

Special Education Advisory Panel

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Pennsylvania Department of Education

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2021-22 Advisory Body Liaisons Form

Introduction: Each year the Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP) identifies “advisory body liaisons” – SEAP members who are also serving on other key advisory bodies (committees, panels, or councils) to other key state organizations that are concerned with the educational interests of children with disabilities. Advisory body liaisons currently represent:

- State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC) – *Heidi Allen*
- State Task Force (STF) – *Cecelia Thompson & Amy Fisher*
- Office of Dispute Resolution (ODR) Stakeholder Advisory Group – *Gina Scala & Ed Titterton*
- Transition Interagency State Team – *Cathy Roccia-Meier & Cecelia Thompson*
- Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) advisory groups – *Kimberly Robinson*
- Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS) Children’s Committee – *Perri Rosen*
- Office of Developmental Programs Information Sharing and Advisory Committee (ISAC) – *Ned Whitehead*
- Waiting List Campaign – *Ned Whitehead*

This Advisory Body Liaisons Form is for liaisons to share topics that those advisory bodies discuss (present, study, prioritize) that specifically relate to SEAP’s current priorities and ongoing duties. The form is not intended for making exhaustive reports of all that the other advisory bodies review or discuss. Rather, the form is more in the spirit of a share site for liaisons to communicate with SEAP Committees topics that may inform the work of current SEAP committees.

Also, SEAP has the responsibility to advise on unmet educational needs of students with disabilities. The unmet needs column is intended for liaisons to check when other advisory bodies bring forward unmet educational needs that are not a current or past priority for SEAP and/or do not seem to be on SEAP’s radar (for example, SEAP members never discuss this topic, may have no knowledge of this topic).

Committee Coordination: Committee Chairpersons are asked to open committee meetings with updates on new information in reports that may pertain to committee business.

Family Engagement and LRE Committees actively reference reports for:

- State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC) Liaison – Heidi Allen
- State Task Force (STF) Liaison – Cecelia Thompson & Amy Fisher

Mental Health Committee actively reference reports for:

- OMHSAS Children’s Committee Liaison – Perri Rosen
- Office of Dispute Resolution (ODR) Stakeholder Advisory Group Liaisons – Gina Scala & Ed Titterton
- Also see transition committee list.

Crisis Intervention Restraint Prevention Committee actively reference reports:

- Office of Dispute Resolution (ODR) Stakeholder Advisory Group Liaisons – Gina Scala & Ed Titterton

Transition Committee actively reference reports:

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- State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC) Liaison – Heidi Allen
- Transition Interagency State Leadership Team (NCTACT Conference) Liaison –Cathy Roccia-Meier or Cecelia Thompson
- Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) Liaison – Kimberly Robinson
- Office of Developmental Programs Information Sharing and Advisory Committee (ISAC) and Waiting List Campaign – Ned Whitehead

Date	Advisory Body	Liaison	Topic of interest	This might inform the work of which SEAP Committee(s)? (can check many)					Unmet Needs
				LRE Com	Family Engmt Com	Transition Com	MH Com	Crisis Intervtn & Restraint Preventn Com	
Date of data entry	Advisory body: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SICC • STF • ODR Advisory Group • Transition St Team • OVR (PaRC/St Board) • OMHSAS Children's • ODP ISAC • Waiting List 	Name of person completing form	<p>What have you learned from this advisory body that would inform the work of SEAP Committees and/or SEAP's understanding of unmet educational needs of children with disabilities?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write short statements with hyperlinks for resources, as appropriate. • Just include topics specifically related to SEAP priorities, committees, roles. • IMPORTANT: Write one lesson (topic of interest) per row. Start a new row for each new topic so that you can cleanly check which committee(s) would be informed by each topic. This means that you will enter the date, advisory body, and your liaison name again with each topic of interest. See example. 						This is a really important unmet need that does not seem to be on SEAP's radar.
09/30/2042	Example Advisory Team	Bill Example	Pilot of Educators' High Expectations yields impact on employment outcomes			X			
09/30/2042	Example Advisory Team	Bill Example	USF research/webinar on importance of family's high expectations for children	X	X				
9/14/2021	ODR Advisory Group (Stakeholder Council)	Gina Scala Ed Titterton	<p>ODR is seeking special education mediators to provide mediation and facilitation services to families and schools. This is a contracted position. Additional information can be found at this link: https://odr-pa.org/wp-content/uploads/Contracted-Mediator-Posting-2021.pdf</p> <p>If you know of anyone who may be interested, please pass along the information</p> <p>Presentation at Special Education Leadership Academy Brian Ford & Charlie Jelley COVID-19 and Due Process: One Year Later</p> <p>We wanted to pass along the guidance PDE has issued on Act 66. BSE will be holding Zoom meetings this week with PEAL, SEAP, and the State Task Force to review the guidance. https://www.education.pa.gov/Schools/safeschools/emergencyplanning/COVID-19/SchoolReopeningGuidance/ReopeningPreKto12/Pages/Student-Grade-Level-Retainment-(Act-66).aspx</p> <p>As of March 16, 2020, all due process hearings were transitioned to virtual hearings. Given this experience, ODR's hearing officers were asked to present statewide to Pennsylvania stakeholders, as well as nationally to states with significantly less experience with virtual hearings.</p>						

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			<p>Nancy Giacomini provided an update on mediations during the pandemic. As of March 16, 2020, all mediations and facilitations were transitioned to being held virtually via Zoom. ODR has three zoom rooms available for sessions. Each room contains a waiting room, private caucus rooms, and the ability to share screens to make sharing documents seamless.</p>					
12/1/2021	ODR Advisory Group (Stakeholder Council)	Gina Scala Ed Titterton	<p>Last meeting 9/24/2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSE Director Carole Clancy provided a BSE update. Pennsylvania guidance during the pandemic has been updated on the website. • Hearing Officer McElligott provided an update on due process hearings during the COVID-19 pandemic. Hearings successfully continue to move forward virtually. Since April, approximately 145 hearing sessions have been held virtually and 20 decisions have been issued with some or all hearings involved taken place virtually. The hearing officers are putting together protocols on what in-person hearings may look like once they resume. ODR is beginning to receive more due process requests regarding the return to school. • ODR's 2019/2020 Annual Report has been completed and will be posted; SEAP members have received their copy. • ODR's new website is now up and running. A few new sections have been added, including conflict engagement with creating agreement modules. Stakeholder Council members can send any recommended changes or additions to the ODR Program Manager. <p>Next meeting 12/16/2021</p>					
1/12/2022	ODR Advisory Group (Stakeholder Council)	Gina Scala Ed Titterton	<p>Last meeting 12/16/21 agenda items from 12/16: Evaluative Mediation, IEP Facilitation Training, general issues</p> <p>Job openings: https://www.csiu.org/jobs CSIU has a current opening for a Grants Development & Research Coordinator https://csiu.tedk12.com/hire/ViewJob.aspx?JobID=628 and Center for Schools and Communities Project Specialist https://csiu.tedk12.com/hire/ViewJob.aspx?JobID=629</p>					

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiating work with John Cica to conduct a longitudinal data analysis on due process and mediation. • Continuing our collaboration with CADRE to do a national hearing officer academy. Previous academy was very successful. • Early stages of planning local level IEP facilitation/effective team participation and add a higher education component. • Gifted Education Update (Patrice Semicek) Pennsylvania Gifted Education liaisons are meeting once a quarter to discuss ways to increase gifted education training opportunities for local Intermediate Units and their administrators, including general education teachers 						
3/1/22	ODR Advisory Group (Stakeholder Council)	Gina Scala Ed Titterton	<p>The Center for Schools and Communities has a current job opening for a Center for the Promotion of Social and Emotional Learning Director and has asked that we distribute the job posting to our networks.</p> <p>The posting, which is open for applicants until March 2, 2022, can be found by visiting the following link: https://csiu.tedk12.com/hire/ViewJob.aspx?JobID=626</p>						

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			<p>ODR is receiving interest from LEAs we targeted due to due process rates to get IEP facilitation/effective meeting training.</p> <p>DCIU is piloting it for us.</p> <p>SDOP, Pittsburgh, Scranton all interested.</p> <p>We are working through that process.</p> <p>Also working with John Cica to do more longitudinal analysis of our data.</p> <p>We are also offering conflict resolution skills training through CORA Good Shepherd. We're currently scheduling dates through the parent groups however it will be available to any LEA, parent/family group, etc. who is interested.</p> <p>Outline of the training is available on request.</p>						
4/13/22	ODR Advisory Group (Stakeholder Council)	Gina Scala Ed Titterton	<p>Much work associated with targeted IEP facilitation training with Key2Ed. ODR is working with John Cica to deepen statistical analysis and provide more of a longitudinal review in the annual report. OSEP will be doing an on-site visit in Pennsylvania, a lot of preparation for that visit. No issues, just routine.</p>						
5/11/22	ODR Advisory Group (Stakeholder Council)	Gina Scala Ed Titterton	<p>ODR had the first live presentation of the facilitated IEP meeting training with Key2Ed yesterday.</p> <p>For the pilot, participants did some pre-session work and then met yesterday as a group on line.</p> <p>The feedback already is tremendously positive, and DCIU, the pilot site, is already asking about how more people can be trained.</p> <p>We are working with Key2Ed to figure out next steps.</p>						

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9/15/2021	OMHSAS Children's Committee	Perri Rosen	<p>Resources were shared regarding Act 65 of 2020, which is about consent for mental health treatment and release of records for youth 14+, within inpatient or outpatient settings. DHS has the legislation and an overview powerpoint on the website: https://www.dhs.pa.gov/Services/Mental-Health-In-PA/Pages/Act-147-of-2004.aspx</p> <p>Intensive Behavioral Health Services (IBHS) is being fully implemented. There is a new FAQ that was published in July 2021 on the IBHS website: https://www.dhs.pa.gov/Services/Mental-Health-In-PA/Documents/IBHS%20Documents/IBHS%20FAQ%207.21.21.pdf</p> <p>The PA Care Partnership has recordings (free) from their webinar series from 2020-2021 on their website open to the public: https://www.pacarepartnership.org/community-partners/webinar-series/. The webinar series covered a wide range of mental health topics.</p> <p>September is Suicide Prevention Month, and there are several awareness and training resources available that are focused on school and community-based suicide prevention:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suicide Prevention Online Learning Center: https://pspalearning.com/ • Suicide Prevention Month Guide: https://janamariefoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Suicide-Prevention-Guide-2021-final.pdf <p>The Pennsylvania Network for Student Assistance Services recorded a presentation about SAP for parents/families entitled "Pennsylvania's Student Assistance Program: How Can it Help My Child Who is Struggling?" The link to the recording, along with a blog post, will be shared when available.</p>	X	X	X	X	X	
12/1/2021	OMHSAS Children's Committee	Perri Rosen	<p>The PA Parent and Family Alliance blog post and webinar are now posted: https://www.paparentandfamilyalliance.org/post/could-the-student-assistance-program-sap-help-your-child</p> <p>Updated regulations are being drafted for Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities (PRTFs).</p>						
1/12/2022	OMHSAS Children's Committee	Perri Rosen	<p>Last meeting was 11/16/21 – no meeting between the Dec. and Jan. SEAP meetings</p>						

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3/1/2022	OMHSAS Children's Committee	Perri Rosen	<p>The PA Care Partnership shared the 2022 Virtual Speaker Series: https://myemail.constantcontact.com/UPDATE--Reset-From-Burnout--Vaping--Beyond-Respite-Care--Unpacking-Poverty-and-more.html?soid=1131117925169&aid=kQksUF4Snz8</p> <p>The Proposed Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF) regulations are in the second tier of the review process. The goal is to have the proposed PRTF regulations available for public comment by late spring/early summer.</p>						
4/13/2022	OMHSAS Children's Committee	Perri Rosen	Last meeting was in February – no meeting between the March and April SEAP meetings. Next meeting is mid-May.						
5/11/2022	OMHSAS Children's Committee	Perri Rosen	Last meeting was in February – next meeting is on Monday, May 16th. No new updates.						
9/22/2021	State Task Force on the Right to Education	Amy Fisher	<p>The STF Meeting Schedule and Zoom link were shared https://csiu.zoom.us/j/99194134883 All meetings are from 10-Noon and will be on 9/22/21, 11/3/21, 1/12/22, 3/16/22, 5/11/22</p> <p>Katie Yost from The Arc of Pennsylvania provided a presentation on “The Legislative Process”.</p>	x	x	x	x	x	
11/3/21	State Task Force on the Right to Education	Amy Fisher	<p>There was discussion about the format of the PDE Conference which will have a hybrid format and be held March 2-March4, 2022. There will be an LTF Luncheon on 3/22, a Parent Scholarship Welcome Dinner on 3/22, and Breakfast with Your Local Task Force will be held 3/22 at 7:00 AM.</p> <p>Pamela Kastern provided an update from the Dyslexia Pilot Program</p>	x	x	x	x	x	
2/28/22	SICC Meeting	Heidi Allen	<p>Last meeting was 2/3/22. Immediately prior to the meeting there was a virtual meet and greet for families.</p> <p>The results of the Early Intervention Family Survey were reviewed. This was the second year of the new survey that is given in an electronic format and included Covid 19 related questions. Over 12, 800 families responded and over 5,700 comments were received. Themes included: gratitude for EI, preference for in-person services, the challenges and benefits of tele-interventions and advocacy for in-person services through the pandemic. https://padlet-uploads.storage.googleapis.com/771092622/a588b1eeecd9a1bac6db1e042678003d/SICC_Family_Survey_Presentation_Feb__2022_FINAL.pdf</p> <p>The Early Intervention SPP Stakeholder results were reviewed. Stakeholder data was collected from the EI Advisory Committee, four SPP Family Forums, Individual and local</p>	x	x	x			

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			<p>group online feedback. 23% of respondents were family members, 87% of respondents were white, and 10% of respondents were black/African American. Stakeholders felt all but one target were rigorous but attainable, the one exception was Child Find-birth to three.</p> <p>Stakeholder comments included recommendations to: increase EI supports for children in ECE programs, to ensure family survey questions are understandable, have better communication with medical and childcare communities, follow-up with children who are high risk but don't qualify, develop strategies to keep children in service, update ECO process including assessment tools, continue to train Coaching Across Settings, and to provide education/information to families.</p> <p>https://padlet-uploads.storage.googleapis.com/771092622/6445fcd9252849e64ee38b9acd89cbe/SPP_Stakeholder_Feedback_EI_IT_PS_FINAL_01_06_2022.pdf</p>						
1/12/2022	State Task Force	Amy Fisher	<p>Updates were provided by Gary Smith from ODP, Keith Focht from BSE, Katie Yost from The Arc of PA.</p> <p>BSE provided a presentation "Return to School Roadmap: Development and Implementation of Individualized Education Programs in the Least Restrictive Environment Under the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act. Presenters were Tim Krushinski and Jeanette Alexander.</p> <p>Mikayla's Voice provided a presentation about their programs to promote inclusion</p>	x	x	x	x	x	
3/16/2022	State Task Force	Amy Fisher	<p>PaTTAN provided a presentation about the Flow of Funds to Public and Private Schools</p> <p>The Arc of PA Include Me Program provided a presentation. It was the same presentation presented at our March SEAP meeting.</p>	x	x	x	x	x	
4/7/2022	SICC Meeting	Heidi Allen	<p>SICC meeting included a presentation by Berks County LICC and they discussed various parent engagement activities/strategies that included a very successful Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/BECEConFB/ they have also been able to use this page for Childfind activities. Jen Harniman-Crangle of Philadelphia Coordinated Health Care and Lea Sheffield, ODP did a presentation on a program that returns medically fragile children to home environments. OCDEL also discussed an initiative in which they have provided training grants for staff for Infant Mental Health Training.</p>	x	x		x		

