



GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL EDUCATION

P.O. Box 240249 • Anchorage, Alaska 99524-0249 • Phone: 907-269-8990 • Fax: 907-269-8995 • Toll Free 888-269-8990

Education Committee Accomplishments 2007-08

GOAL 1: Advising the State in matters pertaining to students with disabilities

- Committee member and staff attended OSEP leadership conference with Art Arnold.
- Exploring the possibility of having an intern analyze due process hearings/mediations/complaints in order to guide EED's emphasis on training
- Received verbal updates on district monitoring
- Exploring having an intern investigating the possibility of a study on impact of the HSGQE on children with disabilities.
- Received updates from ATTI project regarding the transition of children from Part C to Part B special education preschool (619). Assisted with creating a parent survey on this issue.
- Provided public comment on education statutes and regulation changes.
- Explored links with transition projects, Public Assistance, DVR, Social Security and micro-enterprise.
- Investigating school district use of Employability Standards and/or roadblocks to using them

GOAL 2: Family Education and Staff Development

- Participated on the Alaska Statewide Special Education Conference. Teresa, Kris and Anna are on the planning committee for the 2009 conference.
- Contributed training topics for the Special Education Director's Conference.
- Worked with new Parent Training and Information Center, Stone Soup Group

GOAL 3: Education Funding

- Supported the Governor's proposal for increased funding for intensive needs services
- Looking at an improved way to do child-count
- Working with SESA's to establish their funding under the foundation formula.

GOAL 4: Assessment and Accountability

- Carla Garrett participated on the Assessment and Accountability Advisory Committee which is looking at validity of testing students at grade level vs. at their ability level as well as improvements in the state's assessment system.
- Exploring the option of a study about consequences of students receiving certificate of attendance versus regular high school diploma

GOAL 5: Tracking Long-Term Issues

- Participate in the Education subcommittee of Bring the Kids Home
 - Provided input to congressional delegation on the aspects of No Child Left Behind
 - Worked with Michelle Lyons-Brown on School-Based Medicaid
 - Chris is investigating the potential for health and PE standards
-

Education Committee Priorities 2008-09

The Education Committee is refocusing their priorities from the objectives in the Council's 2006-2001 State Plan, listed below:

SEAP Tasks (must complete all of these)

1. Advise EED on unmet needs:
 - a. Services in rural/remote communities
 - b. Autism
 - c. FASD
 - d. SED students
 - e. TBI students
2. Provide public comment on statute, regulation and policy changes
3. Advise EED on evaluation, assessment, HSGQE
 - a. Ensure statewide assessments are developmentally appropriate
4. Advise EED on SPP and APR
5. Advise EED on policies regarding coordination of services
 - a. Transition from ILP to Preschool
 - b. Transition to from school to adult life
6. Advise EED regarding youth incarcerated in adult prisons
7. Submit annual report to EED, also disseminate report

Highly Qualified Workforce (Prioritize this list)

1. Ensure training for teachers, paraprofessionals, administrators and related service professionals
2. Assist in developing strategies to recruit and retain workforce
3. Ensure comprehensive training for parents
4. Ensure training for youth on self determination
5. Ensure training regarding transitions
 - a. Transition from ILP to Preschool
 - b. Transition to from school to adult life

Advocate for adequate funding systems

6. Explore and advise EED regarding the funding formula and child count
 - a. Rural/remote Communities
 - b. Urban
7. Explore and advise EED regarding Intensive Needs funding

Transition from school to adult life (Prioritize this list)

1. Promote use of Employability standards in schools
2. Devise strategies to strengthen transition plan expectations-employment or post-secondary education
3. Assist in developing strategies to link youth with mentors
4. Distribute information about scholarships, apprenticeships, and post secondary education to families and youth with disabilities.
5. Devise strategies to strengthen linkages among the educational, vocational rehabilitation and workforce development systems
6. Distribute transition information to youth, families, providers, state agencies and schools.