



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Connecticut State Advisory Council for Special Education

Full SAC In-Person Meeting

CREC
111 Charter Oak Avenue – Room 202
Hartford, CT 06103
Wednesday, October 16, 2024

******* 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. *******

Zoom Virtual Meeting: Member Participation

YouTube Live Stream: Public Participant Viewing

[CT State Advisory Council for Special Education \(Full Council\) - 10/16/24 \(youtube.com\)](#)

(Conference Call Information included below)

Minutes

Members Present: Bryan Klimkiewicz (SDE non-voting), Sean Cronin (SDE non-voting), Susan Yankee (Chair), Jennifer Lussier (Vice Chair), Nachi Bhatt, Catherine Summ (Membership Chair), Kim Williamson, Rita Halkias and Joshua Martin

Virtual Members: Jolie Medina (SDE non-voting), Jeffrey Spahr, Mary Beth Bruder, Dimpy Malvania, Denise Drummond, Lena Esposito, Lori Fortuna, Allison Kopie, Jake Shumbo, Ana Wittig, Brian Smith, and Representative Comey.

In-Person Guest: Christine Kuehlewind and Holli Ryan (SERC)

Members Absent: Missy Wrigley, Nancy Decrescenzo, Mia Giantonio, Dawn Dickau, Amy Messinger, Jonathan Metcalf,

I. Call to Order and Welcome (10:00 a.m.)

Susan Yankee called meeting to order at 10:15 am

II. Introductions/Roles

Susan Yankee reviews Council function and members introduce themselves.

III. Public Comment (10:15 a.m.)

SAC meetings are public meetings; members of the public may participate by calling in: no comment

- Call-In Number: 929-205-6099
Meeting ID: 982 9924 5739
Participant Passcode: 904994

IV. Consent Agenda

- a. July 10 and September 18, 2024, Full Council Minutes for Approval- approved with corrections

Jennifer Lussier listed twice and under “Old Business” change the annual report to 2024. Kim Williamson absent.

Nachi Bhatt makes motion and Lori Fortuna seconds. All in favor. Kim Williamson abstains.

September 18 minutes, under old business “Catherine Summ and...” remove and. Rep. Comey and Mary B. Bruder listed twice, and Dimpy M. was in attendance.

Tom Cosker makes a motion and Jennifer Lussier seconds. All in favor.

Old Business

I. Executive Committee Report (10:20 a.m.)

Susan Yankee provides updates. Discusses LOB breakfast looking to be scheduled on January 22. Snow date to be determined.

II. Membership Committee Report (10:30 a.m.)

Catherine Summ provides update.

Met on October 15 – reviewed several applications. Does have a candidate to recommend. Also, working on updating the SAC Membership Survey to include questions that will encourage applicants to share more information.

Jeff Sphar lets members know that he has been contacted by Governor’s office regarding his appointment letter.

III. Legislative Committee Report (10:40 a.m.)

Jeff Sphar provides a brief update on bills the SAC will be monitoring.

IV. Safety and Emergency Ad-Hoc Committee Report (10:45 a.m.)

Susan Yankee and Joshua Martin update members on recent meeting and matters discussed. Questions and answers during discussion.

V. Round Table

Rita Halkias (USD 1): talks about recent work with various stakeholders.

Tom Cosker (Disability Rights) discusses continued work on outplacements for students with disabilities, employment, and transition. Mentions work with stakeholders. Ana W. asks for clarification on discussion.

Catherine Summ (ADS-BESBE): updates current work.

Brief pause for technology assistance

VI. Bureau update:

Director Bryan Klimkiewicz provides update on current work.

Members have a workgroup session on priorities and recommendations.

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm.

Meeting Dates and Locations

| Meeting | Date | Time | Location |
|---------|--------------------|----------------|--|
| 1. | September 18, 2024 | 9:00 -10:30 am | Virtual Meeting |
| 2. | October 16, 2024 | 10:00-2:00 pm | CREC, 111 Charter Oak Avenue Room 202, Hartford, CT |
| 3. | November 20, 2024 | 2:00-3:30 pm | Virtual Meeting |
| 4. | January 15, 2025 | 9:00-10:30 am | Virtual |
| 5. | February 26, 2025 | 10:00-2:00 pm | TBD |
| 6. | March 26, 2025 | 9:00-10:30 am | Virtual Meeting |
| 7. | April 23, 2025 | 10:00-2:00 pm | TBD |
| 8. | May 21, 2025 | 9:00-10:30 am | Virtual Meeting |

