

**Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting**

**Date: March 16, 2022**

**Virtual Meeting via Zoom Webinar**

**7:00-9:00 pm**

**Meeting Host: Susan Neilson, School Board Clerk**

**Agenda**

	Name	Role	Present	Not Present
SEAC Members				
	Cindy Hart	Member	X	
	Michael Behrmann	Vice-chair		X
	Janet Eissenstat	Member	X	
	Laura Fontaine	Teacher Member	X	
	Lauren Golubski	Chair	X	
	Carolyn Meza	Member	X	
	Jennifer Niccolls	Member	X	
	William Olson	Member	X	
	Kate Radt	Student Representative	X	
	Alexis Stackhouse	Member	X	
	Sandra Strachan-Vieira	Member		X
	J-Lynn Van Pelt	Co-Secretary	X	
Consultants				
	Meagan Alderton	School Board Liaison	X	
	Patricia Zissios	Principal Liaison	X	
	Theresa Werner	Staff Liaison	X	
Other	Courtney Davis	PRC Liaison	X	
	Janet Reese	PRC Liaison	X	
	Terri Mozingo	Chief of Teaching, Learning, Leadership	X	
	Willie Bailey	School Board Member	X	

## **Moved Presentation up on agenda to accommodate guest schedules**

Welcome to Dr. Melanie Kay-Wyatt who introduced SEAC to Ms. Margaret Browne (Recruitment & Retention Director)

Ms. Margaret Browne –

Started in Dec 2019; Margaret Browne; prior teacher, came from DC Public Schools  
Discussed Initiatives on Special Education Recruitment and Staffing

1. Increased number of events; goal to hit 20 recruitment events; 40% increase from last year; looking for talent looking for ED
2. Special Education Interview Panels where candidates can directly interview
3. Partnerships with universities to establish pipelines to tap into graduate and undergraduate education programs
4. Seeing increase in applications in ACPS, including special education

## **Questions**

1. Jennifer Nichols – Wondering about reaching out to American University and internships? Yes, we have reached out to American. We are also looking at expanding internships?
2. Laura Fontaine – Initiatives for high-quality instructional assistance in classrooms? Yes, we are looking at expanding efforts around recruitment for assistants as well.
3. Will Olson – Regarding efforts to recruit Sped...are there any efforts made to recruit teachers that have specialized training, in other styles of Sped teaching? Yes.
4. Jennifer Nichols – Does ACPS recruit general education teachers and making them special education teachers? Also, how to find time to provide required Sped training as required? Yes...We are also looking at licensure and additional endorsements as a part of our planning and plans. Dr. Terri Mozingo added, ACPS also has tuition reimbursement in addition to the Grow Your Own Program. WE exhaust those funds every year. Theresa Werner added information about provisional licensing in Special Education as a recruiting tools.
5. Lauren Golubski – Can you speak about retention in Sped? It's a year-round process and we also work on exit interviews and stay interviews. We also have new information coming out soon around our exit and stay interviews. In Fall, we did 90-day check-in with new staff.

## **Attendance**

### **Public Comments**

- Student Report
- No additional comments submitted prior

## **Review Meeting Norms & Brief Updates**

- **Meeting Norms:**
  - Present for 75% of meetings
  - Actively engaged
  - Work to serve ACPS' students with disabilities at large (refrain from bringing own child's concerns to meeting)
  - Innovative and solution oriented mindset to problem solve and work as a committee for the best outcome of students
  
- **Brief Updates**

## **Old Business and Action Items**

- November 17, 2022, SEAC meeting minutes - approved by committee members
- January 19, 2022, SEAC meeting minutes - approved by committee members

## **New Business and Reports**

- Reports

### **Executive Director of Specialized Instruction**

Terri Werner – Discussed Sp Ed Job Fairs, Virginia Alternative Assessment Program (VAP) Covid Recovery Phase II/Phase III

Number of students in Sat School – 31; students getting services during the week – between 70-80 – I will come back with a correct number, do not quote me on that

270+ when we were looking at kids that met the criteria; many families did not follow-up

Orton-Gillingham Training – refers to multi-sensory phonemic awareness approach to reading instruction to include dyslexia and dyslexic students

Dr. Terri Mozingo - If there is a way to create a positive unit to integrate into one of our content areas based on what the student representative, Kate Radt stated, perhaps unit on the types of students the student mentioned; Dr. Davis discussed, I Am Determined, teaches students advocacy and the history of Sp Ed

### **School Board Liaison**

Megan Alderton, please see State of the Schools Address by Dr. Hutchings; Equity for All Climate Survey is available-please complete it; next couple of meetings and most recent meeting talking about the TAG program – what we need to change, what we need

to keep, etc.; will be looking at TAG service model and ideas for adjusting service model; Young Scholars at every elementary school to identify TAG students in different way  
Lauren Golubksi – Can you send out info on the State of the Schools info?

### Parent Resource Center

Nothing new to report

### SEAC Chair

Did not have SPED 101 training; pushed back, slides needed to be reviewed and worked through; working session possibility instead of a board meeting?; May 26, 2022 – possible date; since there is no formal meeting in April, Anne Lipnick Awards, close 25 Apr 2022; 27 Apr 2022 at 7pm to review work session and special ed annual plan

Theresa Werner – gave background on Special Education Law and use of funds in this arena and funds disbursement through VADOE; discussed Anne Lipnick Awards

Anne Lipnick Awards – minutes approved; session to review awards will be on 27 Apr 2022 at 7pm; approval to add related service provider category;

### Subcommittees

- Transition– meeting minutes adopted
- Literacy – meeting minutes approved; Request meeting with Dr. Carolyn Wooster on Wed 23 Mar 2022 at 9 am; compiled list of potential questions;
- Equity & Inclusion – delay discussion until next meeting due to absence of Chair; looking at definitions ACPS is using and how they align with what subcommittee believe would be best

### Future Business

2021-2022 SEAC Report to be drafted; recommendations to send over to the board

### Announcements

Questions? Do new governor's actions have any impact on special education? Willie Bailey- commented on Dr. Hutchings meeting with other superintendent regarding this issue.

Meeting adjourned at 8:33 pm

**Subcommittees to meet following Business Meeting**

- COVID-19 Recovery (30 minutes)

**Next & Final Meeting of the Year: May 18, 2021**