

**The Arc Michigan Education Committee
Meeting Minutes**

November 4, 2020

Meeting came to order at 3:40pm via Zoom.

Present: Maggie Kolk, Andrea Beachnau, Michelle Driscoll

SEAC Report and Notes (Andrea Beachnau, Kenya Harper-Black)

SEAC will meet twice monthly beginning in November to cover all SEAC duties. These additional meetings will be for members only.

SPP/APR Target setting deadline has been extended to February 2022. SEAC doing work this year to go through the process of proposing targets. This extension will allow for meaningful stakeholder input.

John Anderjack, OSE Program Finance Supervisor, MDE presented on Understanding 3 Buckets of Special Education Funding-

- **Local Funds**

- Non homestead property taxes (18 mills)
- ISD special education millage (Act 18)
- Each ISD determines own method of distribution

Method of distribution included in ISD Plan and approved by MDE using flexibility and equity.

- **Federal Funds**

- IDEA Part B, Section 611
- IDEA Part B, Section 619
- IDEA Part C
- Must do's – monitoring, complaint investigation, mediation...
- May do's – technical assistance, personnel shortage, positive behavior interventions...
- Formula includes three (3) components (count of children with disabilities, number of children enrolled in school and number of children living in poverty (Free Lunch)

- **State Funds**

- Foundation allowance payments
- Durant payments
- Categorical payments

Dr. Scott Koenigsknecht, Deputy Superintendent presented on P-20 Systems and Transition presented on Understanding Special Education Funding in Michigan-

- Revenues or \$ into Special Ed – Around \$2,000,000
- Expenditures or \$ out of Special Ed – Around \$3,000,000
- Special Education underfunded by \$750,103,520
- Educating a child in special education – funding comes from one of 2 places
 1. 28% reimbursement cost from State School Aid Act **or**
 2. Foundation allowance if <28%
- Special Education is underfunded by 23%
 - Shortfall comes from gen ed funding & becomes equity issue
 - On avg \$497 per pupil foundation allowance to cover shortfall
 - Spec ed Full Time Equivalent (FTE) count at 57,384
 - Underfunding by \$13,072 per spec ed FTE

Andrea B. participated in a breakout room for SEAC members to discuss how they can apply the information presented above and address their constituents to ask Congress to full fund (40%) costs for students with disabilities. A priority for SEAC this year is to address unmet needs and bring them to the attention of the State Board of Education.

A Due Process case was presented by Rebecca McIntyre, OSE Program Accountability Supervisor, MDE. The case involved a kindergartener with an IEP (ADHD and severe behavior challenges) move to an Interim Alternative Educational Setting. G.D. & R.D. obo G.D. v Utica Community Schools. Final Decision Issued September 11, 2020.

We continued the discussion of the education guidance related to COVID-19 coming out from MDE-OSE. Maggie will invite a representative from Arc US to talk with our committee at a future meeting about education and COVID-19 to get a national perspective on education issues arising during the pandemic.

Maggie will send out finalized position statements to the committee.

The education committee will continue to meet via the Zoom platform until further notice. There will not be an education committee meeting in December. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, January 6th from 3:30-4:30.

Meeting adjourned at 4:15pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Michelle Driscoll