



Notes

Kansas Special Education Advisory Council

State Inter Agency Coordinating Council



January 10, 2018

Landon State Office Building

Room 509

**Call to Order:**

Mary Duncan and Joan Macy call the meeting to order at 9:02 am.

**Roll Call – SEAC Members Present:**

Amy Dejmal  
Joan Macy

Chelle Kemper  
Judy Martin

Debora Howser  
Kathy Kersenbrock-  
Ostmeyer  
Marvin Miller  
Stacie Clarkson

Laura Thompson  
Rebekah Helget

Lesli Girard  
Robb Scott

**SEAC Members Absent:**

Deb Young  
Jim McNiece  
Maureen Huppe  
Tina Gibson

Diane Plunkett  
Kelly McCauley  
Mike Martin

Doug Anderson  
Marcy Aycock  
Sarah Schaffer

**SICC Members Present**

Alix Kumer  
Kate Walter  
Lisa Collette  
Lesli Girard

Dave Lindeman  
Kim Kennedy  
Mary Duncan  
Liz Brunscheen-Cartagena

Heather Staab  
Laci Reamer  
Natalie McClane

**SICC Members Absent**

Matt Connell

Karen Pahls

**KSDE Staff Present:**

Colleen Riley  
Pat Bone  
Tiffany Blevins

Kerry Haag  
Lori Adams

Laura Jurgensen  
Jordan Christian

**Guests:** Karen Nymicheck, Monica Murnan

## **Kansas Preschool Program**

Monica Murnan

Monica has been working with the transition of services for kids 3-5 and shifting from school based to community based services for kids. She is employed by Greenbush, a coordinator for Part C in SE Kansas serving about 350 families, connected to 8 Part C networks across the state, does Medicaid billing for school districts and 17 early childhood networks, and a legislator for Pittsburg. She has also been the executive director of a community-based preschool in Pittsburg with a universal Pre-K in the community.

Things to think about and share in your communities:

- Communities are collaborating
- Funding streams have changed and it is a good thing. The new concept is to say here is an amount of money, now serve the kids. All of them. This type of funding reduces the limitations about which kids may be served within a program.
- Past: Kansas Pre-school program has been around since 1999. Grants were submitted through KSDE and a number of slots were assigned. Not just school districts have the ability to do this. Through the children's cabinet, additional funding required 50% needed to meet certain requirements in both community and school based sites.
- Present: In the last year, changes have started occurring. KSDE began to push for kindergarten readiness and preschool programs. KSDE moved toward allowing districts to create programs that braided funds to benefit kids. TANF dollars from Dept. of Health and Human Services at the federal level. The Department of Children and Families (DCF) submits a plan for Kansas to receive funds. The state has made access to these funds difficult for families to access. How can we get these dollars to some of the kids? Some TANF money was given to preschool programs. School districts now have access to TANF funds to serve kids. Many districts are confused and turning to KSDE for help.
- As a result of funding being approved in June last year, the KSDE issued a new grant application for districts. This created a unique situation. KIDS can now be mixed in classrooms and not separated by their labels such as special education, 4 year old at risk, etc. In general, more funds are available.
- Funding for early learning, reduces the number of at risk kids by grade 3.
- Conversations by providers are changing in positive ways.
- We are at a place that communities can be creative but will also need some assistance building a program that works for them.
- For Part C this means, kids are now being served in their natural community settings.
- Opportunities are growing.

Questions

- How do we talk effectively to legislators? What are some things that could help us in this conversation?
  1. Know who they are. Expect return communication when you reach out to them.
  2. If you do not get email response, call them. Kansas Legislature website for contact information. <http://www.kslegislature.org/li/>
  3. Don't get to words and into the weeds of the problem. Keep it short and clear what you are looking for from them.

4. Agency heads have a lot power. Have you worked through the agency to improve situation?
5. Keep in mind they work for you. Don't be mean or nasty.
6. Follow KSleg on twitter to stay informed.
7. KASB updates have good information.
8. Kathy Kersenbrock-Ostmeyer also puts out a lot of legislative information on her list, please email Kathy to be included. [kko@nkesc.org](mailto:kko@nkesc.org)

**Kansas Pre-School Program (KPP) - Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Update**

Ryan Weir

Handout – TANF in Early Learning Programs

The DCF is the managing agency for the fund.  
KSDE is still in the process of cleaning up the supplemental grants from last year.

Eligibility criteria

Hearing discussion of additional TANF money at the legislature this year.

We have found that the list of criteria includes elements that cover almost everyone.

Parents as Teachers Program – Children’s Initiative Funds (CIF) funds are less stable than TANF funds. A mixed funding stream is probably the most beneficial for all concerned.

**Kindergarten Readiness**

Tiffany Blevins

—One of five Board identified Outcome Areas to measure progress. ASQ3 and ASQ-SE2 (video) is a parent completed tool to prepare teachers for new students (but is not mandated). This helps teachers develop strategies and tools for classroom instruction by viewing the “snapshot” of the child from the ASQ. 37 districts piloted the ASQ in Fall 2016. ASQ Trainings provided at nine locations across the state, with 261 districts participating. The new Kansas Kindergarten Guide is also available on KSDE’s website.

**Early Childhood Data**

Tiffany Blevins

Data Alignment Workgroup—KSDE is attempting to avoid an over-abundance of data, so created the Data Alignment Workgroup. State agencies, Children’s Cabinet, state universities, the Kansas In-service Training System (KITS), PAT, KCSL, and others are involved. The group, led by KSDE, are working towards aligning data systems statewide. Goal is to have a single statewide system to cut costs and duplication of data.

**IDEA Part B and Part C**

Heather Staab

Tiffany Blevins

Part C Infant-Toddler (tiny-k) & Part B 619 Preschool—Common Measures: Early Childhood Outcomes, and Transition Part C to Part B. (Outcomes A, B, C PowerPoint slides). In each state’s APR submitted to OSEP, states must set targets for each of the three outcomes. Use of web-based IFSP is required of all programs beginning July 1, 2018. In SFY17 3,009 toddlers with IFSPs were assessed. Outcome A, B, and C targets were all met by KDHE in SFY17.

Part B 619—4,043 children assessed with IEPs. Outcome A1 target was met, but A2 was not met. Outcome B1 target met, B2 not met. Outcome C1 met, but C2 was not met. KSDE is looking at visiting local districts to provide technical support in order to reach outcome goals.

Early Childhood Transition—Indicator 8: developed an IFSP with a transition plan that should be in place within 90 days. Notify the SEA and LEA where the toddler resides within 90

days of their third birthday. Then conduct the transition conference if the child is still eligible for Part B services Part B Indicator 12 transition data shared.

### **KSDE Early Childhood Programs**

Nis Wilbur

PAT Overview. PAT offers two service delivery models: affiliate status and approved user status. Kansas PAT and the APR 2016-17: 8,275 children served, and over 6,500 families. KPAT trainings were offered at multiple locations throughout the state all year. Two more trainings will be provided in 2018. Monthly Early Learning webinars will provide PAT updates to the state. KPAT Advisory Committees are now required to have parent representation. Early Learning Roadshows will begin again in Spring 2018. KPAT Grant Applications will also become available in the Spring of 2018.

4 Year Old At Risk— 9 eligibility requirements for this program. 6,847 children served by this program. Eligibility this year only has the requirement of free lunch due to additional TANF funding. Components of this program are community collaboration, family engagement, and high quality early learning experiences which are embedded in the application process. Updates for the 4-Year-Old At-Risk program are also provided during the monthly Early Learning Webinars. Kindergarten Readiness Snapshot Tool data collection begins in 2018.

### **LICC Updates**

Jordan Christian

—LICCs visited so far (handout). Status and health of the LICCs across the state is varied. Some success stories: Ottawa-Wellsville, Harvey County, Marion County, Hays, and Shawnee/Sedgwick Counties. Upcoming SICC/LICC session at the KDEC Conference. LICC Support Committee activities and accomplishments provided.

Thanks to Jordan for his attendance at all the local ICC's and the ongoing work to improve the local ICC's.

Thanks to the members of SICC for joining SEAC today to share information.

Meeting adjourned.