

Continuing Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting Minutes
April 28, 2021-Zoom Meeting
9:15 AM-10:37 PM

CAC Attendees: Agatha Thibodeaux, Alicia, Laurie Rodriguez, Jen Stratton, Laura Villareal, Elizabeth "Beth" Donaldson, Jana Burns, Ray Tijerina, Amy Litzinger, Rachel Dreiling

CAC Absentees: Teresa Bronsky, Jana McKelvey, Stephanie Martinez, JoAnn Wofford, Shemica S. Allen, Susan Nichols

Texas Education Agency: Keith Swink, Matt Montanoñ, Brittany Brettschneider

9:15 Welcome and Opening-Jen Stratton, CAC Chair

Quorum was reached at 9:15, Jen Stratton opened the meeting and reviewed meeting guidelines, and agenda for the day. Quorum was present.

9:15 Presentation from TEA Matt Montaña regarding Supplemental Education Services

Matt Montaña presented an Overview of Supplemental Special Education services. Students enrolled in the 2020-2021 school year are eligible to apply. The LEA outreach campaign has a goal of 18,000 accounts created by June 30th, 2021. TEA provides the name of students that qualify for the program.

Link:

<https://tea.texas.gov/academics/special-student-populations/special-education/supplemental-special-education-services-sSES>

The following questions were discussed concerning proposed changes:

- How does TEA respond to the criticism that this is just a voucher system?
 - It is for students in public school that will remain in public school. A way to provide support to combat regression with additive services.
- How does TEA respond to the criticism that parents who are unable or unwilling to apply essentially then create a larger pool of money going to the families who did apply, thus exacerbating inequity?
 - It is a tool to help families to help their children. The funding does not go direct to families.
- Will this open up to all kids with an IEP?
 - Only those in K-12
- Parents have expressed unwillingness because of the financial questions required in the application?
 - Difference of opinion on the issue is there, TEA has stated that they are trying to help families and are getting positive feed.

9:37 Legislative Update – Amy Litzinger

Amy Litzinger updated us on the current legislative session and where bills associated with our legislative report currently stand. Bills are in various stages, update categories include

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| • Transition Services | • Supported Decision Making |
| • Teacher Prep | • Safety Plans |
| • IEP | • Transition and Data Privacy |
| • Least Restrictive Environment | |

Google Doc Link:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1cGH0iDvdIB7R020FHhGY7tb8uBy2yqs5/view?usp=sharing>

10:00 Committee Member Introductions

Committee Members take up to three minutes to introduce themselves and answer...

- How did you get on the committee?
- Fun fact about yourself?

10:30 Public Comments

No Persons were signed up to make public comment.

10:35 Minutes were approved. Jen Stratton moved to approve the minutes. Alicia Giordano seconded the motion.

10:37 Motion to Adjourn

Amy Litzinger made a motion to adjourn. Rachel Dreiling seconded motion. Meeting adjourned at 10:37.