

Continuing Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting Minutes
August 29, 2018
Region 13 Education Service Center
5701 Springdale Rd. Austin, TX 78723

CAC Attendees: Teresa Bronsky, Stephanie Martinez, Elizabeth Donaldson, Rachel Dreiling, Julia Erwin, Robin Lock, Kristin Tassin, Agatha Thibodeaux, Erin Wilder

CAC Absentees: Shemica Allen, Karen Beasley, Jana Burns, Jo Ann Gama, Jana McKelvey, Kristine Mohajer, Laurie Rodriguez, Jo Ann Wofford

Texas Education Agency: Stacy May, Keith Swink, Sandra Serna, Michelle Rosales, and Heather Reisman

Welcome and Opening-Teresa Bronsky, CAC Chair

Mrs. Teresa Bronsky opened the meeting and reviewed meeting guidelines. Quorum was present.

Review and approval of minutes for the May 16th, 2018 meeting – Mrs. Teresa Bronsky

Ms. Rachel Dreiling made a motion to accept the meeting minutes from the May 16th meeting. Ms. Kristin Tassin seconded the motion and all were in favor or approval. Meeting minutes were approved at 9:29am.

Legislative Sub-Committee Reports/Work Groups

Ms. Agatha Thibodeaux began to update on the Instruction Subcommittee and their findings regarding Dyslexia. Some of the main areas of interest up for discussion were delayed testing, and under identified kids. Ms. Thibodeaux also updated everyone on the plans to assign one person to compile all recommendations into 1 google document to facilitate the final review and approval process at upcoming meetings. Additional discussion began by trying to identify perhaps which 3 or 4 top priority items were to be recommended on the report. Ms. Stephanie Martinez began to update on the Intervention Services Subcommittee and their findings regarding accountability towards special education. Discussion about trainings and reaching out to the Board of Trustees with a goal to keep all accountable. Discussion continued with the 19TAC 74.28 Amendment and about educating all higher education teachers with a goal of them all teaching regular and special ed students. A comment was made that 1 in every 58 students has autism and 19TAC Chapters 89/31 were discussed. Ms. Teresa Bronsky & Rachel Dreiling updated the committee on the Distribution of Funds Subcommittee and focused on the transparency of their reports. They also made comments towards the special-ed funding expansion and on making an IEP Facilitator mandatory. Closing comments included a special education audit and a recommendation for a required audit to be made every 5 or 10 years.

Public Comments-

Public Comments began at 1:00 PM.

- Adrian Gaspar-Disabilities Rights of Texas
- Sharron Rush of Knowbility.org

Discussion and Reports about Recording Meetings- Ms. Rachel Dreiling

A PowerPoint presentation was put forth by Ms. Dreiling reporting back on the cost of transcribing and recording the meetings in the near future. The presentation showcased two different companies that could facilitate the recording process for CAC and provided examples of other agencies currently providing this service. Information such as: required software, equipment, and overall costs were discussed. The CAC decided to allocate more time into this consideration before deciding whether or not to recommend TEA to consider this new availability. Further discussion to be expected.

Further Discussion

- Mrs. Stacy May agreed to look into the appropriate process in which to submit the final report.
- Tentative dates/schedules were shared for our upcoming meetings with a poll to be sent out by email to ensure availability and meeting attendance.
- Ms. Agatha Thibodeaux volunteered to compile all the subcommittee update/comments into one large google document to be reviewed at our next meeting.
- A deadline was given to submit one email by subcommittee including their recommendation bullet points and explanation behind their findings.
- A tentative deadline of October 31st, 2018 was agreed on to have a final report ready to be submitted.

Motion to Adjourn

Ms. Kristin Tassin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Elizabeth Donaldson seconded. All were in favor of adjourning the meeting at 1:57pm.