



**State Task Force
On the Right to Education
Wednesday, January 12, 2022, Agenda
10:00 am – 12:00 pm**

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://csiu.zoom.us/j/99194134883>

Meeting ID: 991 9413 4883
One tap mobile

+13126266799,,99194134883# US (Chicago)
+16468769923,,99194134883# US (New York)

❖ **Call to Order:** Keith H. Focht

❖ **Welcome:** Local Task Force Chairpersons & Vice Chairpersons and Members,
Agencies, and Others via ZOOM

☐ **Old Business:**

- November 3, 2021, Minutes - sent via e-mail and will be posted on the STF Website pending STF Member approval, review, motion to accept and approve – Katie Yost; seconded by – Gary Smith .
- STF Website Link: <https://www.pattan.net/about-us/partners/state-task-force/>
- Topic Points of Discussion and Presentations:

Meeting and topics occurring for the remainder of the 2021-2022 School Year

- Inclusion
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- **Parent Satisfaction Survey Update (on Hold this year) - The two URLs listed below are:**

English URL Parent Satisfaction Survey Hyperlink –

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PaLTF19-20>

Spanish URL Parent Satisfaction Survey Hyperlink-

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LTF19-20S>

- **LTF Meeting: When Having Your Meetings Remember to:**

- Take attendance of members and others attending the meeting
- Have someone take minutes of the meeting and have the local IU submit this to corresponding STF member assigned to your area (see below).
 - ✓ Mr. Philip Rosenbauer is assigned to LTF -1, 2, 3 ,4, 5, 6 ,7, 8, 9
 - ✓ TBD is assigned to LTF – no current IU Region.
 - ✓ Mr. Gary Smith is assigned to LTF – 12, 13, 14,15, 16, 17, 18 ,19 ,20, 21,
 - ✓ Mr. Keith Focht is assigned to LTF – 10 ,11, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29.

Send out your meeting information to your membership of those that attended and did not attend.

Want to Meet? –

If you want a State Task Force member to attend a get-together or attend a Local Task Force meeting, please feel free to contact us:

- Philip Rosenbauer (philipnros@embarqmail.com) - STF representative from The Arc of Pennsylvania - (724) 679-1955.
- TBD - Executive Director - Governor's Cabinet and Advisory Committee for People with Disabilities.
- Gary Smith (smiga@pa.gov) The Office of Developmental Programs - State Task Force Liaison - (717) 346-1389.
- Katie Yost (kyost@thearcpa.org)– Government and Advocacy Associate – The Arc of Pennsylvania - (717) 234-2621.
- Keith Focht (kfocht@pa.gov) – State Task Force Chairman – Bureau of Special Education - (717) 783-6921.

- **PA ABLE Savings Program**

- regular ABLE webinars
- ABLE webinars for employers/HR departments and
- two-part webinar series, Teaching Individuals with Disabilities about Personal Finance.

Employers and HR professionals can participate in an overview webinar about the PA ABLE program, learning:

- What PA ABLE is ?
- Who is eligible ?
- How employees use accounts ?
- How to set up payroll deduction ?

Offer PA ABLE Savings Program to Your Employees For FREE:

Teaching Individuals with Disabilities about Personal Finance

Free sessions open to anyone interested in learning more about teaching personal finance to people with disabilities

Pennsylvania Treasury, the Department of Banking and Securities, and the Pennsylvania Assistive Technology Foundation (PATF) are joining together to put on a two-part series entitled Teaching Individuals with Disabilities about Personal Finance.

Part 1 - Best Practices That Work – Expert Panel Shares Techniques

January 12, 2021, at 12:00pm-

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ZTzY7EezSaKa6iP4kGTIvw

Part 2 - Shared Experiences: What Worked For Us – People Share Their Experiences

January 26, 2021, at 12:00pm -

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_7JsvqKzUTTSolx5svIUyRQ

Follow the links above to register for each session. If you have any questions or need assistance with registering, please contact PATF at 888-744-1938 or communications@patf.us.

Conferences for 2021- 2022 School Year

Conference Title	Date	Location	Future Conference Dates
Pennsylvania Department of Education Conference	March 2-4, 2022	Hybrid/Hershey Lodge	March 1-3, 2023
AAC Talks Web Conference	May 13, 2022	Virtual	May 12, 2023
PaTTAN Literacy Symposium	June 14-16, 2022	PaTTAN Harrisburg	TBD
Pennsylvania Deaf-Blind Project's Family Learning Conference	June 24-25, 2022	Hybrid/State College	TBD
National Autism Conference	August 1-4, 2022	Hybrid/State College	TBD
PA Community on Transition Conference	August 10-11, 2022	Virtual	TBD
HELIX: High Expectations for Low Incidence Disabilities	November 14-16, 2022	Hybrid/State College	TBD

❖ **PDE Conference - Hershey Lodge and Convention Center – March 2nd – 4th - 2022** -“*Making a Difference: Educational Practices That Work!*”

Mr. Focht reminded the audience to register for the PDE Conference if they are planning to attend virtually or in person. He also shared he will be confirming registration with the LTF chairs and Vice-chairs in the upcoming two weeks.

❖ virtual may do so with no cost.

❖ He also reminded the LTFs the following:

- LTF Chairpersons and Vice – chairpersons are complemented their registration cost.
- Also shared – parents that want to register utilizing the parent scholarship process and are attending
- The State Task Force members will keep you comprised of the process of registering.

Presentation Session

The STF Session for the 2021-2022 PDE Conference was postponed allowing room for additional presenters. *** However, the State Task Force Session has been currently reinstated to be held Wednesday, March 3rd from 7:00 – 7:30 pm following the Parent Scholarship Dinner.

- **Dates of Conference:**
(Wednesday, March 2nd, 2022); (Thursday, March 3rd, 2022); (Friday, March 4th, 2022)
- **Conference Format** –
The 2022 PDE Conference will be offered in a hybrid format – meaning in person at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center or online through ChimeLive.
- **Registration Fees** –
Local Task Force Chairpersons’ and Vice-chairpersons’ registration cost to the PDE Conference is paid by PDE.
- **Local Task Force Appreciation Luncheon** - (Wednesday, March 2, 2022 – 11:30 am – 12:45 pm) -This LTF Appreciation Luncheon will honor LTF’s Chairs and Vice-chairs for all they have done and continue to do. Guest will also include the director and assistant director of the Bureau of Special Education, the 3 PaTTAN Directors, the three Department Chiefs, the PaTTAN Parent Consultants, and the Special Education Directors of all 29 Intermediate units.
- **Parent Scholarship Welcome Dinner** –
(Wednesday, March 2, 2022 - 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm) -There will be a Parent Scholarship Welcome Dinner where either the Chairperson or Vice-chairperson is invited to meet the parents.
- **State Task Force Session** - (Wednesday, March 2, 2022 - 7:00 pm – 7:30 pm) –
This will be a short session providing an invitation for parents to learn and join their local Task Force.

- **Substitute LTF Member** - If a LTF Chair or Vice-chair cannot attend the conference they may have one of their members within their LTF take their place.
- **Breakfast with Your Local Task Force** – *(Thursday, March 3, 2022 - 7:00 am- 8:00 am)* - Parents of the conference are invited to a LTF Breakfast to meet the LTF Chair or Vice Chair of their IU Region and the State Task Force members.
- **Rooms** - LTF Chairpersons and Vice-chairpersons - Rooms at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center - PDE will pay for your room to stay at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center for **Wednesday night** and **Thursday night** if you live **50 + miles** from Hershey.
- **Rooms** - LTF Chairpersons and Vice-chairpersons - Rooms at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center - PDE will pay for your room to stay at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center for **Tuesday night, Wednesday night** and **Thursday night** if you live **120 + miles** from Hershey.

1. **Topic Points of Discussion and Presentations:**

- Wednesday, September 22, 2021- 10:00 am – 12:00 pm State Task Force Meeting: Legislative Process presenter – Katie Yost
- Wednesday, November 3, 2021- 10:00 am – 12:00 pm State Task Force Meeting: Dyslexia Pilot Program Update – Pamela Kastern
- Wednesday, January 12, 2022 - 10:00 am – 12:00 pm State Task Force Meeting:
- Wednesday, March 16, 2022 - 10:00 am – 12:00 pm State Task Force Meeting:
- Wednesday, May 11, 2022 - 10:00 am – 12:00 pm State Task Force Meeting:

STATE TASK FORCE AGENCY REPORTS

❖ **The Office of Developmental Programs Update: Gary Smith**

ODP NEWS

The Office of Developmental Programs (ODP) distributes news via a weekly digest. [MyODP News Online](#) shares information about the work of ODP and individuals our work supports who are living the Everyday Life. Please visit [MyODP News Online](#) where you can find articles that have been published. The digest is sent every Friday and contains the week's posted news in abstract. If you have information that you would like to share about ODP's work supporting people with disabilities, please use my contact information Smiga@pa.gov to submit it for consideration or readers may send inquiries and/or story ideas to ra-pwmyodp@pa.gov.

ODP Announcement 21-095 released December 30, 2021

- Open for Public Comment: Proposed Department-Established Fees and Fee Schedule Rates for Services Funded Through ODP's Waivers and Base-Funding.
- There is a 30-day public comment period that begins on January 1, 2022 and ends on January 31, 2022.

Positive Approaches Journal

The Office of Developmental Programs (ODP) and the Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS) are pleased to announce that the latest edition of the Positive Approaches Journal is now available!

Beyond Silos: Highlighting Multisystem Approaches in Pennsylvania

This issue will focus on ways that Pennsylvania has endeavored to better understand and meet the needs of people with complex needs including children with medical complexities and/or behavioral health needs.

Volume 10 - Issue - 3 November 2021 is now available!

Community of Practice (CoP) For Supporting Families

- PA Family Network offering workshops- ARPA Funds
- PA Family Network offering workshops in a two- part series (Waivers 101 *what they are and what they do*)

Policy Amendments Waivers:

- Consolidated and Community Living Waivers - adding the capacity to serve children with medically complex conditions – proposed effective date is 4/1/22

Trainings: Currently working on

- (Formerly named Experience the Employment Connection- **EEC**) now named the PA Secondary Transition Connecting for Employment. Joint initiative is ODP, OVR and Bureau of Special Ed. collaborating with the goal of connecting systems with each other to increase employment outcomes for transition age youths.

Data:

- As of November of 2021, 16% of working-aged people (ages 16-64) enrolled with ODP are employed in competitive integrated employment.

If you are not part of ODP's listserv, here is the link to subscribe:

<http://listserv.dpw.state.pa.us/Scripts/wa.exe.?SUBED1=o-supporting-families-cop&A=1>

If You have any additional questions concerning these updates, please contact Gary Smith or Laura Cipriani at smiga@pa.gov or lcipriani@pa.gov

❖ **The Department of Education/Bureau of Special Education Update: Keith H. Focht**

The Bureau of Special Education provided a presentation on “Return to School Roadmap: Development and Implementations of Individualized Education Programs in the Least Restrictive Environment Under the individuals With Disabilities Education Act.”

[This Power Point will be attached to the email being sent out from for the State Task Force.

❖ **The Arc of Pennsylvania Update: Philip Rosenbauer – via Katie Yost**

Legislative Update – PA General Assembly

House Bill 85

This bill would require our post-secondary colleges to adopt policies that would allow existing documentation in the IEP, 504 Plan or a record of disability from another institution of higher education, or documentation from the military to be accepted as a proof of a disability. House Bill 85 remains in the House Education Committee.

House Bill 250

This bill expresses the desire of its sponsors that the Department of Education create curriculum for Health Classes that will provide a framework for positive discussion and increased understanding. House bill 250 remains in the House Education Committee.

House Bill 272

This bill proposes to address the following issues related to Pennsylvania's Charter School Law:

- Right to know
- Protecting your property tax dollars
- Protecting the future of our kids

House Bill 272 remains in the House Education Committee.

House Bill 365

House Bill 365 would update language in the PA School Code to remove derogatory language in referencing to students with intellectual and developmental disabilities. House Bill 365 was voted favorably out of the Senate Education Committee and is eligible to be brought before the full senate for a vote.

House Bill 458

This Legislation is designed to provide that, in the event of a residency dispute between school districts, a school district would not be permitted to remove a child from school until the dispute has been fully resolved and it has been determined which school district should correctly enroll the child. House Bill 458 remains in the House Education Committee.

House Bill 540

House Bill 540 would implement the Special Education Funding Commission's recommendation to "apply the same funding principles used in the formula for school districts to determine a school district's payment for a special education student enrolled in a charter or cyber charter school....". House Bill 458 remains in the House Education Committee on April 9, 2021.

Senate Bill 542

Senate Bill 542 would remove the across-the-board assumption of a 16% special education population rate per school district to using the school district's actual percentage of special education population. Senate Bill 542 was referred to the Senate Education Committee on April 9, 2021 and remains in that status.

Senate Bill 664

SB 664 enables students with IDD who turned 21 and graduated at the end of the 2020-21 school year the ability to opt in for an additional year due to the impact of COVID-19. Senate Bill 664 became law as act 66.

HB 1335

On April 21, 2021, Representative Brian Sims and Representative Jessica Benham issued a Memorandum to members of the House of Representatives relevant to "Sexuality Education and Affirmative Sexual Consent." Such Memorandum states that "Students in Pennsylvania deserve to have a health and sexuality education that empowers them, teaches them to value their autonomy and keeps them safe. Sexuality education is vitally important, it should be comprehensive and include inclusive, accessible, science - based information with the goal of holistically supporting the health and well-being of young people. HB 1335 was referred to the House Education Committee on May 5, 2021.

House Bill 1749

On May 20, 2021, Representative Rosemary Brown, posted a Memorandum to all House members relevant to Special Education Cyber/Charter School Funding. In such Memorandum, Representative Brown states “In the near future, I plan on introducing legislation which would implement the bipartisan 2013 Special Education Funding Commission’s recommendation for applying the same education funding principles used to distribute state special education funding to school districts, in the calculation used to determine a school district’s tuition payment for a special education student enrolled in a charter school. House Bill 1749 was referred to the House Education Committee on July 30, 2021.

House Bill 1809 – Changed to House Bill 726

On June 22, 2021, Representative Jason Ortity, posted a Memorandum to all House members regarding his plan to introduce a bill that creates an early literacy pilot program. Beginning in the 2021-22 school year (if enacted), the PA Department of Education will work with willing school districts to address student reading needs. This program will focus on the “science of reading” which is an evidence-based reading instructional practice that integrates listening, speaking, reading, spelling, and writing. House Bill 726 was referred to the House Education Committee on October 5, 2021.

House Resolution 138

On August 5, 2021, Representative Karen Boback, posted a memorandum to all House members regarding her plan to introduce a resolution directing the Joint State Government Commission to study special education lawsuits in the Commonwealth. The study will examine the Office for Dispute Resolution. House Resolution 138 was referred to the House Education Committee on September 15, 2021.

Co-Sponsorship Memo – Inclusion Beyond the Classroom

On December 16, 2021, Representative Dan Miller and Representative Melissa Shusterman posted a memorandum to all House members regarding their plan to introduce a bill that tasks school districts across the Commonwealth to produce a report on an annual basis indicating the level of inclusion of their students who access special education services in their extracurricular activities. No legislative language available at this time.

❖ **The Governor’s Office Update: None currently.**

❖ **Presentation:** Wednesday, January 12, 2022 - 10:00 am – 12:00 pm –

“Return to School Roadmap – OSEP Guidance”. – Timothy Krushinski & Jeanette Alexander

Mikayla’s Voice – Rita Cheskiewicz & Kim Resh

❖ **Systemic Concerns Reported: None**

❖ **Future Agenda Items-**

- **Wednesday, March 17, 2021 -10:00 am – 12:00 pm - TBD**
- **Wednesday, May 12, 2021- 10:00 am – 12:00 pm- TBD**

Additional Topics of discussions:

o Inclusion

❖ **This Year's State Task Force Meetings – (*Subject to change*)**

- Wednesday, January 12, 2022
- Wednesday, March 16, 2022
- Wednesday, May 11, 2022

❖ **Local Task Force Sharing Time**

❖ **Next State Task Force on the Right to Education Meeting - Wednesday, March 16, 2022, per Zoom and ??**

❑ **Adjournment: Motion for Adjournment made by – Gary Smith; seconded by - Keith Focht**