

ACESD Full Council Meeting Minutes
Hybrid meeting
Virtual Portion on Zoom Video Conferencing Platform
In-person Portion at Vocational Rehab in West Columbia
August 25, 2023

Members Present: Greta Bailey, Ryan Bartola, Susan Beck, Kelly Birmingham, Valarie Bishop, Anna Bleasdale, Kelly Birmingham, Shana Charles, Senekita Farmer, Jeni Garner, Heather Googe, Troy Hall, Susan Howard, Allison Huffstutler, Kim Humphrey, Kerri Kannengieser, Cathy Kovacs, Angie Lucas, Gini Nichols, Yasmin O'Keefe, Niki Outen, Kimberly Perry, Shannon Polchow, Lindsay Porter, Anne Radue, Theresa Rhodes, Liz Smithson, Cara Smithwick, Liz Smithson, Meghan Trowbridge, Monica Tudder, Laura Vazquez, Margie Williamson, Paige Winget, Birley Wright, Elizabeth Young

Guests/SCDE Staff Present: Jennifer Dillon, Sherri Evans, Cheryl Fitts, Sara Garrett, Melissa Griffin, B'Evelyn Jackson, Peter Keup, Lisa McCliment, Sherry Pressley (for Mary Stevenson), Mary Etta Taylor

Welcome, call to order by Shannon Polchow, Chair 10:05 a.m.

Approval of Previous Minutes: Minutes were sent out ahead of the meeting. Corrections were suggested. Cara Smithwick made a motion to approve minutes with corrections, Paige Winget seconded. Approved.

Public Comment:

- Email Public Comment Read: Kelly Shropshire of Union, SC, commenting on behalf of her daughter with a dyslexia, emphasizing the need for more teachers to serve this population. She commented on lack of training / preparation of classroom teachers to recognize students with dyslexia.
- Public Comment: Rachelle Adam from Simpsonville, SC requesting discussion of the use of seclusion rooms in Greenville County.

Sub-Committee Meetings: committees met in-person with participation via virtual breakout rooms. (10:30-11:45)

Sub-Committee Reports:

Preschool: Kerri K. Introductions and welcome of new members. Updates on various statewide efforts from last year. Reviewed goals from march and established priorities: reducing expulsion and suspension, assessing COVID impacts, revisit law for the committee.

Professional Development: recap from last years and set intentions for this year. Looked at data on Indicator 5. Discussed professional development training for teachers, particularly gen ed teachers.

Transition and Self Advocacy: Paige Winget: TSA has been working on the development of a toolkit, has regrouped, and is looking at a user-friendly pocket guide with basic explanation of what transition is for parents, including tools and existing resources. Vision to capitalize on new statewide IEP programming and embed a QR code or link to the resource. Also collaborate with SC Teams and taskforce on this. Also some discussion on potential growth and getting other contributions and expansion from other sub-committees.

Written 8/25/23 by KB, Approved:

Safe Schools/Social Emotional Learning: Talked about the P4 project. Extension of training for heightened awareness for children exposed to trauma. Will gain access to e-modules and ask for assistance for a determination plan. Training has been done through the advocacy foundation Appleseed re: early removal. Will be determining additional information about this and the topic of access.

Lunch: 12:05-12:45

SCDE OSES Updates:

Peter Keup discussed the reorganization of OSES along with the functions of each team within the division. He then explained the SPP / APR indicators and discussed the SPP / APR process that OSES goes through each year. Finally, he discussed SEA determinations. Peter explained that South Carolina fell into the “needs assistance” category and he gave a detailed account of where we lost points as a state to put us into that category.

Jennifer Dillon and Lisa McCliment answered several questions about the prerecorded presentation about the SSIP.

Council Business / Announcements:

The **South Carolina Partners in Policymaking** is still recruiting for its next cohort. They are particularly interested in recruiting adults with developmental disabilities. Please circulate the [application](#) to anyone interested in participating.

The **Joint Citizens and Legislative Committee on Children** will be holding their 2023 Fall Hearings across the state starting in Columbia on September 7. Please see their [website](#) for dates when they might be near you and instructions on how to sign up to comment at a hearing.

The **Regional Advisory Committees (RAC)** under the US Department of Education are preparing to hold meetings in September and October. To prepare for these meetings, stakeholders are asked to submit [public comment](#) about the needs of the region. More information about the [RAC meetings can be found here](#).

September 28: "All Hands-on Deck," South Carolina Partnerships for Inclusion's Early Childhood Inclusion Conference. [Register for the SCPI Conference](#) by September 15.

October 17-18: "MTSS Summit," Academic Alliance of South Carolina. [Register for the MTSS Summit](#).

November 6-8: "Behavior Alliance November Institute," Behavior Alliance of South Carolina. Registration link is forthcoming, but you can [subscribe to the BASC newsletter](#).

November 27-28: "Gearing Up for Graduation," South Carolina Interagency Transition Conference. [Gearing Up for Graduation Conference Registration](#).

Motion to adjourn: Laura moved to adjourn. Kerri seconded. Approved. Meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Next Advisory Council meeting: Friday, October 27, 2023

Written 8/25/23 by KB, Approved: