

Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP)

SEAP Panel Leadership and ADE/Exceptional Student Services Deputy Associate Superintendent
Arizona State Board of Education Meeting, 2/27/23

SEAP Purpose

The State has established and maintains an advisory panel to provide policy guidance for special education and related services for children/youth with disabilities (aged 3 to 21)

Make recommendations and advise:

- **Arizona State Board of Education**
- **Superintendent of Public Instruction**
- **State Education Agency**

- *Through the Deputy Associate Superintendent of Exceptional Student Services*

SEAP Recommendations and Advisement

Include special education issues, programs, and services related to eligible students with disabilities (SWD) (the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and A.R.S. § 15-235)

6 primary functions and duties related to the education of SWD:

- Advise the SEA of unmet needs within the State
- Comment publicly on rules and regulations proposed by the State
- Advise the SEA in developing evaluations and reporting on data to the Secretary [of the USDOE] under Section 618
- Advise the SEA in developing corrective action plans to address findings identified in Federal monitoring reports
- Advise the SEA in developing and implementing policies relating to the coordination of services for SWD
- Review all final due process officer findings and decisions

SEAP Role

The primary role of the Panel is to provide advice and recommendations regarding the six functions

On or before December 1, the Panel will submit an annual report of its activities and recommendations to the Deputy Associate Superintendent of ADE/ESS, who then forwards it to the Arizona State Board of Education

Membership of Panel

Membership is determined by the requirement of the IDEA and A.R.S. § 15-235

Special Rule (34 CFR §300.168(b)): A majority of members shall be individuals with disabilities or parents of children with disabilities (child's age birth through 26)

- Nominations for vacancies may come from ADE, SEAP, and other interested parties and agencies in Arizona
- All members are appointed by the Arizona State Board of Education
- Voting membership shall not exceed 23 panel members

Membership Demographics

Parents of children with disabilities (CWD) (birth to 26)

Individuals with disabilities, aged 18+

Other State agencies involved in financing or delivery of related services to CWD

Private schools

Special education and/or general education teachers

Institutions of higher education that prepare special education/related services personnel

Public charter schools

Vocational, community, or business organization concerned with provision of transition services to CWD

State/local officials, including McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

Administrators of programs for CWD

State child welfare agency responsible for foster care

State Juvenile Detention & Correction agencies and Adult Correction agencies

Panel Leadership and Meetings



Leadership consists of two Cochairpersons and one Vice-Chairperson



Cochairpersons serve two-year terms; membership elects a Cochairperson and Vice-Chairperson annually



These individuals and the Deputy Associate Superintendent of ESS at the ADE comprise the Executive Committee



The ESS DAS serves as an ex-officio member of the Panel and provides information and support to the panel



The panel meets at least 4 times per year; meetings follow Arizona Open Meeting Law

2022 SEAP Advisement

- 7 SEAP meetings were held between August 2021 and June 2022
- Significant advisement to the SEA included input and feedback related to the 17 special education performance indicators included in Arizona's State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report (SPP/APR)
 - SEAP was a primary stakeholder in the SPP/APR, helping to set baselines and targets through FFY 2025, as required by the USDOE Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP)
- Advisement to the SEA included input and feedback related to:
 - Special Education Cost Study, K–5 Literacy Endorsement for teachers, ADE/ESS technical assistance document regarding SWD in foster care, ADE/ESS Early Childhood Special Education Policy & Procedures (and OSEP Corrective Action)



Questions?