

Education and Employment Committee

Wednesday, January 15, 2020, 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Embassy Suites – Baton Rouge

4914 Constitution Ave.

WORKING AGENDA

Members: Melissa Bayham, Amy Donarski, April Dunn, Hyacinth McKee, Robert Paddy, Bambi Polotzola, Chris Rodriguez, Tara Smith, Temisha Sonnier, Mary Tarver

Staff: Marilee Andrews, Shawn Fleming, Courtney Ryland

3:00 PM Welcome and Introductions

3:05 PM Approval of the [October 2019 EE Committee Summary](#) [Vote]

3:10 PM Recommendations for FFY 2021 Planning Committee (Goals 3-5) [Vote]

- [FFY 2020 Action Plan](#)

3:40 PM Recommendations for Five-Year Plan (FFY 2022 – 2026) [Vote]

- [Council Approved 5-Year Planning Process](#)
- [Areas of Emphasis & Implementation Strategies](#)

4:10 PM BREAK

4:20 PM **EDUCATION**

- Provide financial support to establish a Post-secondary Inclusive Education Alliance to build the capacity of Louisiana institutions in providing opportunities for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. (3.4.2)
 - Dr. Gerlinde Beckers, Southeastern Louisiana University, Lions Connected

Dr. Gerlinde Beckers presented in one of the breakout sessions at the 2019 DDC Conference regarding the Post-secondary Inclusive Education Alliance, and is doing so again at the LA 39th Annual Super Conference on Special Education in January 2020. The Alliance is in the process of establishing membership and social media accounts. Dr. Beckers is also currently focusing on getting other Institutes of Higher Education involved.

- Provide financial support for professional development opportunities for childcare providers and EarlySteps interventionists to build capacity with including children with disabilities in Early Learning Centers within Local Communities. (4.2.3)

LSUHSC-Human Development Center to provide training, and mentoring/Technical Assistance for coaching of Early Learning Center staff and Early Interventionists toward the inclusion of children with disabilities in Early Learning Center settings. Training sessions are being scheduled in February 2020 to be held in Lafayette and Shreveport, LA. Once those have been conducted, coaching sessions will commence

for those attendees, in addition to the 21 participants from the previous Covington training class.

- Advocate for LDOE focus and capacity to address Special Ed. (3.1.1)
 - Lack of qualified Special Education teachers

In November 2018, [a letter was sent to LDOE Superintendent White](#) requesting a proportionate, or more, amount of funding for initiatives to address shortages of special education teachers and related service personnel than the amount allocated to fund initiatives for STEM teacher shortages. Superintendent White indicated he looked forward to reading the letter.

- Definition of “modifications” relative to LEAP 2025
- Restraint and Seclusion Data and Reports
<https://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/act-485>

[2017-2018 Seclusion and Restraint Report](#)

[2016-2017 Seclusion and Restraint Report PDF](#)

[2015-2016 Seclusion and Restraint Report PDF](#)

- LDOE requested to provide information on USDOE 2019 Determination Letters on State Implementation of IDEA.

Advocated for LDOE to revive the Data Quality Review Sub-Committee of the Advisory Council on Student Behavior and Discipline to provide validity and integrity of data and develop uniform definitions of behavior codes.

- Emergent education issues (3.3.1)
 - Update on request of LDOE to provide information and training to Local Education Agencies (LEAs) on the availability of other related services, such as Music Therapy, under IDEA which may be considered by IEP teams and the requirement of providing related therapies determined necessary by the IEP team.
 - LDOE updates – KristiJo Preston or LDOE representative
- 2020 Legislative Agenda items
 - [Fact Sheet for Requiring Cameras in Special Education Classrooms Upon Request](#)
 - School Resource Officer training
 - Teacher training on behavior

5:20 PM **EMPLOYMENT**

- Provide funding to build the capacity of employment providers in customized employment through a competency-based certification program. (5.1.3)

Three employment support providers have now completed all components of Customized Employment (Discovery, Job Development, and Systematic Instruction) and are qualified to provide this service through LRS. Five more providers are participating in Discovery certification mentoring. The next Job Development 3-day Gateway training is scheduled for February 4th – 6th, 2020.

- Provide funding for web-based training sessions in supported employment to build the capacity of up to 600 individuals at every level

of the service delivery system, including but not limited to state and regional staff of State agencies, supported employment provider administrators, employment support professionals, and support coordinators. (5.1.5)

As of December 17, 2019, there were 544 active learners in the Elsevier system completing web-based training in supported employment comprised of OCDD staff and various service delivery systems (support coordination, case management, human services districts, Arcs, adult day programs, etc.) Of the 544 learners, 220 have completed all of their assigned training in supported employment.

- LRS updates – Melissa Bayham or LRS Representative
- Produce and provide information important to individuals with developmental disabilities and their families through a variety of electronic and social media (Council website, Facebook, LaDDC News, employment, and self-advocacy videos, etc.). (1.4.2)

5:55 PM Announcements/Evaluations

6:00 PM Adjourn

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