

Exceptional Child Education Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda February 10, 2021

4:30 - 5:30 Virtual

Committee Members Present: Roberta Alston, Lisa Batchelor, Judith Bradley, Kim Chevalier, Maggie Delaney, Ginevra Courtade, Trisha Gallagher, Boyd Gudgel, Grace Kuravackel, Mike Miller, Rashawna Mullaney, Bob Napolilli, Steve Noble, John Roberts, Angelique Scherer, Catherine Sherrard, Ali Taylor, Susan Teaford

Staff to the Committee Present: Angie Parks

Others Present: Dana Collins

Agenda Item	Discussion/Action/Person Responsible
Call to Order • Welcome • Acceptance of minutes from 11/11/20	Trisha Gallagher The meeting was opened by Dr. Gallagher, and she introduced the JCPS members and community partners. The November 11, 2020 minutes were reviewed, there were no questions and they were accepted as written.
Introduction of Draft Committee <u>By-laws</u>	Trisha Gallagher Dr. Gallagher reiterated the purpose of the group which is to serve in an advisory capacity to the Jefferson County Public School System, and in particular, to the Department of Exceptional Child Education (ECE), in its goal of providing students with disabilities a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE). The committee was provided time to review the draft committee by-laws. • These by-laws will span the fiscal school year (July to June) and the plan is to finalize at the next meeting. • Judith Bradley: asked the questions below in the notes and submitted notes on the bylaws through email

1. How will people know about opportunity to participate? 2. How will participants be selected? 3. Is it possible to expand to include more students with disabilities as well as family members? Right now, it seems there are 21 district and/or org members but just 1 student and 2 family members planned. 4. Since transition is such an important focus, how about including a student who has graduated? Kim Chevalier -- Ms. Chevalier spoke about the NTI -- What to keep/ future-state teams. Dr. Pollio has charged What to throw out administrators to make sure all kids accelerate and the goal to reduce disproportionality is a high priority. The District is seeking feedback from the community, teachers and students. There were many successes highlighted during NTI and some things that need work. Needs work: NTI for students with visual impairments Orientation and mobility services are impossible to provide virtually Transition services are challenging All related services are difficult to provide virtually Successes: We will continue with virtual meeting options when in-person participation can't be worked out. Transportation can be a barrier for in-person meetings. ARC meetings held virtually allow for better attendance. The virtual option also makes participation more equitable. Some parents are more comfortable with virtual attendance versus in-person. Virtual meetings can be recorded better. The first option will always be in-person and all agreed that virtual meetings are a huge success. Maggie Delaney: VocEd has found it easier to get parents and students to virtual ARCs Ginevera Cortade: advocated for keeping the

option of virtual ARCs, adding that it removes barriers and is equitable

Bob Napolilli: stated that the Council will continue virtual trainings as they have seen the positive impacts also Judith Bradley: approved Zoom meetings as parents like to record the meetings and it allows for the recording; she stated that some students are more comfortable with virtual meetings Rashawna Mullaney: stated that virtual meetings are a lifesaver for providers with multiple schools to support Susan Teaford: stated that online learning has enhanced proficiency of younger children Catherine Sherrard: stated that her son's experience has excelled; she wants to know what coming back will look like and wants information on return - curriculum delivery; she wants information on the A/B schedule and believes it means less time with the teacher than he has now Teachers have increased their use of technology and have found new learning platforms. On-line learning has enhanced technology proficiency especially with the younger students. It will help with individualized assignments. We will see what MAP testing shows. Teachers and parents have worked extremely hard to provide support. Parent engagement has increased. It is important to keep engagement in learning so parents know what is expected. Kim Chevalier -- Ms. Chevalier reported that JCPS wants **Robust Summer** to provide as much summer support as possible, **Programs** specifically to provide extra services for what students missed and get students ready for next year. The ECE Department is looking at the grand scale of what services kids need, filling program gaps and developing vocational programs. The department will need to look at ways to build community partnerships and be creative with staffing. Ms. Chevalier added that the department will look for ways to enhance specialized opportunities

in ESY and other summer supplemental programs. She referred to the Back Pack League that was well attended in the past. The department will explore ways for the community and JCPS to work together for transition opportunities as well. She asked people to email additional ideas to her at kimberly.chevalier@jefferson.kyschools.us

- Judith Bradley asked if student transportation would be available during the summer. She suggested using college students that may be seeking internships and that the <u>KY Student Voice</u> Team may have a volunteer sign up program for students looking for opportunities to work with school-aged kids.
- Susan Teaford would like DSL to partner with JCPS to open up more opportunities for children in their organization. In the past, they have offered respite to parents by using JCPS teachers to present small group learning opportunities for children. DSL provides services all day, 9 5:30.
- Mike Miller said KATC is always looking for educational benefits that are fun and engaging; KATC will have a summer activity manual again this year
- Maggie Delaney added that Louisville Metro Government and the Public Library usually have summer camps and programming opportunities.

Roundtable: Community Updates

Bob Napolilli--<u>The Council on Developmental</u> <u>Disabilities</u>

- Due to a concern from a teacher in a MSD classroom, the Council is advocating for the installation of larger changing stations in public places.
- Working with Ahrens to create basic how-to cooking videos for the purpose of health and wellness nutritional empowerment.
- Working with Ahrens in creating a virtual photography program with the goal of developing a digital yearbook to share.
- Reinstating the LEAD program and offering a 6-week virtual course on IEP Advocacy.

 Developing a resource for mental health, behavioral health, and individuals with intellectual disabliities. More information can be found on their website.

Steve Noble--Learning Disabilities of Kentucky

- Continues to work to support parents.
- Receiving more requests than usual in understanding the evaluation process and referring many to Rashawna.
- Working on the implementation of accommodated practice tests and text to speech applications.

Ginevra Courtade -- <u>U of L Department of Special</u> <u>Education</u>

- Continues to work on pathways to meet the needs in Jefferson County and Kentucky
 - Brought back the LBD Alternative Certification program, along with the IECE and MSD programs
 - All can be completed online
 - Tuition reduction programs
 - Instructional Assistants are great candidates

Grace Kuravackel--Norton Children's Autism Center is

- Wait list, but working to improve access
- Virtual groups to provide access
- Hoping to have summer groups and camp
- Welcome feedback

Mike Miller--Kentucky Autism Training Center

- Sign-ups for a social skills group for middle and high aged students held at Little Stars in Indiana
- ADOS administration training in May virtual
- June Systems of Care Academy
- Full day Street/Car Survival driving training to students that have their driver's permit
 - o 8:30 5:30
 - Participants will practice in all types of weather through simulation

Maggie Delaney--Vocational Rehab

	 Working with high school transition to prepare for work or college Wants to see staff reiterate the importance of following through to students and families Finding more opportunities to work with community partners and are increasing Pre-ETS services for interviewing, dress for job and self-advocacy Want these services to start at an earlier age and grow with virtual opportunities Taking referrals
	 Roberta Alston<u>KY-SPIN</u> Check the website for information on upcoming trainings For information, contact their outreach coordinator Kellie Smith at <u>kellie@kyspin.com</u>
Future Topics:	Please send information for future topics to Trisha Gallagher at trisha.gallagher@jefferson.kyschools.us Dr. Kuravackel asked how the community can help struggling families, especially if we do not return to school.
Closing & next meeting	Ms. Chevalier added that return to school dates will be voted on by the School Board after all vaccinations have been completed. There are lots of concerns to work through for the goal of a positive experience for all.
	Ms. Chevalier wanted to share information on the <u>State Advisory Council for Exceptional Children</u> . Dr. Gallagher announced the next meeting date of May 5, 2021, thanked everyone for attending, and closed the meeting.