

The Arc Michigan Education Committee
Meeting Minutes
5/3/2023

Meeting came to order at 3:37pm via Zoom.

Present: Michelle Driscoll, Debbie Whitford, Kenya Harper, Darlene Heard-Thomas, Loren Glover, Emily Henderson and Maggie Kolk

Meeting minutes from March 2023 meeting were previously sent out to committee members. March Meeting minutes approved with no changes.

May SEAC Report (Submitted by Andrea Beachnau and Kenya Harper):

Legislative Update – Dr. Sheryl Kennedy

- Goal 8 – Adequate & Equitable School Funding
 - Increases to all foundational funding (5% - \$458 per pupil)
 - Senate (6% increase - \$550 per pupil), House (4% increase - \$366 per pupil)
- Goal 1 – Early Childhood Opportunity Expansion
 - 5% increase GSRP
 - Eligibility federal poverty level to 300% and up to 400% in some circumstances
 - Senate increase 6% preschool and 250% federal poverty level
 - House increase 4% and expand eligibility 275% federal poverty level
- Goal 2 – Early Literacy Achievement Improvements
 - Mi Kids Back on Track – increased funding
 - Early Literacy Coaches – increased funding
 - Early Literacy District Grants – increased funding
 - LETRS Training
 - PD, Curriculum, Literacy Supports, LETRS
- Goal 3 – Improve Health, Safety, and Wellness of All Learners
 - Senate – SB173 & House – HB4286
 - Mi Climate/Health Program
 - School Health Center Facility Improvements – Senate not support
 - Free Meals for All Students – Senate, House, & Governor support
 - Mental Health Grants – Senate, House & Governor support
 - Teen Health Centers
 - Mental Health per pupil Payments
 - School Meal Forgiveness
- Goal 7 – Increase Number Certified Staff
 - Administrator/Principal Training on Special Education – Senate not support
- Goal 5 – Increase Percentage Students who Graduate
 - Adult Education – funding increases
 - Adult Education Pilots – funding increases

Intensifying Intervention Instruction – Dr. Melissa Nantais

- Revisited Data-based Individualization (DBI) from March SEAC
 - DBI is a systematic process for using data
 - DBI is an ongoing process not a single intervention
 - Universal screening data
 - Fidelity data
 - Progress Monitoring Data
 - Diagnostic Data
 - If Student Does Not Meet Expectations
 - Hypothesis 1 – Did not receive adequate instruction (Fidelity)
 - Insufficient materials, bad location creating distraction, scheduling issues, low student engagement, missing data
 - Hypothesis 2 – Instruction not sufficiently intense to meet needs
 - Is it group struggling or individual struggling, collect additional data, make a plan to intensify and document, progress monitoring
 - Taxonomy of Intervention Intensity – 7 Dimensions
 1. Strength
 2. Behavioral Support
 3. Comprehensiveness
 4. Attention to Transfer (Generalization)
 5. Individualization
 6. Alignment
 7. Dosage
 - Start small and make one small change at a time

Reviewed a Due Process Case with Chantel Mozden

- July 1, 2022-April 30, 2023 – 107 Due Process Complaints Filed
 - 58 Dismissed (Not Adjudicated)
 - 21 Withdrawn
 - 9 Final Decision & Order
- Surpassed Due Process Filed in 2021-22

LRE Monitoring Activities Draft Review for 2024 – Chantel Mozden

- Current monitoring activities
 - Student Record Reviews
 - Go through IEP with Checklist
 - Staff Interviews
 - Procedural Reviews

Legislative updates:

Emily Henderson, Governmental Affairs Consultant and Lobbyist for Arc Michigan with McCall Hamilton, join us for this meeting and shared a legislative update.

Emily noted seeing a pause on legislative activity due to decisions being made about the current budget. School aid budgets came through with flags regarding the per pupil funding such as:

- Special education foundation allowances
- Offset funding to Intermediate Schools Districts (ISD) and libraries
- Mental health and school safety in excess of \$30 Million.
- Adult education
- Mental health school safety in excess of \$10 Million.
- School counselors' program
- Loan assistance of \$250.00 per month if constituents work in a high needs district.

The budget will be headed to the floor and then to committees to fine tune all the details. Emily noted that we are in a season of cuts and reminded members that the school aid fund is not general fund, therefore no cuts to school aid fund; however, may see a decrease in revenues due to partisan issues. On a positive note Emily state that we could see this wrapped up between a month or month and a half. Emily also told members that per pupil funding went up but not 100% to special education, approximately 75% and that the base per pupil funding for public schools went from \$9,150 to \$9,608 per student a 9% increase. Link to more information is as follows: <https://rwcadvocacy.app.box.com/s/4jpdpvwnzj866k24751w0ccn5q7v30di>

Discussion:

Member talked about position statements: Pathway to kindergarten, School Wide positive behavior supports and Universal Design for Learning (UDL). Committee will need to get the adapted date from Sherry on the position statements that were made. Michelle stated she will send out copies of position statement documents for all to review and discuss and that she would distribute the IEP team and section 504 brochures.

Michelle announced that she has become the new Chairperson for the Arc Education Committee and announced that Debbie Whitford would be assuming the role of recording the meeting minutes.

Additional business:

Kenya Harper discussed that she, Victoria Martinez and Kanika Littleton will no longer be eligible to serve on SEAC and that the new representatives will be: Chris Somerville, Kelsey Biswanger, Stephanie Nicholls and Margarita Rodriguez-Curry.

Members discussed a possible day change for Arc Education Committee from Wednesdays to Thursdays to accommodate SEAC attendees. Members discussed sending out a poll on the best day but felt Thursday at 10AM may be the best fit.

Next meeting is Wednesday, June 7th, 3:30-5:00pm.

**2023 Dates (First Wednesday of the month, 3:30-5:00pm)
May 3/ June 7 / July 5 and August 2 (as needed)**

Join Zoom Meeting (This is the standing Zoom link for each meeting)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88262109389?pwd=eTZ0UHZZdUo1aHhMa1dtNlk4SURaZz09>

Meeting ID: 882 6210 9389 / Passcode: 416253

The meeting adjourned at 4:42pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Debbie Whitford