

# Washington State Special Education Advisory Council

May 10, 2017

**Members Present:** Andres Aguirre, Roz Bethmann, Sarah Butcher, Shari Cotes, Carrie Fannin, Cheryl Fernandez, Sherry Krainick, Kimberly Leger, Rebecca Lockhart, Ann Waybright

**Excused Absences:** Darci Ladwig, Megan Bale, Lou Oma Durand

**OSPI Staff:** Doug Gill, Beverly Mitchell, Scott Raub

**Note Taker:** Bev Mitchell

Topic	Discussion	Action	Who/When	Completed
<b>Called to Order</b>	Ann Waybright, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.			
<b>Approval of February minutes and discussion regarding new members</b>	<p>One minor change was made in the minutes from the February 2017. Minutes were moved for approval and approved.</p> <p>Several people on the council resigned. The application is online and members of the council were encouraged to network with their contacts. The announcement of the empty positions on the council will be added to the Special Education monthly update and sent to the ESDs. The applications will be assessed by the Assistant Superintendent who will present them to the Superintendent, and the Superintendent will make the final decision.</p>			

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<b>Assistant Superintendent process</b>	15 people were on the interview panel. Four candidates were interviewed. The four candidates were scored. Those candidates went to the Superintendent and Deputy Superintendent who chose two for the second interview. They chose Glenna Gallo. She has state Director and national level experience. Discussed questions the council will ask Glenna during the video conference call. Think about what topics the council wants to cover during the conference call.			
<b>Discussion regarding election of Executive Members</b>	Ballots for the nomination of new Executive Members were given to the members. The council members are nominating and then electing a new Executive Chair Person, Executive Vice Chair Person, and Executive Chair Member. The current Executive Members will count the ballots.			
<b>Site visit at Wenatchee Valley Technical Skills Center</b>	The council members visited and toured the Wenatchee Valley Technical Skills Center. Peter Jelsing, Director, took us for a tour of the facility and talked about how the skills center makes a difference not only in the students, but the community. <a href="#">About the Wenatchee Valley Tech Center</a> The SEAC members were given the opportunity to talk with the students in some of the programs. The Center offers Automotive Technology, Cinematography & Production, Collision Repair Technology, Computer Technology, Construction Trades (where they were building a "Tiny House"), Cosmetology, Criminal Justice/Police Science, Culinary Arts (they catered our lunches), Fire Science, Videogame Programming, and they have a Credit Acceleration Program <a href="#">Wenatchee Valley Tech Credit Acceleration Program</a> .			

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<b>Update from Scott Raub, Community and Parent Liaison</b>	<p>Scott described his role as Parent and Community Liaison at the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) for new members, and shared some of his observations. His presentation was very informative.</p> <p>He shared with the council the most frequent topics from callers and those who write to the special education email inbox. Evaluation disputes seems to be the issue that has taken a rise over the past school year. Other areas that have risen a bit in frequency are transportation problems and transition (18-21) issues.</p>			
<b>Legislative session update and discussion</b>	<p>The belief is the Legislative session will be long and there will be an extended session.</p> <p>Chronic absenteeism — Training parents how important regular attendance is in schools. Special education students have a much higher rate of absenteeism than general education students.</p>			
<b>Brent Stark presentation</b>	<p>Brent Stark is the Project Director for Washington Sensory Disabilities Services. Brent talked about the Stephen F. Austin State University program—The Teacher of Students with Visual Impairments (TVI). The program will prepare the candidate to teach children with visual impairments from birth through 22 years of age. Through Brent’s assistance, this program is going to be available in Washington State. Brent talked about the shortage of teachers trained in teaching students with visual impairments. This is the mission of the Visual Impairment Preparation (VIP) Program—To train teachers of students with Visual Impairments (TVIs) and Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialists</p>			

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	<p>(COMS) who are practically prepared to meet the needs of person with visual impairments across the state of Texas and in the nation as a whole. We believe that completers from our program should be equipped to effectively deliver instructional services, which provide opportunities for students and clients with visual impairments to be more independent, lead more meaningful lives, and participate to a greater extent in society at large. In order to meet these goals, we believe that it is our responsibility to mentor and educate our graduates in the importance of exhibiting caring and compassionate approaches to instruction and positive beliefs about the worth of all individuals regardless of age, gender, race, sexual orientation or level of disability.</p> <p>This is the link to the <a href="#">Stephen F. Austin State University - The Teacher of Students with Visual Impairments program</a>.</p>			
<b>SEAC SharePoint</b>	<p>SEAC SharePoint was shared with the members. This is a site where the members can share documents, ideas, and have discussions. It is a private site and can only be accessed by the members. The members have been invited to the site and have access.</p>			

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<b>Hot Topics</b>	<p>Roz Bethmann shared that PAVE hired two more parent resource coordinators. One in Vancouver and an additional person in Spokane. They once again have a full staff.</p> <p>Doug mentioned some ideas on what arena to recruit candidates from for SEAC. The members discussed the recruitment of new members to be able to represent all students.</p> <p>They discussed where they will have the 2017-18 meetings. The 2017-18 meetings – October Vancouver, WA; February, Olympia, WA; May, Bellingham.</p>			
<b>Public Comment</b>	No public comment			