Sept-Karen/Troy)

**Other - Dates for 2018-2019**

- Bi-monthly meeting, 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of month, 9:30-3pm
- Next meeting September 20, 2018
- State Offices, 103 S Main St, Sycamore Room, Waterbury, VT 05676
- No other business.

Sherri motion to adjourn meeting, second Tracey.