



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Connecticut State Advisory Council for Special Education

Wednesday, March 29, 2023

******* 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. *******

Zoom Virtual Meeting: Members
YouTube Live Stream: Public Participant Viewing
[CT State Advisory Council for Special Education \(Full Council\) - 3/29/23 - YouTube](#)

(Conference Call Information included below)

MINUTES

Members Present: Bryan Klimkiewicz (non-voting), Louis Tallarita, Sean Cronin (non-voting) Susan Yankee (Chair), Jane Hampton Smith, Nachi Bhatt, Catherine Summ, Jennifer Lussier, Tom Cosker, Denise Drummond, Kim Williamson, Jeffrey Spahr, Lori Fortuna, Lena Esposito, Goviana Morales, Ana Wittig, Michael Scanlon, Brian K. Smith and Missy Wrigley.

Guest: Tom Boudreau (Bureau of Special Education)

Members Absent: Jolie Medina (non-voting), Kevin Keating, Nancy DeCrescenzo, Allison Kopie, Jake Shumbo, Cassandra Reilly, Dimpy Malvania, Jon Metcalf, Tammy Raccio, Louis Tallarita, Thomas Melillo and Marisa Mascolo-Halm (At-Large)

I. Call to Order and Welcome (9:00 a.m.)

Meeting called to order by Susan Y. at 9:03 am

II. Introductions/Roles

Susan Y. asks the Council members to introduce themselves starting with herself.

III. Council Purpose and Function

IV. Susan Y. reviews with the Council.

V. Public Comment (9:10 a.m.) N/A

SAC meetings are public meetings; members of the public may participate by calling in:

- Call-In Number: 1-866-880-0098
- Participant Passcode: 89689633

Old Business

VI. Consent Agenda:

Susan Y. asks the Council if there are any changes to the minutes and asks to add “Vice Chair” to Jennifer Lussier’s name in attendance.

Missy W. makes motion to approve and Jane Hampton Smith seconds. All in favor.

- a. Approval of the full Council February 22 Meeting Draft Minutes

VII. Executive Committee Report (9:15 a.m.)

Susan Y. provided update on Executive Committee meetings.

VIII. Membership Committee Report

Catherine S. provides updates to the Council members.

The Membership Committee has met and considered applicant Amy Messinger.

Tom Cosker and Jeffry Spahr make comment on how helpful the recruitment and legislative flyers are to the Committee specifically with informing on what the SAC is.

- a. Attendance Update
- b. Membership Update
- c. Membership/Legislative Flyer

IX. Legislative Committee Report

Jeff S. provides update on bills discussed and written testimony.

- a. Legislative Update

X. Dispute Resolution Ad Hoc Committee

BSE Call Center is moving along and is still in the testing stage.

Talks about the purpose of the Call Center.

Says between now and April 26 there will be a Dispute Resolution Committee meeting.

New Business

XI. Special Education Division Director Report (9:45 a.m.)

Tom B. presents PowerPoint.

- a. FFY 2022 IDEA Part B Grant Presentation (Tom Boudreau)
- b. Bureau of Special Education Update

XII. Round Table (10:15 a.m.)

- a. Agency/Parent Updates

Jane Hampton Smith (CPAC): Hearing a lot about unmet needs, not in school and eligibility evaluations, and children safety. Susan Y. ask for clarification on children safety.

Jennifer L (Parent).: Restraint and seclusion, Functional Behavioral Assessments (FBAs), unmet needs, vague descriptors in reports. Also, talks patterns of discipline.

Goviana M. (Parent): Lack of identification, translation of IEPs, discipline and suspension common issues and being left without academic instruction.

Lena E.(Parent(: Parents calling for resources on domestic violence (both child vs. parent and parent vs. child), sexual abuse and mental health issues. Concerns her.

Brian S.(DDS): Talks about resources and what DDS is currently doing with services and family engagements.

Lori F. (Parent): Discusses private schools and asks that the SAC keep their eyes on them as well.

Dennise D. (Women, Seniors and Children): Event being held at the Capitol, Friday, April 28 – speakers will share information with families in relation to Autism.

Adjourn (10:30 am.)

Motion to adjourn by Missy W. and Lena E. seconds. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at order at 10:24 am.

State Advisory Council Meeting Dates/Locations:

Meeting	Date	Time	Location
1.	September 28, 2022	9:00-12:00 pm	Virtual Meeting
2.	October 26, 2022	9:00-10:30 am	Virtual Meeting
3.	November 30, 2022	9:00-1:00 pm	Legislative Office Building: Hartford, CT
4.	January 11, 2023	9:00-1:00 pm	Change to Virtual Meeting
5.	February 22, 2023	9:00-10:30 am	Virtual Meeting
6.	March 29, 2023	9:00-10:30 am	Virtual Meeting
7.	April 26, 2023	9:00-1:00 pm	In-Person Meeting
8.	May 24, 2023	9-10:30 am	Tentative Virtual Meeting

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