



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Connecticut State Advisory Council for Special Education

Full SAC In-Person Meeting

Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents (CAPSS)
26 Caya Ave, West Hartford, CT 06110

Wednesday, April 24, 2024

******* 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. *******

Zoom Virtual Meeting: Member Participation

YouTube Live Stream: Public Participant Viewing
<https://www.youtube.com/live/SACfullCouncil04242024>

(Conference Call Information included below)

DRAFT Minutes

Members Present: Susan Yankee (Chair), Jennifer Lussier, Catherine Summ (Membership Chair), Dawn Dickau, Bryan Klimkiewicz (SDE non-voting), Jennifer Lussier (Vice Chair), Tom Cosker, Kim Williamson, Joshua Martin, Lori Fortuna, Jeffrey Spahr, Brian Smith, Nachi Bhatt, Ana Wittig and Amy Messinger.

Members Online: Mary Beth Bruder, Michael Scanlon, Jonathan Metcalf, Missy Wrigley, Ana Wittig, Lori Fortuna, Jeffrey Spahr (Legislative Chair), Jolie Medina, Dimpny Malvania, Govianna Morales, Denise Drummond, Jane Hampton, Jolie Medina (non-voting), Louis Tallarita, Jake Shumbo and Lena Esposito.

Guest: Tom Boudreau (Virtual) and Kirsten Dovenberg (In-person), BSE Education Consultants

Public Attendee: Alycia Trakas (BSE Education Consultant)

Members Absent: Rep. Robin Comey, Sean Cronin (SDE non-voting), Mia Dianoto, Matias Casanova, Allison Kopie, Tommy Mellilo, Cassandra Reilly, Tammy Raccio, Michael Scanlon, Jon Metcalf, Lena Esposito, Nancy DeCrescenzo, John King and Tylar Young,

- I. Call to Order and Welcome (9:00 a.m.)
Susan Y. calls meeting to order at 9:08 am.
- II. Purpose and Functions of the Council
Susan Y. reviews for members and guests.

III. Introductions/Roles

SAC members and guests introduce themselves and their roles.

IV. Public Comment (9:05 a.m.)

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

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

V. Consent Agenda

Tom C. makes motion and Govianna M. seconds the approval of January 24, 2024, minutes. Denise Drummond abstains and all others in favor.

Missy W. makes motion and Joshua M. seconds. All in favor of approval of the March 27 minutes with corrections.

- a. January 24, 2024, and March 27, 2024, Full Council Minutes for Approval

Old Business

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

Susan Y. provides report and encourages/invites members to attend Executive Committee meetings.

- a. Executive Committee Activities
 - i. Special Education Task Force Update
 - ii. Ad-Hoc Committee Update

II. Membership Committee Report (9:30 a.m.)

Catherine S. talks about vacancies.

Jeffry S. asks about appointment letters. Bryan K. responds.

- a. Updates

Brian S. asks members for nominations for Council.

Nominations for standing committees: Jeffrey S. (Legislative Chair), Lori F. and Jennifer L. (Vice Chair), Jon Metcalf and Susan Y (Chair).

Report (9:40 a.m.)

Jeff S. provides report. Answers question from Tom C.

New Business

I. Round Table (9:45 a.m.)

- a. Agency/Parent Updates

Catherine S (ADS-BESBE): recruitment for teachers, staffing, in service training and events –mentions “Hartford Brailers” hockey team.

Jane Hampton (CPAC) IEPs still not being translated, behavioral placement issues – most likely connected to a lack of staff and layoffs. Needs to be further discussed in workgroup.

Brian S. (DDS): Agency now has a new Children Services Division. Updates on staffing, discusses legislation passed in reference to Transition. Tom C. asks about number of individuals that receive DDS services and Bryan S. responds approximately how many cases for each case manager. Tom C. also, asks about transition students.

Tom C. (Disability Rights CT). Talks about current work. Restraint and Seclusions, mentions High Roads Investigation presentation. Have a Education Clinic. The last couple of years have been very systemic in nature. Mentions clinic and call center. Nothing raises to the top as an issue to highlight.

II. Break (10:15 a.m.) 10 to 10:10 am.

III. BSE Update (10:30 a.m.)

a. FFY IDEA Part B Annual State Application (IDEA Grant)

Tom Boudreau, Grant Manager reviews PowerPoint presentation. Answers questions.

b. IDEA Dispute Resolution Data

Attorney Kirsten Dovenberg presents. Answers questions.

c. Bureau Updates

Bryan K. provides update on Bureau priority work and staffing. Answers questions.

IV. Priority Review (11:45 a.m.)

Susan Y.

V. Adjourn (12:00 p.m.)

Motion made by Jennifer Lussier. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 11:55 am.

Members go into the workgroup from 12 to 1 pm.

Presentation from Office of the Child Advocate (Attorney Virginia Brown and) and Disability Rights CT (Tom C.), but in the format of combined Least Restrictive Environment and Restraint and Seclusion.

State Advisory Council Meeting Dates/Locations:

Meeting	Date	Time	Location
1.	September 13, 2023	9:00-10:30 pm	Virtual Meeting
2.	October 25, 2023	9:00-1:00 pm	In-Person Meeting Location: CREC, Charter Oak Avenue, Hartford, CT
3.	November 29, 2023	9:00-10:30 pm	Virtual Meeting
	January 17, 2024		Cancelled
4.	January 24, 2024	10:00-1:00 pm	In-Person Meeting Location: Legislative Office Building, Hartford, CT 06103
5.	February 28, 2024	9:00-10:30 am	Virtual Meeting
6.	March 27, 2024	9:00-10:30 am	Virtual Meeting
7.	April 24, 2024	9:00-1:00 pm	In-Person Meeting Location: (CAPSS) 26 Caya Ave, West Hartford, CT 06110
8.	May 22, 2024	9:00-10:30 am	Virtual Meeting