

Wisconsin Council on Special Education Final Meeting Minutes

Date September 22, 2017
 Department of Public Instruction, Room P41
 Meeting #315

10:00 – 11:15	NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION	P041
11:15 – 12:00	WELCOME LUNCH	P041

Council members in attendance: Dara Atandare, Patricia Becker, Kim Campion, Vicki Davis-Davila, Regene Floyd-Sambou, Mackenzie Gabler, Nicole Hansen, Michael Hipple, Sue Larsen, Jennifer Mims-Howell, Anna Moffit, Wendy Overturf, Lori Poppe, Deb Rathermel, Lynette Stansfield, Amy Stevens, Tricia Thompson, Carla Witkowski

DPI Staff in attendance: Carolyn Stanford Taylor, Barbara Van Haren, Patti Williams, Julia Hartwig, Daniel Parker, Rita Fuller, Ethan Severson

10:00 – 3:00 pm

BUSINESS MEETING #315: Jennifer Mims-Howell called the meeting to order, it was seconded, and the meeting came to order.

1. **Public Appearances: None**
2. **Minutes of Meeting #314:** The minutes were read by the group. Co-Chair Jennifer Mims-Howell made a motion to approve the minutes and it was seconded.
3. **Correspondence/Chair & Co-Chair Report:** Anna Moffit briefly explained the process for the October 11, 2017 Open Forum listening forum outlined in the attachment. Council members discussed process for Open Forum.
4. **Council Member Reports and Issues:** Council members provided updates from their constituents and discussed a number of recent topics.
5. **Department of Public Instruction: Information and Discussion**
 - a. **Special Education Team Director’s Report: Barb Van Haren**
 - i. Introduction for Ethan Severson (Autism Consultant) Office Operations Assistant on the Special Education Team. Barb Van Haren provided personnel updates while explaining new staff’s background, education and expertise.
 - ii. Barb Van Haren, Director of the Special Education team at DPI acknowledged Sue Larsen and presented her with a plaque honoring her years of service on Council. Barb Van Haren also acknowledged the new Council members coming on board for 3 year terms.
 - iii. Updates were provided on OSEP, ESSA, LEA Determinations, MLSS copy, and Special Education conferences in the state.
6. **Department of Public Instruction Special Report: Significant Disproportionality**
 - a. **Courtney Jenkins**
 - i. Courtney Jenkins presented on racial equity in special education and requested Council members input on Wisconsin’s criteria related to determining racial disproportionality in special education identification, placement, and discipline. The presentation addressed two important questions. Why should we pay attention to the intersection of race and disability, and what criteria should Wisconsin use to identify districts with racial disproportionality in special education.” The federal government released regulations

and related guidance in December 2016 which requires Wisconsin, and other states, to revise their criteria used to determine racial disproportionality in special education.

- ii. In addition, the racial disproportionality report explained Wisconsin's Model for Addressing Racial Equity in Special Education, which balances compliance and improvement efforts through a multi-tiered approach. In greater detail, the presentation explained how Wisconsin uses Risk Ratio in special education, what a Risk Ratio Threshold is, provided examples to understanding Reliable Data, and examples to understanding Reasonable Progress. The racial disproportionality presentation concluded with a survey from Council Members to provide additional input and suggestions on Wisconsin's criteria for determining racial disproportionality.

7. Unfinished Business: None

8. New Business: Election of New Chair & New Co-Chair

- a. Current Chairperson Anna Moffit motioned the vote for new chair and co-chair positions. Council members nominated Jennifer Mims-Howell for Chairperson and Amy Stevens for Vice Chairperson. The elections were made by verbal vote. Council members voted in favor of Jennifer Mims-Howell as Chairperson and Amy Stevens as Vice Chairperson. Newly elected chairperson Jennifer Mims-Howell continued Council meeting.

9. Announcements

- a. Next meeting date: Friday, December 8, 2017, 10:00 am-3:00 pm, Department of Public Instruction, Room P041, 125 S. Webster Street, Madison; 608-266-1781
- b. Open Forum: Remote Listening Session Wednesday, October 11, 2017, 5-6:30. Email DPI consultant, Rita Fuller with information on which CESA you will attend the Open Forum. Council will be sent a list of which council members are attending what sessions in each CESA. It is up to council to determine which location they attend. Currently we expect over 60 participants. The RSN (Regional Service Network Directors) at each CESA will be provided a list of directions to participants at each location. To ensure as many voices can be heard who want to provide input to the council, the role of the special education council is to listen and council members can take notes. RSN will be collecting written comments provided to participants.
- c. Superintendent's Leadership Conference, October 17-18, 2017

10. Public Appearances: None

11. Adjournment: Jennifer Mims-Howell proposed adjourning the meeting, it was seconded, End at 3 pm.