

COUNCIL ON EDUCATIONAL SERVICES FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN

September 2021

Summary of Actions

Welcome, Call to Order, Introductions, Review of Agenda, Review of Meeting Minutes – June 2021

Chairperson Cynthia Daniels-Hall called the virtual meeting to order. Council members provided self-introductions and reviewed the day's agenda.

The March Summary of Actions was reviewed. The Council approved the March Summary of Actions with no comments or edits. Alexis Utz provided instructions for the Public Comment procedures.

Appointments: Senator Ted Alexander and parent Mrs. Elizabeth DeBiasi, were appointed by the NC General Assembly and will begin their terms in July 2021. Dianne Coffey and Christy Hutchinson have requested a second term and were reappointed by the State Board last week. Representative Larry Strickland completed his first term and was reappointed by the NC General Assembly. Virginia Moorefield has completed her second term with the Council.

SPP/APR Report Update –Lauren Hollahan/Kelly Blaas [Overview PPT](#)

Lauren shared the link to the stakeholder invite ([-Invite](#)). The performance indicators can be found in the invitation. Two meetings were held in April. At that time, Indicators 1 (graduation rate) and 2 (dropout rate) were discussed. They did a self-assessment of the EC Division and shared it with the stakeholders in order to get feedback on the infrastructure. May's meeting dealt with Indicator 3 (reading and math proficiency), and a continuation of EC Division's self-assessment. In June, the plan is to review Indicator 14 (post-school outcomes), and then Indicator 7 (preschool outcomes). They will continue feedback on self-assessment. Indicator 4 will be addressed in October.

Kelly shared the demographics of participants from the previously held meetings. (See Powerpoint) She explained the SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) process and how they received stakeholder feedback back in April. They will be doing a much more in-depth infrastructure in the fall.

A draft of the SPP/APR report will be drafted in November/December and will be shared with the Council for feedback.

Agency Updates – Sherry Thomas/Matt Hoskins

School Extension Learning Recovery & Enrichment Programs - Special ed. students are not necessarily "at-risk" if they are making progress on IEP goals. Must meet the school's definition of "at-risk" to participate in the summer learning. It's not an extension of the school year (not required) and special ed. students are not required to attend. If they are eligible for ESY services, that is different and would receive services outside of the school's optional summer learning opportunity.

-Federal increase: IDEA 611 Grant (part B school-age) is \$377,384,354 (an increase), the supplement award is an additional \$81.3 million (no admin. cost from this amount- all goes to LEAs). Total award is \$458,744,760. IDEA 619 Grant (preschool) is \$11.6 million, supplemental \$6.1 million (no admin. cost from this amount- all goes to LEAs), total \$17.7 million.

-Project AWARE: \$8.8 million grant to support mental health for students within the school and building community partnerships.

-State Board alignment: Working with the SBE to align mental health & social emotional learning goals.

-NC has developed a vision & goals for SEL, completed SEL standards mapping, modeling/sharing 3 signature practices, and begun an SEL & equity project with 42 LEAs.

-OSEP Report: Provided information about the monitoring visit and corrective action required by OSEP. Asked for guidance about PRTF's before visit but OSEP included this in their research and issued corrective action on this topic with no guidance. See powerpoint slides (Agency Updates-linked on left) for information regarding corrective actions required to be completed by August 2021.

-EC Conference will be held in-person this fall!! (Nov 16-19)

Public Comments

There was an emailed comment around how services are being provided for children with chronic medical needs. but it was decided that more information was needed in order to address the concern. It was suggested that maybe an expert from DHHS could share information on the topic.

Committee Work

2019-2020 Annual Report is due to the State Board by September 1st. It must be submitted in July for first reading.