

## APPROVED MINUTES

**Meeting Place:** Microsoft Teams platform (Virtual Meeting)

**Date:** Monday, April 18, 2022 (4:30 p.m. to 7:35 p.m.)

**Present:** Chris Case, Dawn Campbell, Jacqui Kelleher, Kimberley McNamara, Kristen Bigelow, Dana Lesperance, Lisa Johnson, Tristan McNamara, Linda Moreno, Sara Kruk, Rachel Seelig, Susan Comerford, Tristan McNamara, Rene Sanchez, Vickie Haskins, Mary Barton, Katie Ballard, Sarah Fabrizio

### Agenda:

4:30-4:35 Come to Order, Review Meeting Expectations, Approve Minutes

4:35-4:45 Story Share

4:45-4:55 Public Comment

4:55-6:25 Addressing the Success Gap (Unmet needs agenda item)

6:25-6:30 Break

6:30-7:20 Restraint and Seclusion (unmet needs agenda item)

7:20-7:35 Vote on New Member(s)

7:35 Adjourn

### Come to Order, Review Meeting Expectations, Approve Minutes:

Rachel brought the meeting to order and reviewed meeting expectations. Minutes were not posted from the March meeting, Rachel requested to table this item for the next meeting. The panel agreed. March meeting minutes will be approved at the May meeting.

### Story Share:

Dana, Lisa, Dawn, and Rene shared their reason why they are interested in joining the panel. Jacqui offered to share how she entered the field of special education and will present at the May meeting.

### Public Comment:

No public comment

### Addressing the Success Gap (Unmet needs agenda item):

Dawn shared that at the middle school level within her district there isn't a meld between proficiency standards and IEP goals. Lisa shared that at the elementary level where she is working on procedures and policies for her staff. The staff reports that they are really enjoying the professional development. Within her school they have been focusing on data and looking at data to inform their instruction. Dana shared within the incarcerated adult population they are currently working with two students who have IEPs, and some have 504's. He shared that his students are very dedicated to their education. Being able to use proficiencies along with transcript reviews have been very helpful for his students. When adults are assessed typically, they have a 5th to 6th grade level. To help support and increase reading levels the corrections facilities use Wilson reading program along with other programs. Jacqui shared a Ph.D. candidate named Jacob will be joining in the fall to help support using Indicators to improve the Achievement Gap.

Rachel shared the Unmet Needs document presented a year ago. Dawn asked if there has been a delay in the Rules Change and there is not an answer yet. Rachel shared each item on the Unmet Needs items and asked for ways that these unmet Need items relate to the Achievement Gap. Rachel added the conversation to the Unmet Needs document.

Rachel will use the discussion on how the Unmet Needs document items connect to the Achievement gap to send a letter to Jacqui. Mary motioned to approve writing and sending the letter to the AOE, and Sara seconded. Motion approved.

### **Vote on New Member(s):**

Katie joined the meeting, and the Panel was at quorum. Due to this the panel switched to voting on new members. The potential new members are Dana Lesperance, Dawn Campbell, Kim McNamara, Rene Sanchez.

Katie made a motion to approve Dana, Dawn, Kim, and Rene via google forms. Suzy seconds. The floor opened for discussion, Jacqui explained the role of the Panel and stated that she felt everyone who is being voted on tonight will be a valuable addition to the panel.

All four potential members were voted on to the panel. Congrats, Dana, Dawn, Kim and Rene.

Rachel asked for a nomination for secretary, as Sarah Fabrizio is stepping down from the panel. Dawn volunteered to be the secretary; however, she is not an approved panel member yet and the by-laws require a panel member to be the secretary. Susan moved to table the election and Katie seconded. Motion approved.

### **Break**

### **Restraint and Seclusion (unmet needs agenda item):**

Chris updated the panel that they have received the documents and are in the process of making improvements based on the feedback from the Panel. Chris shared the AOE is focusing on improvement for restraint training including recorded modules with attached assessments. Also, adding training on reporting especially at the administrative level. Chris will share more information at the next meeting and is looking forward to continuing the discussion. Rachel opened the floor for panel members to share their concerns which included

- Risk assessments along with re-entry meetings as a requirement for re-entry for school, instead of a manifestation meeting.
- Two-hour days and the misuse of having students on a modified school day
- Long suspension rates without compensatory educational services

The second part of the conversation was regarding concerns when a parent and school brings forth a concern regarding seclusion or restraint of a child to the AOE the conversation with the school administration and the parent(s) of the child isn't consistent. Documents have been reported to be changed, emailed, or doctored and to not match other records that are reported. It is also a concern that the AOE prioritizes reports from the school district then when a parent reported an incident. There is a perception that the AOE isn't listening to parents regarding restraint and seclusion and their concerns.

The third part of the conversation was about ways to improve monitoring.

The AOE asked the panel how we can use our monitoring to improve reporting of restraint / seclusion.

Suggestions on what could be monitored included

- Number of restraints that are happening and the disability category
- The number of repeat restraints
- Understanding the age of the student who was secluded / restrained
- Where it's happening and how often it is happening
- Determining "restraining like / seclusion like" incidents
- Race of students being restrained / secluded
- Students of low economic status / students living in poverty

Restraint / Seclusion is closely related to target items 4, 9, and 10 with its correlation to Rule 4500 and this item will be added to the June agenda.

**Adjourn:**

Rachel motions to adjourn the meeting Suzy seconds meeting adjourned at 7:35pm.

**Meeting Schedule (hold the dates):**

May 17, 2022, from 4:30 - 7:30 p.m.

June 9, 2022, from 4:30 - 7:30 p.m.