

KANSAS SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL



Annual Report

July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024

Special Education & Title Services
Kansas State Department of Education
900 SW Jackson Street, Suite 620
Topeka, KS 66612
1-800-203-9462



MISSION

To prepare Kansas students for lifelong success through rigorous, quality academic instruction, career training and character development according to each student's gifts and talents.

VISION

Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.

MOTTO

Kansans Can

SUCCESS DEFINED

A successful Kansas high school graduate has the

- Academic preparation,
- Cognitive preparation,
- Technical skills,
- Employability skills and
- Civic engagement

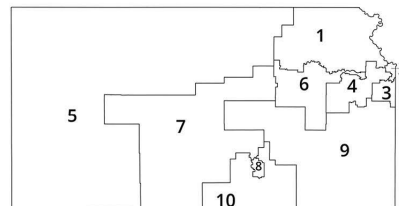
to be successful in postsecondary education, in the attainment of an industry recognized certification or in the workforce, without the need for remediation.

OUTCOMES

- Social-emotional growth
- Kindergarten readiness
- Individual Plan of Study
- Civic engagement
- Academically prepared for postsecondary
- High school graduation
- Postsecondary success



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Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.

Jan. 25, 2024

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Secretary's Report

The Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) works to ensure that the state of Kansas is engaging stakeholders on topics related to serving students with exceptionalities. Kansas uses the term students with exceptionalities to include students with disabilities as well as students with Giftedness (Kansas requirement). It is the primary responsibility of SEAC to advise, consult and provide recommendations to the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE), Special Education and Title Services team (SETS), and the Kansas State Board of Education (KSBE) regarding matters concerning serving students with exceptionalities in Kansas.

The primary motivation for individuals to be selected to serve on SEAC is a focus on quality improvement in the Kansas education system, particularly as it relates to serving students with exceptionalities. SEAC has been productively engaged in fulfilling its legal commitments and mission on behalf of students with disabilities including students with Giftedness. The SEAC members meet a minimum of four times each year, discuss and review issues of significance related to meeting the needs of students with disabilities and Giftedness, and advise the SETS team as well as the KSBE on matters regarding programs and services for students with exceptionalities.

SEAC meetings were held Hybrid (virtual and on-site) during the school year to ensure the participation of SEAC members. SEAC continued to advocate for EACH student to receive appropriate special education services in lieu of each child's circumstances. Topics reviewed by SEAC this year included: SPP/APR Indicator data submitted in January 2024, licensure alternatives, the Differentiated Monitoring System domains that will be reviewed by the Office of Special Education Programs, how students with disabilities are meeting academic requirements while attending Virtual programs, an update on State Assessments including the English Learner Alternate Assessment, addressing Dyslexia as a "State" disability category, and preliminary discussions about a statewide Individual Education Program format.

As the Secretary for SEAC, I am proud of the accomplishments made during the 2023-2024 school year. We continued to address key issues brought by the KSDE, KSBE, and SETS to keep the focus on the needs of EACH student including a focus on post-secondary outcomes. A list of accomplishments can be found in the Council Accomplishments section of this Annual Report. SEAC provides regular updates to the KSBE at regularly scheduled State Board meetings. This keeps the KSBE apprised of the issues SEAC has reviewed, as well as the ability to directly respond to questions.

Bert Moore

Bert Moore, Secretary for the Kansas Special Education Advisory Council
State Director of Special Education and Title Services (SETS)

Kansas Special Education Advisory Council

The major responsibilities of the SEAC are to advise, consult and provide recommendations to the Kansas State Board of Education regarding matters concerning serving students with exceptionalities. The SEAC is composed of individuals in, or concerned with, the education of children with exceptionalities. The council performs such duties as specified by IDEA and as outlined in the Kansas SEAC Bylaws.

The primary role of the council is to advise and assist the KSDE to achieve excellence, equity, and lifelong learning opportunities for EACH student in Kansas. As such, it is committed to representing individuals with diverse and changing educational needs. This responsibility leads the SEAC to support the vision and mission of Kansas State Board of Education (KSBE), the Division of Learning Services (DLS), and the Special Education, and Title Services team (SETS).

SEAC advises the Kansas State Board of Education in six key areas as required by the regulations of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and Kansas statutes. These areas include:

- Advise the State Education Agency (SEA) of unmet needs within the state in the education of children and youth with exceptionalities;
- Comment publicly on any rules and regulations proposed by the state regarding the education of children and youth with exceptionalities;
- Advise the SEA in developing evaluations and reporting on data to the Secretary under Section 618 of the Act;
- Advise the SEA in developing corrective action plans to address findings identified in federal monitoring reports under Part B of the Act;
- Advise the SEA in developing and implementing policies relating to the coordination of services for children and youth with exceptionalities; and
- Advise on the education of eligible students with disabilities who have been convicted as adults and incarcerated in adult prisons.

The Kansas Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) held five meetings during the 2023-2024 school year. 

Kansas State Board of Education

Vision

Kansas leads the world in the success of each student. Kansans Can!

Mission

To prepare Kansas students for lifelong success through rigorous, quality academic instruction, career training and character development according to each student's gifts and talents.

SEAC Goal

The Kansas Special Education Advisory Council will advocate for an educational system that achieves excellence, equity, and lifelong learning for EACH student with an exceptionality in Kansas.

SEAC Beliefs

The Kansas Special Education Advisory Council is committed to lifelong learning. The SEAC believes that:

- Partnerships increase collaboration for better services.
- Visionary leadership is essential for appropriate services to meet the needs of EACH student.
- Innovation is essential to the process of lifelong learning.
- All child service systems must be provided in an integrated and collaborative manner.
- Education is an evolving process that requires innovation, continuous growth, and evaluation.
- The needs of EACH student must be met.

Council Membership

The 2023-2024 SEAC membership included the twenty-one required members and four regularly attending non-voting ex-officio members, all of whom are concerned with the education of children and youth with exceptionalities. The majority of SEAC members includes individuals with disabilities and/or parents of children with exceptionalities between birth and age 26. The 2023-2024 membership included:

Council Member	Appointm ent Expires	Representatio n	Fulfills Majority Require- ment	State Board Region	Voting member	Contact info
Lindsey Graf (Chair)	6/30/2025 (1st Term)	Administrator of Program for Exceptional Children	Yes	9	Yes	lgraf@usd244ks.org
Lena Kisner (Chair – Elect/Chair)	6/30/2024 (1st Term)	Administrator of Program for Exceptional Children	Yes	7	Yes	lkisner@rcec610.org
Marvin Miller (Past Chair)	6/30/2026 (2nd Term)	Parent of an exceptional child ages birth through 26 years	Yes	10	Yes	mjmillier@abilityed.com
Autumn Biltz	6/30/2027 (1st Term)	Individual with a disability	Yes	5	Yes	autumnbiltz@gmail.com abiltz@skacd.org
Brooke Moore	6/30/2025 (1 st Term)	Representativ e of institution of higher education that prepares special education and related services personnel	Yes	5	Yes	Brooke.moore@fhsu.edu
Jennifer King	6/30/2027 (1st Term)	Parent of a Gifted Child	Yes	10	Yes	jking7@usd259.net

Whitney George	6/30/2027 (2nd Term)	Teacher (general education)	Yes	6	Yes	whitneyg@usd383.org
Sydney Dringman	6/30/2024 (1st Term)	Representative from state agency responsible for foster care of children	No	4	Yes	Michelle.Warner@ks.gov
Sean Smith	6/30/2027 (1st Term)	Parent of a child with a disability, ages birth through 26 years. K.S.A. § 72-3408(b)(1)(A)	Yes	9	Yes	paul@paulbucklaw.com
Dr. Troy Pitsch	6/30/2025 (2nd Term)	Local education official who carries out activities under the federal McKinney-Vento homeless education act, 42 U.S.C. § 11431 et seq.	No	1	Yes	tpitsch@usd329.com
Rebekah Helget	6/30/2027 (1st Term)	Representative of other state agency involved in the financing or delivery of related services to exceptional children	Yes	9	Yes	rebekah.helget@greenbush.org
Jessica Lopez	6/30/27 (1st Term)	Representative of private schools	Yes	4	Yes	lopezj@catholicdioceseofwichita.org

Charity Porter	6/30/2026 (1 st Term)	Representative of a vocational, community or business organization, concerned with the provision of transition services to children with disabilities	Yes	4	Yes	charityporter87@gmail.com
Rebecca Shultz	6/30/2027 (2nd Term)	Individual with a disability	Yes	2	Yes	beccaada21@smsd.org
Roxanne Zillinger	6/30/2026 (1 st Term)	State Education official, including at least one state or local official who carries out activities under the federal McKinney-Vento homeless education act	No	4	Yes	rzillinger@ksde.org
Jennifer Kucinski	6/30/2026 (2nd Term)	Representative of other state agency involved in the financing or delivery of related services to exceptional children	Yes	3	Yes	jkucinski@kssdb.org

Bradley Miller	6/30/2027 (1 st Term)	Representative from the State Juvenile Corrections Agency	Yes	1	Yes	bmillerdaisy@gmail.com
Jennifer Florez	6/30/2027 (1st Term)	Teacher (Special Education)	Yes	3	Yes	jenniferflorez@smsd.org
Jennifer Kurth	6/30/2023 (1st Term)	Representative of institution of higher education that prepares special education and related services personnel	No	1	Yes	jkurth@ku.edu
Brandon Gay	6/30/2026 (2nd Term)	Representative from the state adult corrections agency	No	5	Yes	brandon.gay@colbycc.edu
Lesli Giard	Ex Officio	Official Parent Training and Information Center for Kansas				lesli@famielsttogetherinc.org
Idalia Shuman	Ex Officio	Kansas National Education Association				idalia.shuman@knea.org
Rocky Nichols/ Mike Burgess	Ex Officio	Official Protection and Advocacy System for Kansas				rocky@drckansas.org mike@drckansas.org

Ashley Enz	Ex Officio	Kansas Association of Special Education Administrator				asenz@olatheschools.org
Jon Harding	Ex-Officio	Kansas State School for the Blind				jharding@kssdb.org
Melanie Haas	Ex Officio	State Board of Education				mhaas@ksde.org
Luanne Barron	Ex Officio	State School for the Deaf/Hard of Hearing				lbarron@kssdb.org

Secretary to SEAC: Bert Moore, Director of Special Education and Title Services, KSDE

Council Leadership

Tobias Wood was nominated and elected the chair-elect at the July 26, 2022, SEAC meeting. Tobias resigned in June of 2023 due to personal reasons. The chair-elect, Marvin Miller became the chair. Lindsey Graf was voted the chair-elect at the September SEAC meeting.

Operational Standards

The SEAC's 2023-2024 meeting schedule was as follows:

Meeting Date	Location
July 27, 2023	Hyatt Regency, Wichita
September 28, 2023	Bishop Center, Topeka and Virtual
November 30, 2023	Bishop Center, Topeka and Virtual
January 24, 2024	Landon State Office, Topeka and Virtual
April 11, 2024	Bishop Center, Topeka and Virtual

The SEAC held five meetings. Official minutes of the meetings were kept, reviewed, approved, and posted on the KSDE Special Education and Title Services team website at <http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=561>. A public comment period was offered at each regular SEAC meeting.

Council Accomplishments

SEAC's 2023-2024 accomplishments are wide ranging and invaluable to KSDE-SETS in ensuring the education of EACH student with an exceptionality. SEAC is especially proud to have been involved in the following work:

- o Reviewed data on each of the State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report (SPP/APR) seventeen indicators for the 2022 submission of Kansas collected data to the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP);
- o Collaborated with the KSDE Teacher Licensure team to explore solutions to the shortage of special education teachers, substitute teachers, related service providers, and administrators;
- o Provided feedback to the KSDE Teacher Licensure team on concerns related to licensing, including the need for preparation

programs specific to “low incidence” (students with significant disabilities) licensing;

- Reviewed data on the number of students with disabilities participating in Virtual school programs;
- Discussed legislative bills that could impact the provision of special education services and support to students with exceptionalities;
- Provided feedback to KSDE-SETS on how to list Dyslexia on Individual Education Programs for students that qualify as having a learning disability with Dyslexia;
- Received information from the ex-officio members on issues and concerns about meeting the needs of students with exceptionalities;
- Received an overview of the upcoming Differentiated Monitoring System that Kansas will receive during the 2024-2025 school year with an on-site visit from OSEP planned for September 2024;
- Added Ex-Officio membership to the Kansas National Education Association (KNEA);
- Provided support for the October 9 legislative committee meeting that focused on serving students with exceptionalities;
- Celebrated KSDE receiving a federal “Transition” grant;
- Received an update from KSDE Licensure which provided information on the 11 non-traditional routes to the classroom. Also, received information on the Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact;
- Received information on how KSDE plans to implement the legislative requirement to permit “Open Borders” enrollment. The bill was approved during the 2022 legislative session and allows parents to request attendance at any Kansas school based on any open “seats”. The local district determines class sizes for K-12 and any “open” seats in any grade will be open to non-resident students through an objective selection. Students with exceptionalities must be included in the pool of potential non-resident students;
- Received information on the requirement to add Indicator 18 to the State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report that will be submitted to the Office of Special Education Programs during the 2024-2025 school year;
- Discussed the significant discrepancy requirements tied to State Performance Plan/ Annual Performance Report Indicators 4A and 4B; and
- Celebrated the State of Kansas receiving a “Meets Requirements” for the 2022 State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report. Kansas has “met” federal requirements for the past fourteen years.

Special Education Advisory Council Summary of Activities by Priority Area 2023-2024

The Kansas Special Education Advisory Council will advise the KSDE SETS team so Kansas has an educational system that achieves excellence, equity, and lifelong learning for students with exceptionalities by:

Code	Area of Focus	Data Source	Action Completed
1.1	PRIORITY AREA 1: Advise the State Education Agency (SEA) of unmet needs within the state in the education of children and youth with exceptionalities;		
	Increase awareness and understanding of provision of services from the public perspective.		
	An update on the work of the Kansas Association of Special Education Administrators (KASEA) was provided which included the hiring of an Executive Director, Ann Matthews; Patty Carter as the Legislative Chair; endorsing the statewide IEP concept; recruit and retain highly qualified special education staff; and the new KASEA president is Lena Kisner.	Ashley Enz	7/27/2023
	The Disability Rights Center (DRC) shared their concerns about waiting lists that are currently 10-12 years. They are advocating for more slots for adult services as part of their legislative recommendations for 23-24.	Mike Burgess	7/27/2023
	The Kansas National Education Association (KNEA) reported that 40 students from Kansas attended a national conference	Idalia Shuman	7/27/2023

	designed for students with disabilities (SWD's).		
1.1d	An Orientation session was provided to SEAC members in attendance at the July 2023 meeting and again at the September 28 meeting.	Wayne Ball, TA Provider and Bert Moore, SEAC Secretary	7/27/2023 and 9/28/2023
1.1e	A report was provided to SEAC by the Kansas University Center for Developmental Disabilities (KUCDD). Their center is one of 67 centers in the United States that provides support to students with developmental disabilities.	Jennifer Kurth	9/28/2023
1.1f	The Kansas Association of Special Education Administrators (KASEA) is recruiting new members. The KASEA Winter Conference will be held on February 20 and 21.	Ashley Enz	9/28/2023
1.1g	Jim McNiece is the current appointed State Board member. Jim told SEAC that he does not plan to run for re-election.	Jim McNiece	9/28/2023
1.1h	The Kansas Association of Special Education Administrators (KASEA) shared that they now have 200 members. They are working on a legislative platform, as well as developing a special education administrator evaluation form, and continuing to advocate that the state of Kansas fund special education at 92% of excess cost.	Ashley Enz	11/30/2023
1.1i	Lena Kisner and Marvin Miller shared information about the number of open SEAC positions. Applicants for open positions are being solicited and it is hoped that the SEAC Membership Committee will have a pool of candidates to recommend for SEAC membership at the April SEAC meeting.	Lena Kisner and Marvin Miller	1/24/2024

1.1j	The Kansas State School for the Blind (KSSB) will "Celebrate Access" on January 25 and February 29. KSSB will have a ribbon cutting for the newly constructed soccer field this spring. They are also hosting a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) competition on April 12-14 when 6 schools will complete from across the country.	Jon Harding	1/24/2024
1.1k	The Kansas State School for the Deaf (KSSD) has assessed 133 students using the Language Assessment Program. They also just completed their 2020-2023 strategic plan. KSSD hosted a basketball tournament with 9 schools and the KSSD girls team took first place and the KSSD boys team took second place. They are hosting a regional Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) activity in February that will include 23 schools and 125 students.	Luanne Barron	1/24/2024
1.2	Promote the role of SEAC functions to the legislature, other advisory councils, committees, parents, and organizations.		
1.2a	SEAC leadership provided an update of SEAC activities and initiatives to the Kansas State Board of Education at their June 12 meeting.	Marvin Miller, Chair-Elect	6/12/2023
1.2b	SEAC leadership provided an update of activities and initiatives to the Kansas State Board of Education including the Annual Report for 2022-2023 on January 24.	Bert Moore, SEAC Secretary	1/24/2024
1.2c	SEAC has 4 positions open that have been advertised to fill. Members were asked to solicit applicants for any of the open positions	Bert Moore, SEAC Secretary	9/28/2023

1.2d	SEAC has a Membership Committee consisting of the Chair, Chair-Elect, and Past-Chair who review all applications for open positions. Consideration is given to those applicants that have a child with a disability or are a person with a disability, and consideration is given to which State Board region that the individual lives in/works in.	Marvin Miller, Chair-Elect	9/28/2023
1.2e	The National State Advisory Panel (NASP) has resources available for interested parties including SEAC members. It can be located at https://osepdieastthatwork.org/resources-grantees/sap-sicc .	Bert Moore, SEAC Secretary	9/28/2023
1.2f	Information was shared with SEAC members about topics to be covered at the October 9th legislative committee. The committee will discuss policies related to serving students with disabilities.	Bert Moore, SEAC Secretary	9/28/2023
1.2g	The Kansas State School for the Blind (KSSB) has approximately 50 students currently attending the school. Also, 800 students receive some kind of support from KSSB within the State of Kansas. KSSB provides support to children from birth through age 21 or school completion.	Jon Harding	9/28/2023
1.2h	It was moved and seconded that 2nd terms on SEAC be approved for Whitney George, Lena Kisner, and Rebecca Schultz. The motion passed by majority vote.	Lindsey Graf	4/11/2024
1.2i	Lena Kisner was nominated by Lindsey Graf to serve as the upcoming Chair-Elect and seconded by Rebecca Schultz. The motion passed unanimously.	Lindsey Graf	4/11/2024
1.2j	Under Public Comment Bert Moore thanked Marvin Miller for his leadership as SEAC Chair during this year (July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024).	Bert Moore, SEAC Secretary	4/11/2024

1.3	Evaluate the working conditions of special education teachers. Study relevant issues including licensure and endorsements and assist with dissemination of related information.		
1.3a	The Kansas National Education Association (KNEA) supports teachers to gain National Certification. KNEA is hosting a regional conference for research competitions.	Idalia Shuman	9/28/2023
1.3b	Kansas, along with Nebraska and Iowa provide an annual law conference in Omaha, NE. The SEAC Leadership Team has the opportunity to attend this conference paid by the SEAC budget. One of the keynotes each year is "A Year in Review" which covers major outcomes from filed complaints/due process hearings/lawsuits.	Bert Moore	11/30/2023
1.3c	Teacher licensure shared 11 options for teachers to receive licensure in Kansas.	Shane Carter	11/30/2023
1.3d	The Kansas National Education Association (KNEA) is supporting the "Educators Rising" program to promote high school students to choose the teaching profession. The second annual KNEA Conference for "support" professionals will be held April 11-12 and will focus on social-emotional topics.	Idalia Shuman	1/24/2024

1.3e	A licensure update was provided to SEAC that included information about the Registered Teacher Apprenticeship program, the Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact, the Military Mobility license, the KU low incidence Limited Residency license, and the potential for a college/university to develop an entry level Special Education program under a BA/BS program. Teacher vacancy data was shared and the two areas with the highest number of unfilled positions are special education and elementary education.	Shane Carter	4/11/2024
1.3f	Idalia Shuman provided a Kansas National Education Association (KNEA) update that included the planning for the second annual conference for educators scheduled for July 17-18. Idalia serves as the state coordinator for "Educators Rising".	Idalia Shuman	4/11/2024
	<u>PRIORITY AREA 2:</u> Comment publicly on any rules and regulations proposed by the state regarding the education of children and youth with exceptionalities;		
2.1	Study and provide comment on proposed federal and state laws and regulations and assist in implementation of changes.		
2.1a	Two KSDE SETS Team staff attended the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) Conference, and provided an update of information learned at the conference.	Dean Zajic	7/27/2023
2.1b	SEAC discussed the legislature's Special Education Funding Taskforce. The Taskforce will work with KSDE to solicit information on how Kansas funds special education services.	Bert Moore, SEAC Secretary	9/28/2023

2.1c	The Disability Rights Center (DRC) is focused on supported employment for persons with disabilities. They also are advocating for competitive integrated employment.	Mike Burgess	9/28/2023
2.1d	The Disability Rights Center (DRC) shared that there are 5,193 Kansans with disabilities on waiting lists for services. These individuals have to wait for adult services for 10 years or more. The DRC is advocating that the legislature add more slots.	Mike Burgess	11/30/2023
2.1e	The "Open Borders" option for parents to enroll students in other school districts begins during the 24-25 school year. Parents can place their child's name on a list showing interest in enrolling in a different district. Any open seats at a specific grade level will then be open for non-resident students to seek enrollment through an objective lottery. Open enrollment is available to families for any students, including students with disabilities.	Bert Moore, SEAC Secretary	1/24/2024
2.1f	The Kansas Association of Special Education Administrators (KASEA) has 2 legislative recommendations: 1) have the state fund the excess cost of providing special education supports and services at 92%; and 2) expand Medicaid billing for services to Infants-Toddlers. A resource was shared with SEAC on the "Cost of Special Education in Kansas".	Ashley Enz	1/24/2024
2.1g	Jim McNiece, the State Board of Education ex-officio member shared topics he thought SEAC should review. These included: open borders enrollment, and the legislative recommendations regarding opening school "activities" to virtually enrolled students which will impact the Kansas State High School Activities Association (KSHSAA) rules.	Jim McNiece	1/24/2024

2.1h	An overview of the addition of "Indicator 18" to the State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report (SPP/APR) was provided. Indicator 18 will require KSDE to list all incidents of compliance findings and compute how many of those incidents were brought into full compliance within one year.	Brian Dempsey	4/11/2024
2.1i	The "Open Borders" will take effect during the 2024-2025 school year and SEAC reviewed some of the unintended consequences that could impact providing special education supports and services to students with disabilities. If transportation is in the IEP as a related service, the receiving school district will be responsible to provide it.	Bert Moore, SEAC Secretary	4/11/2024
2.1j	Dr. Frank Harwood provided a legislative update to SEAC. The legislature is recommending changes to special education funding for any new appropriations. This will include a mandatory transfer of funds from the local option budget.	Dr. Frank Harwood	4/11/2024
2.1k	The Kansas Association of Special Education Administrators (KASEA) provided a report on their work to achieve legislation favorable to students with disabilities. Special education administrators are working to recruit, retain, and hire staff for the upcoming school year.	Ashley Enz	4/11/2024
2.1l	The Disability Rights Center (DRC) once again shared concerns about the 11-year waiting list for adults to receive Intellectual Disability/Developmental Disability (ID/DD) services. The DRC is also advocating for a "State Employment Preference" for individuals with disabilities.	Mike Burgess	4/11/2024

3.1	<u>PRIORITY AREA 3</u> : Advise the State Education Agency (SEA) in developing evaluations and reporting on data to the Secretary under Section 618 of the Act;		
	Provide oversight of the implementation of federal and state special education laws and regulations to ensure Kansas has effective systems in place to monitor compliance and support improved achievement and outcomes for children and youth with exceptionalities.		
	The Kansas legislature added Dyslexia as a "State" category of disability at the end of the 2023 Legislative Session. SEAC reviewed the recommendation made by Bert Moore, State Director of Special Education to add a checkbox to IEPs for any student with a Learning Disability who also qualifies as eligible under the state category of Dyslexia. Dyslexia is already considered a Learning Disability under federal requirements; therefore, there is no need to create a separate disability category. This change will meet the intent of the law that Kansas includes "Dyslexia" as a "State" category of disability.	House Bill 2322 Dyslexia Presentation to SEAC by Bert Moore and Brian Dempsey	7/27/2023
	SEAC discussed the Differentiated Monitoring and Support 2.0 framework and timeline for reporting. Brian Dempsey provided an overview of the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) on-site monitoring that will take place next year in September 2024.	Brian Dempsey	7/27/2023
3.1a			
3.1b			
3.1c	Kansas has been reviewing options for a statewide IEP and keeping SEAC informed as discussions with various stakeholder groups take place.	Brian Dempsey and Dean Zajic	9/28/2023

3.1d	Kansas will be monitored by Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) in September of 2024. KSDE is waiting to receive a request from OSEP for required documents. SEAC received an overview of the 8 areas that will be monitored by OSEP.	Brian Dempsey	9/28/2023
3.1e	SEAC voted to approve the new method of calculating the State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report (SPP/APR) Indicator 4B.	Brian Dempsey	11/30/2023
3.1f	A comprehensive overview of the 8 protocols (targeted areas for monitoring) the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) will use to monitor Kansas next September was provided.	Brian Dempsey	11/30/2023
3.1g	A SEAC member asked about students with disabilities (SWD's) attending Virtual programs/schools. There is concern that students with disabilities attending "virtual" programs are not receiving appropriate specially designed instruction. SEAC will continue to investigate data on SWDs and Virtual programs. Lena Kisner submitted a data request to the Data Governance Council to receive data on students with disabilities attending "Virtual" schools.	Lena Kisner, SEAC Member	11/30/2023
3.1h	SEAC reviewed the plan for a Statewide Individual Education Program (IEP). Stakeholder feedback will continue to be solicited as the KSDE Committee continues to review options for a Statewide IEP.	Brian Dempsey and Dean Zajic	11/30/2023
3.1i	Trish Backman provided SEAC with information on Emergency Safety Interventions (ESIs). The total number of restraints last year was 7,291. The total number of seclusions was 8,283 with the average time of seclusion being 5 minutes.	Trish Backman	1/24/2024

3.1j	Trish Backman provided SEAC with information on incidents related to the Kansas School Safety and Security Act. There were 193 felonies reported in schools, 2,296 misdemeanors, and 89 incidents involving a "weapon".	Trish Backman	1/24/2024
3.1k	SEAC was provided with an overview of the 8 components of General Supervision that will be monitored by Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) next September. This was a deeper look at each protocol and what data KSDE will need to support how it is meeting federal requirements for serving students with disabilities.	Brian Dempsey	4/11/2024
3.1l	KSDE is developing an alternative monitoring process for students with disabilities enrolled in "virtual" programs.	Brian Dempsey	4/11/2024
3.2	Assist in the dissemination of information in the area of early childhood and secondary transition to help ensure Kansas can demonstrate compliance with IDEA 2004 and regulations.		
3.2a	Kansas has been awarded a federal grant to support transition work. Dean Zajic provided information on how the grant will be implemented including the agency partners that will be engaged in the grant. Dean is the KSDE lead for this grant.	Dean Zajic	9/28/2023
3.2b	The Transition Grant was reviewed. KSDE will partner with the Kansas University Center on Developmental Disabilities (KUCDD) as well as 6 Centers for Independent Living (CILs). The grant is designed to strengthen partnerships, and to advance transition and employment outcomes for students with disabilities.	Dean Zajic	11/30/2023

3.3	Analyze the data on the education progress of students with exceptionalities and make recommendations to enhance their educational program, services, and achievement.		
3.3a	The Kansas State School for the Deaf (KSSD) provided a report on the Language Assessment Program (LAP). The LAP is to be given to students with deafness/hearing impairments ages birth through age 8. KSSD has been asked to assess a fee to districts to cover the cost of the LAP as it is administered by trained KSSD staff.	Luanne Barron	7/27/2023
3.3b	The Kansas State School for the Blind (KSSB) has a student sponsored "Braille Bean" coffee shop where they sell "The Best Coffee Never Seen". KSSB recently was awarded a Microsoft Founders award. KSSB has a new blind soccer field, a new sensory garden, participates in Project Search, and has provided over 250 requests for outreach services across the state of Kansas.	Jon Harding	11/30/2023
3.3c	The Kansas State School for the Deaf (KSSD) has developed a parent packet focused on strengthening student engagement in Career and Technical Education programs. KSSD will engage in 2 separate accreditation processes in 2025. It is working with KSDE Licensure to make American Sign Language an accepted World Language Program. KSSD has also hired 4 staff to conduct the Language Assessment Program (LAP) given to students with hearing impairments/deafness ages birth through age 8.	Luanne Barron	11/30/2023

3.3d	Lena Kisner received data from KSDE on "Virtual" programs that serve students with disabilities (SWD's). There were 1,574 SWD's enrolled in "Virtual" programs in the 2022-2023 school year. SEAC reviewed a list of concerns about SWD's receiving a free appropriate public education when receiving a "Virtual" delivered curriculum.	Lena Kisner	1/24/2024
3.4	As stakeholders, assist in the interpretation of Kansas data in reporting to the public and U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education (OSEP) programs.		
3.4a	SEAC provides KSDE with oversight for General Supervision including recommendations on the State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report (SPP/APR) indicators and the Differentiated Monitoring and Support (DMS) monitoring that will occur next year.	Bert Moore, SEAC Secretary	9/28/2023
3.4b	Kansas was asked to review its formula for figuring significant discrepancy for excessive suspensions-expulsions through the Indicator 4B data collection and analysis. KSDE submitted a revised formula for calculating Indicator 4B. As a result, KSDE identified 29 districts as having a significant discrepancy requiring a response with possible corrective action. SEAC was asked to provide comments on this proposed change.	Brian Dempsey	9/28/2023
3.4c	SEAC reviewed the due process hearing decisions and formal complaints. KSDE has seen an increase in the number of formal complaints filed.	Brian Dempsey	11/30/2023

3.4d	KSDE provided an in-depth review of all 17 Indicators that KSDE must report for the 2022 State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report (SPP/APR).	Brian Dempsey	1/24/2024
	KSDE provided an overview of the "compliance" indicators (4B, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13). Compliance indicators require 100% compliance or 0% incidents. Districts not meeting the compliance requirements receive technical assistance and must complete a root cause analysis with corrective action to bring all incidents into compliance within one calendar year.	Brian Dempsey	4/11/2024
3.4e			
3.4f	KSDE provided information on the suspension-expulsion of students with disabilities reported in Indicator 4A and 4B. Since 2021 when KSDE was asked to change its identification formula, Kansas has identified multiple districts as non-compliant under Indicator 4B.	Brian Dempsey	4/11/2024
	PRIORITY AREA 4: Advise the State Education Agency (SEA) in developing corrective action plans to address findings identified in Federal Monitoring reports under Part B of the Act;		
4.1	Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) Monitoring corrective actions as a result of a federal monitoring.		
	KSDE has no current corrective actions as a result of federal monitoring.		
NOTE			
	PRIORITY AREA 5: Advise the State Education Agency (SEA) in developing and implementing policies relating to the coordination of services for children and youth with exceptionalities;		

5.1	Enhance school-family-community partnerships by encouraging and developing coordinated programs and services.		
5.1a	SEAC provides support for stakeholder feedback to KSDE. KSDE will be asking SEAC to provide ideas on how to improve Indicator 8 - Parent Engagement data. KSDE would like to receive more feedback specifically from diverse populations.	Bert Moore	7/27/2023
5.1b	Families Together reported that between January and June they completed 2,270 consultations/trainings. The categories of disability with the most inquiries/questions were Autism, Emotional Disabilities, and Other Health Impaired. Families Together also trains and appoints Education Advocates. Their organization assigned 349 advocates and cancelled 358 advocates during this reporting period.	Lesli Girard	9/28/2023
5.1c	Families Together reported that they have provided 1,521 individualized consultations/trainings between July 2023 and the end of September 2023.	Lesli Girard	11/30/2023
5.1d	Families Together received a grant targeting Family Advocacy Support and Training (FAST) that can serve families with children from birth through age 17 as long as one child in the family has an intellectual disability or developmental delay.	Lesli Girard	1/24/2024
5.2	Improve communication and collaboration between SEAC and State Interagency Coordinating Councils (SICC's) to enhance services to children and families in Kansas.		

5.2a	Jennifer King, a current SEAC member will represent SEAC as an ex-officio member on the State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC). The SICC represents the interests of children from birth through age 5.	Bert Moore, Secretary and Jennifer King	1/24/2024
5.3	Promote and enhance the blending of services between special and general education, including federal, state, and local programs (Title I, Special Education)		
5.3a	KSDE has developed a Dyslexia Question and Answer (Q&A) document which SEAC reviewed and approved. This included updates to the KSDE Eligibility Indicators that added Dyslexia eligibility to the Learning Disability category.	Brian Dempsy and Bert Moore	9/28/2023
5.4	Enhance the Kansas Assessment System.		
5.4a	SEAC was provided an update on the adoption by KSDE of an English Language Alternate Assessment (ELAA) which KSDE has worked to acquire for several years. It will be used during the Assessment window this school year with students that have the most significant cognitive disabilities and need an English Language Alternate Assessment version.	Bert Moore, SEAC Secretary	9/28/2023
	PRIORITY 6: Advise on the education of eligible students with disabilities who have been convicted as adults and incarcerated in adult prisons.		
6.1	Enhance education of eligible students with disabilities (SWD's) who have been convicted as adults and incarcerated in adult prisons.		

NOTE:	KSDE has developed a comprehensive monitoring tool to be used when monitoring special education supports and services for students with disabilities (SWD's) incarcerated in adult correction facilities, including jails.		
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Acronyms

ADA:	Americans with Disabilities Act
APR:	Annual Performance Report
CADRE:	Consortium for Appropriate Dispute Resolution In Special Education (OSEP Project)
CEIS:	Coordinated Early Intervening Services
CWDs:	Children with Disabilities
DGB:	Data Governance Board
DHH:	Deaf/Hard of Hearing
DLM:	Dynamic Learning Maps
ECLRE:	Early Childhood Least Restrictive Environment
ECO:	Early Childhood Outcomes Center
ECSETS:	Early Childhood, Special Education and Title Services
ED or USDE:	U.S. Department of Education
EDEN:	Education Data Exchange Network
EDGAR:	Education Department General Administrative Regulations
EPC:	Education Program Consultants
ESEA:	Elementary & Secondary Education Act of 1964
ESI:	Emergency Safety Interventions
ESSA:	Every Student Succeeds Act
FAPE:	Free & Appropriate Public Education
FERPA	Family Educational Rights & Privacy Act
GAO:	Government Accountability Office or U.S. General Accounting Office
ICC:	Interagency Coordinating Council
IDEA:	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
IEE:	Independent Educational Evaluation
IEP:	Individualized Education Program

IHE:	Institution of Higher Education
IPS:	Individual Plan of Study
JJA:	Juvenile Justice Authority
KASEA:	Kansas Association of Special Education Administrators
KCCR:	Kansas College and Career Readiness
KDHE:	Kansas Department of Health and Environment
KEEB:	Kansas Education Employment Board (TASN Project)
KESA:	Kansas Education Systems Accreditation
KIAS:	Kansas Integrated Accountability System
KIDS:	Kansas Individual Data on Students
KIRC:	Kansas Instructional Resource Center (TASN Project)
KLFA:	Kansas Learning First Alliance
KLN:	Kansas Learning Network
KPIRC:	Kansas Parent Information Resource Center (TASN Project)
KSD:	Kansas School for the Deaf
KSBE:	Kansas State Board of Education
KSDE:	Kansas State Department of Education
LEA:	Local Education Agency
LETRS:	Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling
LOD:	Levels of Determination
LRE:	Least Restrictive Environment
MOA:	Memorandum of Agreement
MOE:	Maintenance of Effort
MOU:	Memorandum of Understanding
MTSS:	Multi-Tier System of Supports
NASDSE:	National Association of State Directors of Special Education
NAESPA:	National Association of ESEA State Program Administrators
OCR:	Office of Civil Rights
OGC:	Office of General Counsel
OMB:	Office of Management and Budget
OSEP:	U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs
OSERS:	U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education & Rehabilitative Services
OWS:	Outcomes Web System

PBIS:	Positive Behavior Intervention Supports
PII:	Personally Identifiable Information
PTI:	Parent Training Information Center (Families Together)
RDA:	Results Driven Accountability
RFP:	Request for Proposal
SEA:	State Education Agency
SEAC:	Special Education Advisory Council
SICC:	State Interagency Advisory Council
SPDG:	State Personnel Development Grant
SPP:	State Performance Plan
SSIP:	State Systemic Improvement Plan
TASN:	IDEA Title VI-B: Kansas Technical Assistance System Network administered by KSDE
TIP:	Targeted Improvement Plan
TLA:	Teacher Licensure and Accreditation
UGG:	Uniform Grant Guidance
	Link to Additional Acronyms - Click Here

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