

Continuing Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting Minutes

November 8, 2024, 9:05am – 12:45pm

CAC Attendees: April Estrada, Tara Cevallos, Aaron Bangor, Adrian Guerra, Diana Nelson, Amy Litzinger, Aaron Bangor, Agatha Thibodeaux, Kevin Markel, JoAnn Wofford

CAC Members Absent: Claudia Cavazos, Marissa Esquivel, Lori Brown-Duncan, Sheryl Kubala, Susan Nichols

Texas Education Agency: Stephanie Koch, Kristin McGuire, Brittany Brettschneider

9:04 Begin Meeting - Amy Litzinger reviewed the CAC Members' Duties and Agenda

- CAC Policy Recommendations Report due by 1/1/ 25. CAC report shall include recommended changes to state law and agency rules relating to special education.

9:07 TEA Updates- Kristin McGuire gave TEA updates regarding rule amendments and IEP facilitation rules.

89.1196 and **89.1197** Revisions associated with State IEP facilitation process

89.1035 Age Ranges for Student Eligibility-addresses age ranges for student eligibility for special education and related services.

89.1053 addresses procedures for the use of restraint and time-out for students receiving special education and related services.

89.1070 Graduation Requirements

- Lawmakers can begin filing bills the Monday after election day
- State Senator Paul Bettancourt plans to file a bill on Special Education funding.

CRC asked questions on use of restraints. Restraints SB133 prohibiting using tasers for students younger than 10 years.

Public Comment

9:14 Molly Machemehl

Fidelity of records in regards to what technology departments need when maintaining student records and what students with needs require in their classrooms.

9:20 Amy Litzinger Legislative Updates:
Update Executive Summary

9:35 Kevin Markel inquired about criteria for priority. Amy Litzinger explained that criteria is based on how it affects the majority of kids, the majority of districts, and is not controversial.

9:39 Amy explained the mission and values of the Candidate Advisory Committee.

10:15-10:25 Break

10:25 Revision to Finance Recommendations

Recommendation 1: Salaries

Recommendation 2: Cost of Full Individual Evaluations (FIIE)

Recommendation 3: Medical Billing Transparency

Recommendation 4: Funding for Interpreters

10:49 Rebecca Lopez shared report

- Educational Interpreters for Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing
[2022EducationalInterpretersReport.pdf](#)

10:51 Health and Safety Recommendations

Recommendation 5: Fire Safety and Emergency Evacuations

Recommendation 6: Epilepsy Protocol Recommendations

Recommendation 7: Restraint and Seclusion

11:20 Staff Recommendations

Recommendation 8: Teacher-Student Ratio

Aaron Bangor motioned to adopt changes to recommendation in order to clarify ambiguity of original recommendation. Amy Litzinger seconded motion. CAC Members unanimously voted to approve changes.

Recommendation 9: Prioritize Incentives for Working with Students with Disabilities

Recommendation 10: Grant Programs for Special Education Certification

11:35 Behavior Recommendations

Recommendation 11: De-escalation Training

Recommendation 12: Funding for additional behavior staff/personnel

Recommendation 13: Grant program/Incentives for current/future teachers certified in Special Education

11:48 Digital Literacy Recommendations

Recommendation 14: Accessible Digital Technology Policy

Recommendation 15: Self-paced Resources for Digital Accessibility Barrier Remediation

11:54 Dyslexia Recommendations

Recommendation 17: List of evidence-based dyslexia programs

Recommendation 18: Class Size follow guidelines of dyslexia program

12:01 Justice Recommendations

Recommendation 19: Gathering of data on student interaction with the justice system while receiving special education services.

Recommendation 20: TEA gather data on students with behavior intervention plans

Recommendation 21: State legislature request data about whether or not students served under IDEA within the Texas judicial system are receiving their special education support(s) while incarcerated.

Recommendation 22: State legislature request data regarding the return to school process for previously incarcerated students either receiving or eligible for but not yet receiving special education services.

Recommendation 23: State legislature request data regarding how many individuals within the Texas prison system were missed under Child Find during the years of the special education cap. Additionally, we request that a plan be created with TEA to identify these individuals and offer them appropriate compensatory services.

12:22 Amy Litzinger motioned to approve recommendations. Agatha Thibodeaux seconded motion. CAC members approved.

12:42 Next CAC meeting February 12, 2025, or February 19, 2025, depending on room availability.

12:44 Amy Litzinger motioned to approve minutes. Agatha Thibodeaux motioned to approve minutes. CAC members approved.

12:45 Amy Litzinger motioned to adjourn the meeting. April Estrada seconded motion. CAC members approved.