State Special Education Advisory Committee (SSEAC) Agenda

Persons needing special accommodations, including sign language interpreting should contact Ms. Cathy Pomfrey (Email: Cathy.Pomfrey@doe.virginia.gov) or by phone: 804-225-3252 Voice; 800-422-1098 TTY by October 15, 2008. This agenda and other information are available at: http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/Instruction/Sped/sseac.html.

In case of inclement weather, call 804-225-2707, after 2:00 PM on the previous day, for recorded information on cancellation.

Location:
The Holiday Inn I-64 West End Crossroads
2000 Staples Mill Road
Richmond, VA 23230
Phone: (804) 359-6061

Wednesday, October 22

6:00 – 7:00 PM Executive Subcommittee Dinner and Meeting
7:00 – 8:00 New Member Orientation Session (Dessert & Beverage) – All SSEAC members are invited to attend with new members

Thursday, October 23

8:00 AM Continental Breakfast
8:30 Call to Order, Welcome, and Introductions
8:40 – 9:30 Business Session:
1) Approval of Minutes
2) Membership Terms Review
3) Subcommittee Assignments (Personnel, Constituency Involvement, Response to Intervention—“RtI”)
4) Nomination of Officers
5) SSEAC Annual Report
9:30 – 11:30* Presentations:
9:30 – 10:30 Behavior Support & Effective School-wide Discipline State Activities – Ms. Irene Walker-Bolton, T/TAC Staff at Old Dominion University, Local Participants
10:30 – 10:45* Break
10:45 – 11:30   Parent Involvement Project Update  
Ms. Judy Hudgins, VCU-PPD Staff

11:30 – 12:00  Public Comment - Refer to SSEAC Public Comment Guidelines

12:00 – 1:00 PM  Group Lunch – Subcommittees meet as needed

1:00 – 1:30   Review of Special Education Annual Performance Report  
Mr. Paul Raskopf

1:30 – 3:30*  Ad hoc Subcommittees Meet

2:30 – 2:45*  Break

3:30 – 4:30  Ad Hoc Subcommittees Report

4:30   Adjourn – Dinner on your own

Friday, October 24

8:00 AM  Continental Breakfast

8:30  Call to Order

9:00  Reports:  
• Assistant Superintendent Report  
• Constituency Reports

10:00 – 10:15  Break

10:15 – 10:45  Continue Reports and Business, as needed

10:45 – 11:30   Public Comment Review  
Future Meeting Agenda Discussion

11:30  Adjourn

11:30 – 12:00  Executive Subcommittee Meeting for Future Agenda
Ad Hoc Subcommittee Members (revised July 2008)

Constituency Involvement: Peter Squire (Chairperson), Carletta Wilson, Christina Draper, Larry Blevins, PEATC liaison
(Staff – Judy Hudgins)

Personnel: Mike Behrmann (Chairperson), Fran Goforth, Sharon Duncan, Melodie Henderson, Suzanne Bowers, Jennifer O’Berry-Ham
(Staff – Pat Burgess)

Response to Intervention (RtI) – This is a new subcommittee, assigned members are:
Tamara Temoney (Chairperson), Jacqueline Nelson, Carol Hamilton, MaryAnn Discenza, Mona Holmes, Judy Averill, Bob Chappell, Robin Glass, Eva Atkins
(Staff – Cindy Cave)
State Special Education Advisory Committee
Guidelines for Public Comment
(adopted April 27, 2006, revised July 13, 2006)

The State Special Education Advisory Committee (SSEAC) welcomes public comment at each of its regular meetings. **SSEAC members use comments from the public and other information sources to advise the Virginia Board of Education and the Virginia Department of Education of the unmet educational needs of children with disabilities in the state.** Among the other information sources used by the SSEAC to identify issues and solutions are the state performance plan, annual reports, and local school division reports. These reports are available on the Virginia Department of Education’s Web site www.doe.virginia.gov.

1. The total time allotted to public comment will generally be thirty (30) minutes. Each public comment is limited to 3 minutes.

2. Those wishing to speak should contact Ms. Cathy Pomfrey by phone at 804-225-3252, TTY-toll free 800-422-1098, TTY-local 804-371-2822 or by E-mail at Cathy.Pomfrey@doe.virginia.gov to be scheduled to speak. Speakers should request special accommodations, if needed.

3. Public comment can be provided in person or may be forwarded to a SSEAC member to read at the meeting. Written copies of comments are helpful. A single copy may be handed to the secretary and if desired, multiple copies (23 for members and staff) may be distributed at the meeting.

4. The SSEAC does not respond directly to public comment at the meeting, except to ask clarifying questions.

5. The topics of public comment are included in the SSEAC’s meeting minutes. Public comment will become part of the public record and accessible to anyone wishing to review the minutes of the SSEAC meetings. Speakers should withhold information they do not wish to make public.

6. Virginia Department of Education staff members serve as consultants to the SSEAC. If the public comment involves student- or school-specific information, staff will contact the speaker to determine appropriate follow-up.

State Special Education Advisory Committee
Guidelines for Participation in the Public Forum
(adopted October 19, 2006; revised January 2007)

The State Special Education Advisory Committee (SSEAC) welcomes members of the public to an informal public forum at most of its regular meetings. SSEAC members use issues raised and points made at these forums, as well as other information sources*, to advise the Virginia Board of Education and the Virginia Department of Education of the unmet educational needs of children with disabilities in the commonwealth.

Public participation at these forums differs from formal public comment made during the designated public comment period at each SSEAC meeting. The informal public forums are not recorded nor are minutes kept. Attendees are asked to sign-in with their names, addresses, e-mail addresses and telephone numbers, and this information is made available to SSEAC members and is a matter of public record.

Topics raised at the informal public forums will be summarized by the SSEAC chair during a portion of the quarterly meeting and that summary will be entered into the minutes. There is no requirement for formal follow-up on statements made during the forums.

The public should keep the following in mind when participating in the informal public forums:

1. While speakers do not have to observe strict time limits, they should monitor their time so all who wish to participate have a chance to do so.

2. SSEAC members will interact with forum participants in a discussion about the issues raised.

3. The views expressed by individual SSEAC members are the views of those members only and do not necessarily represent the views of the SSEAC, the Virginia Board of Education, or the Virginia Department of Education.

4. Neither SSEAC members nor staff of the Virginia Department of Education can comment on matters involving due process, administrative complaints, or any other legal actions, nor can they divulge other confidential information.

If at any time a speaker wishes to enter their statements as formal public comment, they may do so by either attending the SSEAC meeting during the public comment period, or providing a written public comment to a SSEAC member or Department of Education staff member to be read during the public comment period. Public comments are part of the official public record of each SSEAC meeting.


* Among the other information sources used by the SSEAC to identify issues and solutions are testimonies delivered as public comments at the SSEAC meetings, constituency reports by SSEAC members, information from Virginia Department of Education staff, the state performance plan, annual reports, and local school division reports. Minutes of the SSEAC meetings and reports are available on the Virginia Department of Education’s Web site http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/Instruction/Sped/sseac.html.