

THE OREGON STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION (SACSE)



ANNUAL SUMMARY

2022-2023



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

As members of the State Advisory Council for Special Education, we are committed to providing advisement on the educational needs and services of children with disabilities in our state. This past year SACSE members heard constituents' concerns, participated in shared learning on topics around "unmet needs" in schools, and made recommendations for students with disabilities.

I would like to highlight some of our accomplishments over this past year. They include:

1. **Updated By-laws:** To ensure our advisory body functions efficiently, we reviewed and updated our By-laws, aligning them with the current needs and objectives.
2. **Reviewed and Updated Operating Procedures:** We have critically evaluated our Operating Procedures, making necessary revisions to enhance transparency, accountability, and collaboration.
3. **Enhanced Legislative Engagement:** By actively participating in legislative updates, we have strengthened our knowledge of laws that might impact how students access their special education.
4. **Improved Constituency Report Procedures:** We have trained members and updated our constituency report forms and procedures, streamlining the reporting process.
5. **Increased Public Engagement:** To facilitate public input, we have added public comment and constituency report forms to the website. Additionally, we are in the process of including an external committee reporting form for members serving on appointed SACSE committees.
6. **Collaborated with State Interagency Coordinating Council:** We are committed to fostering collaboration among various stakeholders and have maintained an ongoing partnership with the State Interagency Coordinating Council.
7. **Strengthened Regional Connections:** In an effort to have a more profound impact on the ground, we transitioned to hold our first in-person meeting in years, enabling us to hear regional presentations and conduct site visits in the Columbia Gorge ESD and North Central ESD regions.
8. **Improved Recruitment and Diversity:** We have worked on finalizing a recruitment flyer translated into seven languages, intentionally recruiting diverse representation within our advisory body.

While we appreciate these accomplishments, we acknowledge that our work is ongoing. The challenges in the education of students with disabilities are multifaceted, and we remain committed to addressing them head-on with dedication and determination.

HEATHER OLIVIER

SACSE Chair 2022-2023

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WHAT IS SACSE

Purpose

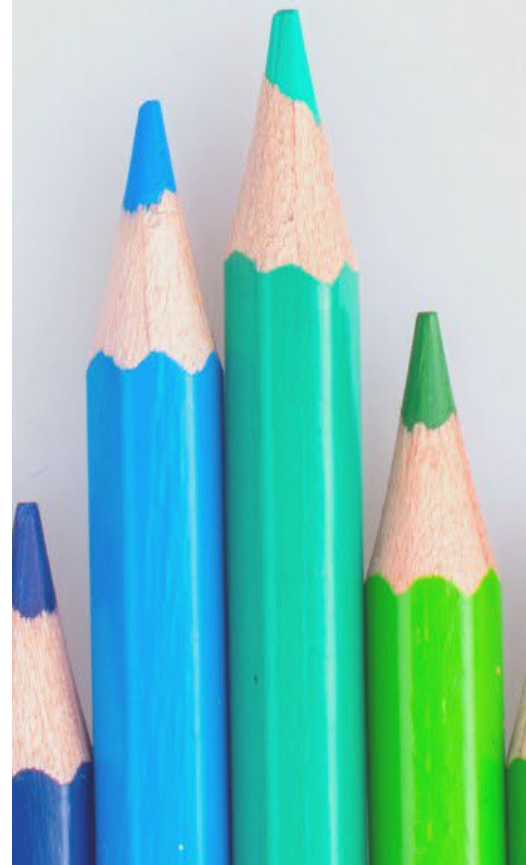
To provide policy guidance with respect to special education and related services for children with disabilities in the State (34 CFR 300.167).

Responsibilities

Advise the State of unmet needs in the education of children with disabilities, comment publicly on any rules or regulations proposed by the State regarding the education of students with disabilities, advise the State in developing evaluations and reporting data to the U.S. Office of Special Education, advise the State in developing corrective action plans to address findings identified in federal monitoring reports and advise the State in developing and implementing services for children with disabilities (34 CFR 300.169).

Membership

Individuals with disabilities; parents or guardians of children or youth with disabilities; teachers, representatives of institutions of higher education that prepare special education and related services personnel; state and local education officials, including officials who carry out activities of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act; administrators of programs for children and youth with disabilities; representatives of other State agencies involved in the financing or delivery of related services to children with disabilities; representatives of private schools and public charter schools; a representative of a vocational, community or business organization concerned with the provision of transition services to children with disabilities; a representative from the State child welfare agency responsible for foster care; and representatives from the state juvenile and adult corrections agencies (34 CFR 300.168).



SUBCOMMITTEE - EXECUTIVE



Responsibilities

The purpose of the Executive Committee is to review the bylaws annually, review and set the agenda for each meeting of the council, and any other administrative functions. Executive Committee members are the Council's Officers (Chairperson, Chair-Elect, and Past Chair) and one Council representative.

Executive Goal:

The Executive Committee will increase member participation, retention, and outreach by utilizing available technology. (Measurements: an increase of constituent reports and public comment at meetings of at least one each per meeting)

Highlights 2022-2023

- Updated by-laws
- Trained and updated the constituency report forms and procedures.
- Added the public comment and constituency report form to the website.
- Adding an external committee reporting form to be used when members that serve on appointed SACSE committees are providing updates.
- Ongoing meeting and collaboration with the State Interagency Coordinating Council
- Transitioned to our first in-person meeting in years to hear regional presentations from Columbia Gorge ESD and North Central ESD and site visits in the region.

SUBCOMMITTEE - PUBLIC POLICY



Responsibilities

The purpose of this committee is to follow legislative activity on bills that may affect special education and report to SACSE on the effects and progress of identified bills. This committee can advise SACSE on the outcomes of the bills. Bylaws will be updated annually.

Annual Goal:

The Public Policy Committee will increase feedback from the SACSE members and public stakeholders on ODE proposed rules and regulations, which address unmet needs in the education of children with disabilities. Rethink process for rule/regulation advisement to ensure SACSE fulfills the obligation to provide feedback on proposed rules, policies, and regulations (Increase comment on rules and regulations to at least once per meeting each year documented through meeting minutes).

Highlights 2022-2023

- Updated by-laws
- Reviewed and updated Operating Procedures
- Followed legislative activity on bills that might have an impact on special education.
- Partnered with the Oregon Department of Education to report on identified bills.

SUBCOMMITTEE - MEMBERSHIP



Responsibilities

The purpose of the Membership Committee is to ensure sufficient council membership in accordance with federal and state requirements.

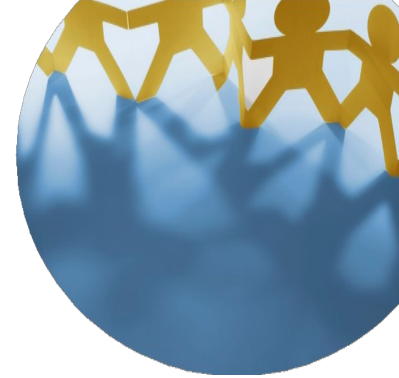
Membership Goal:

The Membership Committee will recruit members representing individuals who experience disabilities, members representing communities of color, traditionally marginalized individuals, and parents of children with a disability (specifically father figures) to apply to and become members of SACSE in an effort to match the diverse communities in Oregon. Additionally, the membership committee will encourage student voices through Constituency Reports. (Measurements: an increase of membership to include 51% (at a minimum, parents of children with disabilities and individuals with disabilities representing the geographic and ethnic diversity of the state documented in the membership roster, meeting minutes documenting each member's attendance at $\frac{3}{4}$ meetings per year).

Highlights 2022-2023

- ♦ Reviewed and updated Operating Procedures.
- ♦ Reviewed the application process.
- ♦ Finalized a recruitment flyer that is translated into seven languages - flyer is included in the appendix in English. Additionally, it can be found on the SACSE website.

MEET THE SACSE MEMBERS



Name

Representation & Affiliations

Adam Henning	Juvenile Corrections Agency Representative [OHA]
Alisha Overstreet	Parent
Bryan Cichy-Parker	Associate professor of special education at Pacific University
C.J. Webb	ODHS/Youth Representative, Vocational Rehabilitation
Callie Kackley	Parent
Carrie Salehiamin	Children's Policy Analyst, DHSOA
Catherine Stelzer	DHS/Office of Child Welfare Programs
Christina Matousek	Parent
Elaine Fox	Administrator
Erica Gordon	Parent
Fran Pearson	OHA-Health System Division
Heather Olivier	Parent
Holly Kerns	Parent
Jeanine Youncs	Adult Corrections
Kim Brick	Parent
Kira Fee	McKinney-Vento Representative
Lydia Dennehy	Parent
Meghan Nilsen	Teacher
Melissa Glover	Administrator
Stacy Fields	Parent
Stephanie Boyd	Parent

Oregon Department of Education Staff

Eric Wells	Director, Office of Enhancing Student Opportunities
Jeremy Wells	ODE SACSE Facilitator

EXTERNAL COMMITTEES

SACSE members were appointed to the following committees:

- State Interagency Coordinating Council
- Parent Survey
- Dispute Resolution Committee
- Oregon Early Childhood Inclusion State Leadership Team



AGENDA TOPICS

Informational Topics Included:

- Office of Enhancing Student Opportunities
 - General Supervision
 - Workforce Shortage
 - Abbreviated Day Monitoring
 - Legislative updates
 - Restraint and Seclusion
 - Transition to Kindergarten
- Parent Survey
- TAESE Trainings
- SICC Updates
- Dispute Resolution Committee
- Regional Presentations from Columbia Gorge ESD and North Central ESD

Advising the State Education Agency of Unmet Needs Topics Included:

- SPP/APR
- General Supervision
- Raise Up Oregon 2.0
- Oregon Early Childhood Inclusion State Leadership Team

Coordination of Services for Children with Disabilities Topics Included:

- English Language Proficiency Assessment
- Computer Science Education Implementation Plan

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The SACSE would like to thank ODE for its collaboration. We would especially like to thank our OESO partners, Tenneal Wetherell, Assistant Superintendent of the OESO, Eric Wells, Director of OESO, Jeremy Wells, OESO, SACSE Facilitator and Kathy Metzger, OESO SACSE Support.

Appendices

- Appendix A: SACSE Membership Flyer
- Appendix B: Summary of Accomplishments



Members Needed



OREGON
DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION

Oregon achieves ... together!

Is special education something you care about?

Do you wish to influence changes?



Come join the State Advisory Council for Special Education (SACSE)!

We are actively recruiting new members statewide who are parents of students experiencing disabilities (5-21 years old, parents can participate until the child is 24 years old).

Our council advises the Oregon Department of Education on the needs of students experiencing disabilities. Our council includes parents, people with disabilities, educators, partner agencies, and community members.



<https://www.oregon.gov/ode/students-and-family/specialeducation/pages/sacse.aspx>

Learn more and apply at:
<https://www.oregon.gov/ode/students-and-family/specialeducation/pages/sacse.aspx>
Jeremy Wells Jeremy.wells@ode.oregon.gov
or call

503.510.9465

Summary of Accomplishments

A full text of SACSE Minutes for 2022-2023 can be found [here](#).

Focus Area A: Unmet Needs of Children with Disabilities	
Date	Discussion
September 2022	<p>Updates from ODE: Eric Wells ODE</p> <p>Eric provided an OESO Goals presentation which included overviews of OESO efforts to address the Racial Equity Lens, General Supervision, Programmatic Implementation, Monitoring and Oversight, Technical Assistance for the districts, on site district visits in October and November, validating district self-assessment submissions, OSEP conversations with Director and Deputy Director at the NASDSE conference regarding finalizing comprehensive guidance on general supervision, Technical Assistance/Training (TA/T) for districts, reimagining County Contacts to District Support Specialists and what that looks like moving forward, working with the statewide ESDs, involvement of Superintendents, upcoming COSA conferences and tools that will be made available virtually, EI/ECSE inclusion.</p> <p>This information was shared with SACSE/SICC executive committees with questions as to how these effect SACSE goals and what does that look like for the upcoming</p> <p>Eric took questions from the group and introduced Kara Boulahanis, OESO Operations and Policy Analyst.</p> <p>Setting the Stage for 2022-2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Role of SACSE & ODE - review of SACSE responsibilities – TAESE training will address (ADVISE), • Goal Setting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SACSE - last review 2019-2020, overarching goals and goals for the year. Members will be asked to choose a committee (Membership/Public Policy/Bylaws and Group) and review current purpose, function and goals in breakout sessions this afternoon. ○ Joint SACSE/SICC - Heather discussed looking at current goals/joint goals, simultaneously work towards joint goals, meet together and approve when both groups meet together. • Annual Report – Heather reviewed the report with the group – how is the group working on making movement towards goals. Committee groups will inform the annual report and the need for additional time to work together. • ACTION – Heather will provide questions for committees to use during breakout sessions to work towards goals.
November 2022	<p>New Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heather Olivier shared nomination from the Executive Committee of Megan Nilsen for Executive Vice Chair for the remainder of 22/23 session. The team agreed and thanked Megan for her participation.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Capture Tools (annual reports, updates, and committee reports) TABLED TO NEXT MEETING? • SPP/APR: Sarah Soltz (ODE) provided an update to the team. <p>Sarah Soltz presented informational updates to the team. Lydia Dennehy requested data information on retention, Special Education teachers, Special Education assistants and turnover to help with retention and the need for IEP transitional training. Alisha Overstreet requested reviewing the use of words/language, more training in writing IEPs and information on caseloads. The team had a conversation regarding compensatory education, ESY, summer school, impacts from/on abbreviated days, COVID recovery. Elaine Fox shared information about her district is looking at different models, ways of looking at case management, staff support, and comparison with other district staffing numbers.</p> <p>ACTION – Jeremy Wells Wells requested email any additional questions.</p>
January 2023	<p>Updates from ODE: Eric Wells (ODE)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of Allyson McNeill, OESO Director of RMO <p>Eric’s presentation provided information and took questions on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OAR – SB 13/16 • SB 575 – Student Success Plan for Students with Disabilities • HB 2690 – Certified and Classified Educator Pay • HB 2721 - Would remove the 11% cap for weighted ADM for children with disabilities in the state school fund. <p>Jeremy encouraged participation/input but not as a SACSE member.</p> <p>New Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ODE Legislative Update: Ely Sanders (ODE) – (slide deck and spreadsheet in SACSE google folder) Ely shared the process of bills going through the legislative process and reviewed the 2023 Bill Tracker with the group. • Questions – will Ely forward any additional bills for SACSE to review to Jeremy – how to make the process work for everyone? Questions regarding additional bills not on Ely’s list, ACTION – Reach out to Jeremy Wells to communicate questions/concerns for Ely and Jennifer • SACSE representation on OECI SLT – Eric shared Michael has been in the role and is now unable to fulfill that commitment as the SACSE representative. This position is appointed by SACSE. ACTION - CJ requested emails if interested in the position.
March 2023	<p>Raise Up Oregon 2.0: Sue Miller (Early Learning Council Chair)</p> <p>Sue Miller presented and discussed the goal objectives found in the meeting materials, how to support families, how to break down barriers referencing EI/ECSE, CCO and Early Learning Hubs, the issues of discipline and the disproportionate effect on children and students of color and special needs, current issues and difficulties for teachers and discussion of the barriers</p>

	<p>which include lack of livable wage jobs, and support and the need for organizations, families and education partners to collaborate. Attendees discussed current bills moving through the legislature, what is the responsibility of the education system vs. the family and the various opportunities to participate at the state level.</p> <p>Computer Science Implementation Plan: Andrew Cronk (Computer Science Specialist)</p> <p>The presentation included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slide Deck • Preliminary Recommendations • Questionnaire <p>Michael Salitore (David Douglas) asked and wanted to know how in the future can this work ensure that students with disabilities are inherently build into the conversation.... because, historically they are either not included or an afterthought.</p>
Focus Area B: Comment publicly on proposed rules or regulations	
Date	Discussion
Focus Area C: Advise the SEA in Developing Evaluations and Reporting on Data	
Date	Discussion
Focus Area D: Advise the SEA in developing corrective action plans to address findings identified in Federal monitoring reports under Part B of the Act	
Date	Discussion
Focus Area E: Coordination of services for children with disabilities	
Date	Discussion
September 2022	Ben Wolcott (ODE) shared information with the group about the English Language Proficiency Assessment.
January 2023	<p>Computer Science Education Implementation Plan Presenters: Andrew Cronk, Computer Science Education Specialist; Beth Blumenstein, Senior Strategist for Well-Rounded Learning (ODE), Luis Juarez, Elizabeth Massa-MacLeod, Alan Osborn.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrew and Beth provided a presentation to the group, which included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Governor’s Directive ○ 2022 State of CS Report ○ WRAP Needs Assessment ○ Feedback on implementation plan ○ Consult Group Application ○ CS Implementation Plan Website ○ CS Listserv ○ CS Shared Inbox <p>Question - is the team looking for a youth voice on the consult group – and the answer was yes.</p>