



OKLAHOMA
Education

Oklahoma IDEA-B Advisory Panel
Oklahoma State Department of Education

February 9, 2024

Members Present

Clair Bartley, Sherri Blaik, Tania Bleecker, Allison Fennell-Conch, Liberty Daniels, Mia Dianda, Darci Forrester, Tricia Forsgren, Lynn Hodge, Shelli Jacobs, Tiffany Jenkins, Michelle Keiper, Heather Laine, Brittany Lee, Sharon Coppedge-Long, Daniel Marmen, Kathryn Moore, Jen Randle, Ryan Smith, Kari Stromprud, Amy Swartz, Maressa Treat, Addie Trout, Kathy Trout, and Lori Wieder

Members Absent

Carissa Hildebrandt, Orlene Grant-Chaney, and Ronald Titus

Oklahoma State Department of Education – Office of Special Education Services (OSDE-SES)

Staff Members Present

Sherri Coats, Nancy Goosen, Elana Grissom, Alexa Hudak, Abby Johnson, Tina Spence, and Shea Stark

Sherri Coats (OSDE-SES): Welcome

Sherri Coats welcomed the advisory panel at 9:00 am.

Norm Ames (Technical Assistance for Excellence in Special Education – TAESE): New Member Orientation

Norm provided a new member orientation that focused on the following topics: 1) purpose of the panel, 2) history of special education, 3) membership and organization, 4) role of the council, 5) panel function, 6) panel priorities, 7) annual report, and 8) collaboration with Part C.

Shea Stark (OSDE-SES): State Complaints

Shea Stark gave a brief presentation on the formal State Complaint process. He discussed how the OSDE-SES supports a formal complaint management system for filing and resolving complaints alleging violations of the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) – Part B.

State Complaint data from the 2022-2023 school year was also shared. The data highlighted the number of complaints received for the 2022-2023 school year and the allegations associated with each complaint.

Dr. Allison Fennell-Conch (Special Education Resolution Center – SERC): Due Process

Dr. Allison Fennell-Conch of the Special Education Resolution Center (SERC) presented on due process. She discussed how a due process hearing is a court-like review process governed by administrative laws.

Due Process data from the 2022-2023 school year was also shared. The data highlighted the number of due process requests, the issues associated with each request, and how many requests were settled, dismissed, or withdrawn.

Sherri Coats (OSDE-SES):

Sherri Coats gave a presentation on agency, division, and special education services updates.

The primary focus was on the Office of Special Education Services (SES) goal to improve outcomes for students with disabilities. Initiatives include focusing on instructional leadership, implementing a Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) Framework statewide, creating positive and safe learning environments for students and educators, and building a robust workforce of special educators.

Department specific projects such as Dyslexia Training/Micro-credential, Evidence Based Academic/Behavior Intervention Library, and the Alternate Diploma were also discussed.

The presentation concluded with a discussion on the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) monitoring. Panel members were informed that OSEP has set the monitoring engagement for Fall of 2026-Spring 2027.

Alexa Hudak (OSDE-SES) State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP)

Alexa Hudak presented on the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP). She explained how the SSIP is part of OSEP's Results-Driven Accountability initiative to improve results for children with disabilities by improving educational services, including special education and related services. The goal is for Oklahoma to see improved early literacy skills for K-3 students in targeted low-performing schools as identified by the state's ESSA plan by FY25.

The presentation concluded with a discussion on collaborative projects such as Additional Targeted Supports and Interventions (ATSI). This project allows SSIP Staff and the Office of School Support to work collaboratively to adapt materials to other subject areas and grades.

Michelle Keiper (Chair): Priority Setting

Michelle Keiper opened a discussion centered around the panel priorities for the 2024-2024 panel year. Panel members selected family involvement and communication, behavior management training, and staffing as the priorities for the coming year.

The selected priorities will be used to form subcommittees that will work to improve outcomes for students with disabilities.

Sherri Coats (OSDE-SES): Public Comment

Sherri Coats opened the meeting for an opportunity for public comment.

Sherri Coats (OSDE-SES): Adjourn

Sherri Coats adjourned the meeting at 3:30 pm.