

**GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL
EDUCATION**

Education Committee

LOCATION

**Governor's Council Conference Room
3601 C Street
Anchorage, Alaska
Teleconference**

Meeting Date

**Thursday, January 15, 2015
1:30 p.m.**

Attendees:

Taylor Gregg - chair
Anthony Cravalho
Cassidy Jones
Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus
Jill Burkert
Mallory Hamilton
Terese Kashi
Margaret Kossler

Community Members:

Clayton Holland
Fred Villa
Meghan Clark
Karen McCarthy

Staff:

Christie Reinhardt
Brittney Howell
Patrick Reinhart

Prepared by:

Sheila Garrant, Peninsula Reporting

CALL TO ORDER – 1:30 p.m.
ROLL CALL

Welcome from the Chair

Taylor Gregg welcomed committee members to the meeting.

Announcements and Good News

There were no announcements or good news reported at the meeting.

Approval of the Agenda and Past Meeting Minutes

Jill Burkert **MOVED** to approve the agenda as written. Hearing no objections, the motion **PASSED**.

Clayton Holland **MOVED** to approve the minutes from the December 18th, 2014 meeting as written. Hearing no objections, the motion **PASSED**.

Correspondence

The only correspondence for the Education Committee was the information regarding the Maintenance of Effort from Senator Murkowski's office, which was discussed during the special session.

Reports

Chair's Report

Taylor Gregg reported that she has been preparing to attend the Governor's Council meeting in Juneau on January 20th and speak with legislators.

SESA Report

Christie Reinhardt reported that Patrick Pillai asked her to report that SESA is renegotiating the contract with the Department of Education.

EED Report

Cassidy Jones reported that the Department's activities in December and January included:

- Attending the SESA board meeting in December
- Held a face-to-face stakeholder meeting in Anchorage
- Presented disproportionality webinars in December
- Attended departmental training on the new uniform grant guidance.

Cassidy Jones reported that the upcoming activities include a training on the Dynamic Learning Maps system for alternative assessments, and participation in "*Amp it Up Day*."

With regards to monitoring, they were in the Mat-Su Valley last week, and will be in Fairbanks and Nenana next week. The remaining districts include Dillingham, Wrangell, and Anchorage, and they are scheduled to be completed in the next couple of weeks.

Cassidy Jones noted that the intensive reviews are ongoing. They sent out the 30-day letters on January 5th, and the districts will have an opportunity to provide information and clarification on their files.

Cassidy Jones reported they are working on their SSIP. They are also continuing to work on their ASSEC presentations. The Department has plans for pre, post, and main conference presentations.

State Board of Education (SBOE)

Christie Reinhardt reported that the comment period on the regulations relating to the diploma requirements for students closes at the beginning of February. She sent the link to the committee members and encouraged them to review it and send their feedback to her.

Alaska FASD Subcommittee Report

Christie Reinhardt reported that the FASD Subcommittee continued their work on the definition for physician for other health impairments for education purposes. Britteny Howell did a search of Alaska regulations and

statutes to see what was available with regards to the definition of physician, and the overwhelming majority of definitions stated that a physician is four different professions: a medical doctor, or an M.D.; a medical doctor of osteopathy, or a D.O.; an advanced nurse practitioner; and a physician assistant working under the direction of a physician. Essentially, the proposed recommendation to the Education Committee from the FASD Subcommittee for expansion of the definition would include an advanced nurse practitioner and a physician assistant working under the direction of a physician.

Council of Administrators of Special Education (CASE)

Clayton Holland reported that they are sharing the Inclusive Practice Award information and encouraging people to make nominations. Clayton noted that he will pass on the information regarding the assessments and alternate standards presented by Karen McCarthy.

Clayton Holland stated that CASE is scheduled to meet in early February at the ASSEC Conference.

Old Business

Other Health Impairment/Physician Regulation Change

Christie Reinhardt reported that the FASD Subcommittee's recommendation for the expansion of the definition of physician for education purposes includes adding an advanced nurse practitioner and a physician assistant working under the direction of a physician. After a brief discussion, the Education Committee agreed to have the Council draft a request for the Department to write the regulation to include the expanded definition. Christie Reinhardt noted that after the Department drafts the regulation, it will go before the State Board of Education for discussion, and then it would be put out for a 90-day public comment before returning to the SBOE for adoption.

Inclusive Practice Award 2015

Christie Reinhardt reported that the nomination period for the Inclusive Practice Award has been extended to the 23rd of February.

New Business

Special Session: Maintenance of Effort and Reauthorization of ESEA

Karen McCarthy, Senator Murkowski's legislative assistant, spoke to the committee members about the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). She stated that Senator Murkowski is seeking input specifically on the repeal of the Maintenance of Effort (MOE), which requires that funding provided to a school district by the global community and the state combined cannot drop more than 10 percent from one year to the next. If that happens, then the district's Title I funding is reduced by the amount that was not provided to the district. Patrick Reinhart asked why the Senate Health Committee is considering a repeal of the MOE, and Karen stated that since the discussion began, superintendents in Alaska indicated that because the requirement is for aggregate state plus local funding, that if the state cuts their funding dramatically, then the local districts have to backfill that, which is very challenging for them, and that the MOE might be problematic when revenues statewide are declining.

The committee will review the information sent by Karen McCarthy and continue the discussion in order to respond to the proposition.

Upcoming Meetings and Conferences

January 20 – 22, 2015

Governor's Council Meeting

Centennial Hall, Juneau

Public Testimony, January 20, 2015

January 28 – 31, 2015

Anchorage AEYC Conference

Hilton Hotel, Anchorage

February 3 – 6, 2015

FASD Forum and Training

Centennial Hall, Juneau

February 7 – 13, 2015

Alaska Statewide Special Education Conference

Pre conference, February 7 – 8, 2015

Main conference, February 9 – 11, 2015

Post conference, Feb 12 – 13, 2015

Hilton Hotel, Anchorage

February 18 – 20, 2015

Key Campaign

Centennial Hall, Juneau

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Education Committee is scheduled for February 19th, 2015 from 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting. Hearing no objections, the motion **PASSED** and the meeting adjourned at 2:58 p.m.