

**The Arc Michigan Education Committee-Meeting Minutes
April 14, 2021**

Meeting came to order at 3:35pm via Zoom.

Present: Maggie Kolk, Michelle Driscoll, Chesley Giertz, Sue Lind, Darlene Heard-Thomas, Tina Miller

SEAC Report and Notes-Michelle

MDE-OSE Update:

- MDE-OSE continues to recommend use of Contingency Learning Plan (CLP) written in tandem with current IEP.
- CLP should be implemented in the event the district does not provide in-person instruction.
- A CLP is set aside when in-person instruction resumes and the annual IEP as written is to be implemented.

Recovery Services are:

- not required by MARSE or IDEA.
- in addition to the offer of a FAPE.
- intended to provide a “boost” to reduce the period of time it may take a student to begin to acquire new skills.
- not a “complainable” issue.
- should be documented in the IEP.

Extended School Year Services (ESY)

Recovery Services

Required as part of the annual IEP process	NOT required by IDEA or MARSE
Proactive approach	Reactive approach
Predictive analysis based on data collected following a break in instruction	Actual impact of the interruption of services due to the pandemic
	Can be provided in addition to ESY

Special Populations Information:

Bilingual/ESL Learners-

Kelly Alvarez-MDE Title III Program Consultant /English Learner Consultant, MDE
MDE-EL@michigan.gov

Foster Care-

Kathleen Hoehn-Foster Care Consultant, Office of Educational Supports, MDE
HoehneK@michigan.gov

517.243.7171

Ann Rossi- MDHHS Department Analyst, Foster Care, Guardianship and Adoption Program Office, MDHHS

RossiA@michigan.gov

517.256.8421

McKinney-Vento Homeless-

Michelle Williams-Special Populations Unit Manager/MV State Coordinator, MDE

McKinney-Vento@michigan.gov

www.michigan.gov/homeless

McKinney-Vento Homeless Resources for Parents:

School Help for Homeless Children with Disabilities: Information for Parents

https://nche.ed.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/idea_parents.pdf

Know Your Rights

<https://schoolhouseconnection.org/editable-know-your-rights-flyers/>

Migrant Education-

Michelle Matson-Migrant Education Program Consultant, MDE

MattsonM2@michigan.gov

Neglected, Delinquent and At-Risk Education-

Dawn Carmody- Special Populations Unit Consultant, MDE

CarmodyD1@michigan.gov

Personal Curriculum (PC)-

Rashell Bowerman- MDE Instructional Consultant

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517.335.3062

Rashell’s presentation included this information about PC-

- “The legislative intent of the PC is to individualize the rigor and relevance of the educational experience and provide a tool to help ALL students succeed with the Michigan Merit Curriculum” Personal Curriculum Guidelines 2009-
[MDE - Personal Curriculum \(michigan.gov\)](#)
- Districts have to go through the necessary actions if PC is requested.
- PC can be denied at approval point by district.
- Student credit is based on proficiency with the content, not how long someone sits in class.
- Districts determine proficiency, districts are the quality control, districts grant diplomas.
- Think about content vs. courses.
- If PC is approved, districts have to create PC for student aligned to their post school goals.
- PC is highly underutilized.

Education Committee Discussion:

Recovery Services:

Committee members discussed Recovery Services, how they are being provided or not provided to students in their counties, and how the provision of recovery services is being documented/tracked.

Committee members reviewed the document **Special Education Problem Solving Process** from 2013, updated in 2018- [Special Education Problem Solving Process](#). This document is being replaced by two documents listed below.

The **DRAFT Special Education State Complaints: Procedures and Model Forms** document is being presented for Public Comment and includes two documents-

- Special Education State Complaints: Procedures and Model Forms document will provide details to specific state complaint requirements and the filing process.
- The Dispute Resolution Options document will provide a general overview of options available for resolving concerns related to special education.

Special Education State Complaints: Procedures and Model Forms

Written comments about the DRAFT document must be received by the MDE no later than April 30, 2021 at 5:00pm. Written comments may be submitted in the following ways:

- **Online public written comment**
- By email to MDE-OSE-Public-Comment@michigan.gov
(include Public Comment State Complaint Procedures in the subject line)
- By mail:
 - Public Comment - State Complaint Procedures
Michigan Department of Education
Office of Special Education
608 West Allegan
P.O. Box 30008
Lansing, MI 48909

For questions about the draft State Complaint Procedures or other special education issues, contact the Office of Special Education Information Line at 1-888-320-8484 or mde-ose@michigan.gov.

The Arc Michigan Education Committee members in attendance agree that the new DRAFT document is better organized, is more concise and easier to read, is written with more family friendly language, and it is easier to see and understand the timeline information. Maggie will draft a letter of support for the document and send to Sherri for approval.

Chesley shared concerns about inclusion of students with disabilities in Michigan and asked if there is an organization that is specifically championing this issue/creating change on behalf of students with disabilities (other than specific organizations each doing their own advocacy efforts). This moved to a brief discussion of the need for education system to be revamped for teachers. Andrea B. will let us know when Teri Rink and Rebecca McIntyre, MDE-OSE, will be able to meet with our committee to discuss the creation of an Education Generalist degree in Michigan.

The meeting adjourned at 4:15pm.