



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Connecticut State Advisory Council for Special Education

Wednesday, July 22, 2020
SUMMER TRAINING

******* 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. *******
Virtual Meeting
(Conference Call Information included below)

MINUTES

Members Present: Sheila Crocker, Thomas Cosker, Audra Mae Talbot, Jeffry Spahr, Jennifer Lussier, Jonathan Metcalf, Nachi Bhatt, Brian Smith, Mike Nunes, Jane Hampton, Allison Kopie, Catherine Summ, Patricia Nunez, Susan Lemke, Ana Wittig, Louis Tallarita, Sean Cronin (non-voting), Bryan Klimkiewicz (non-voting), Jolie Medina (non-voting), Kasey Considine, Kim Williamson, Jake Shumbo, Doris Maldonado, Rick Raucci, Monica Hatton, Tammy Raccio, Goviana Morales and Missy Wrigley

Members Absent: Melvette Hill, Alex Steinbrick., Jane Goundrey, Joan Nicoll-Senft, Cassandra Reilly, Sonia Taylor-Smith, Rep. Liz Linehan, Rep. Jill Barry and Rep. Robin Comey

I. Call to Order and Welcome (12:00)

Tom Cosker called the meeting to order at 12:07

II. Introductions/Roles/Welcome

Tom Cosker asked the Council and public participants to introduce themselves and state what group they are associated with.

III. Council Purpose and Function

Tom Cosker reviews purpose and function with the Council.

IV. Public Comment (12:10)

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

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

Susan Yankee (Parent), Lauren Intravia (Disability Rights Intern) and Trish Butler (CTFSN Representative) attended the meeting as members of the public.

Old Business

V. Executive Committee Report

Tom let the Council know that we have been meeting regularly (Tom Cosker, Jen Lussier, Sean Cronin, Jolie Medina and Bryan Klimkiewicz) and he will add getting the minutes to the Council to the agenda Action Items.

VI. Membership Committee Report

a. Vacancies

Catherine Summ discusses Council membership vacancies. All parent positions are filled and Jake Shumbo will be leaving the SAC as a student and returning to the Council to fill the role of “persons with a disability”, the Council will vote for Jake on September 23, 2020.

b. Slate of Officers

Council voted Tammy Raccio as Council Chairperson, Jen Lussier as Vice Chairperson and Tom Cosker now serves as the Past Chair.

Jen Lussier asked Bryan for an update on the A.R. case. Jen was concerned because she has heard that some families were being advised by school districts to file for due process. Tom asked Bryan to do a brief overview of the A.R. case for the Council. Bryan provided a brief overview and indicated that updated formal communication from the state would be forthcoming. Kasey indicated that families who have concerns about the A.R. case can contact Disability Rights of CT.

New Business

VII. Special Education Division Director Report

Bryan discusses fall reopening with the Council, he provides updates and SDE plans on future work and the value from SAC membership.

VIII. State Systemic Improvement Plan update (1:15)

Jim Moriarty and Mike Tavernier review the SSIP update presentation with the Council and address questions and concerns. They agree and note to get the presentation to the Council.

IX. Action Items

Tammy requests a membership update for the September 23, 2020, meeting and she asks BSE to send the State Systemic Improvement Plan presentation to the Council. The SAC Executive Committee will provide all the approved committee minutes to Council for their records and look into accessibility for future virtual meetings per request by Doris Maldonado.

X. Adjourn/Break (2:00 -2:30)

Tom Cosker asked the council to adjust the break from 30 to 20 minutes beginning at 2:10 pm. He also facilitates moving into the group work session and Tammy thanks the public participants for attending, while making them aware that the next portion of the meeting was not open to the public.

XI. State Advisory Council Training/Retreat (not a public meeting) (2:30 – 4:00)

- a. Review 2019-20 State Advisory Priorities
- b. Review COVID-19 related Priorities (March 2020-July 2020) 2019-20 Priorities
- c. Planning related to 2020-21 State Advisory Council Priorities
- d. Breakout Group Activity

State Advisory Council Meeting Dates/Locations:

Meeting	Date		Time	Location
1.	September 23, 2020		1:00-5:00	TBD
2.	November 18, 2020 (Snow Date: Nov 25)		9:00-3:00	TBD
3.	January 13, 2021 (Snow Date: Jan 20)		9:00-3:00	TBD
4.	March 10, 2021 (Snow Date: March 17)		9:00-3:00	TBD
5.	May 12, 2021		1:00-5:00	TBD