

Education Committee Work Plan for 2014-2015

Updated April 17, 2015

Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education

7.1 Education Committee Long Term Goal - Advocate for a minimum of 5 new or amended state or public programs, policies or practices per year that improve the quality of education for students with disabilities.

- 7.1.1 Research and advocate for services, programs or regulation changes that will improve the scope, delivery and effectiveness of post-school transition
- 7.1.2 Increase the graduation rate for students with disabilities.
- 7.1.3 Research suspension & expulsion rates of students with disabilities
- 7.1.4 Research use by parents of procedural safeguards and parental rights, in particular due process rights
- 7.1.5 Research ways for tele-practice and distance delivery to improve Special Education services in Alaska.
- 7.1.6 Meet federally mandated requirements as Alaska's Special Education Advisory Panel under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act by advising the state regarding the unmet educational needs of students with disabilities as well as in developing and implementing policies relating to the coordination of services for children with disabilities Govern the Special Education Service Agency (SESA) to ensure SESA meets its statutorily mandated responsibilities
- 7.1.7 Govern the Special Education Service Agency (SESA) to ensure SESA meets its statutorily mandated responsibilities

7.1.1 Research and advocate for services, programs or regulation changes that will improve the scope, delivery and effectiveness of post-secondary transition.

Activity	Who	Target Date	Completed
Explore the implications of changing the required transition age minimum in an IEP from 16 to 9 th grade or age 14. Look at models from other states.	Ed Committee	June 2015	
Develop a pilot program to develop a career exploration/transition planning curriculum and pilot in at least one school. This is a for credit elective class where students complete the Discovery Process and an individual Vocational Profile Strategy as well as employment soft skills instruction.	Committee, DVR, School Districts (Anchorage, Mat-Su, Nome, Fairbanks, Juneau) Employment Committee CHD	June 2015 launch	Ongoing
Outreach to peer mentor groups, the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education, The Alaska Youth First Program	Committee, Fred Villa,	Ongoing	Ongoing

7.1.2 Increase the graduation rate for students with disabilities.

Activity	Who	Target Date	Completed
Participate in DEED State Performance Plan and State Systemic Improvement Plan and State Performance Plan stakeholders group. (SPP/SSIP). The focus of this group is the improvement of Indicator 1 which is the graduation indicator for Part B.	Christie, DEED	Ongoing	Ongoing
Education Committee develop recommendations for	Ed Committee, DEED, Christie	Ongoing	Ongoing

the implementation of the SPP/SSIP			
Research other states alternate assessments to make recommendations to the State Board of Education regarding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Accessibility ○ Teacher preparation 	Ed Committee, Christie, Britteny	October 2014	Done

7.1.3 Research suspension & expulsion rates of students with disabilities

Activity	Who	Target Date	Completed
Collect statewide data on suspension and expulsion rates of students with disabilities during the past 5 years and report back to the committee	DEED (SED data), SEAC, Christie, Britteny	Sept 2015	Begun March 2015
Compare Alaska data to the national data on Part B Indicator 4.	Christie, Britteny	Sept 2015	

7.1.4 Research the use by parents of procedural safeguards and parental rights, in particular due process rights

Activity	Who	Target Date	Completed
Collect data on the number and scope of state complaints, mediations and due process hearings in Alaska over the last 5 years ; Indicators 16, 17, 18 & 19	DEED, DLC, Committee, AK Mediation, Christie, Britteny	June 2015	
Present data to Education Committee make recommendations to DEED	Committee, DEED, Britteny	Aug 2015	

7.1.5 Research ways for tele-practice and distance delivery to improve Special Education services in Alaska.

Activity	Who	Target Date	Completed
Research which districts are using Telepractice.	Christie, DEED	June 2015	
Research the distance delivery training of Special Education of teachers and related service professionals	University of Alaska, DEED, Committee, Christie	June 2015	
Research policy and licensing around Telepractice and licensing in Alaska(OT, SLP, PT, behavior and other psychological therapists)	Christie, Britteny	May 2015	begun
Research distance Ed effectiveness, use in other states and recommendations from national groups	Christie, Britteny	June 2015	
Make recommendations to the Council Subcommittee on Telepractice.	Ed Committee, Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus, Christie, Council sub committee	Quarterly	
Make recommendations to EED	Ed Committee, EED, Christie, Taylor	Sept 2015	

7.1.6 Meet federally mandated requirements as Alaska's Special Education Advisory Panel under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act by advising the state regarding the unmet educational needs of students with disabilities as well as in developing and implementing policies relating to the coordination of services for children with disabilities

Activity	Who	Target Date	Completed
Provide suggestions for the development of a parent handbook to EED	Ed Committee, Parent Training and Information Center	June 2014	Aug 2014
Review EEDs Annual Program Performance Report (PPR)	Ed Committee, DEED, Christie	Feb 2015	Scheduled for June 2015

Provide recommendations to EED	Ed Committee	Ongoing	Ongoing
Educate Ed Committee about roles and responsibilities		Sept 2015	Done
Give written comments and suggestions for state improvement activities to EED	Ed Committee, Christie, Taylor, Ric	As Needed	Ongoing
Attend State Board of Education meetings and share information with Ed Committee	Christie, Kathleen Yarr	Quarterly	Ongoing
Provide public comment on education regulations in particular regulations on restraint and seclusion	Ed Committee, Chairs, Christie	As needed	Ongoing
Organize opportunities for stakeholders to give public comment	Christie	As needed	Ongoing
Post Schools Outcome report to the Committee Discuss and offer suggestions/comments	Ed Committee, Christie, DEED contractor	August 2015	
Participate in the Special Education Directors Meeting	DEED, Christie	October 2014	Done
Inclusive Practice Award	Ed Committee, Christie	February 2015	Done
Participate in implementation of Restraint and Seclusion act; participate in development of samples and suggested policy for the Alaska Association of School Boards (AASB), Snapshot at their conference	Ed Committee, BoE, AASB, Christie	Ongoing Nov each year	Done for 2014

7.1.7 Govern the Special Education Service Agency (SESA) to ensure SESA meets its statutorily mandated responsibilities

Activity	Who	Target Date	Completed
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Ensure designated Council members (5) and Executive Director continue to participate as SESA Board members	Council members, Christie	2011-2016 annually	Ongoing
Assist in implementation of SESA's strategic plan	Council members	Ongoing	Ongoing
Provide annual training for SESA Board members on their roles and responsibilities	Christie	TBD by SESA Board	