

Wayne County Parent Advisory Committee

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Eileen Brandt, Chairperson Kara Clarke, Vice-Chairperson Jennifer Padgett & Samara Wolf, Secretary Lori Huntington, Treasurer

MEETING MINUTES April 16, 2020

Call to Order

Eileen Brandt called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. A quorum of members was present.

Members Present: Virtual Meeting- A roll call performed by Jenn Padgett

Maha Jaber	Eilia Syed	lesha Brasell	Joann Goree
Crestwood	Dearborn	Dearb, Hts, #7	Detroit
Jennifer Seal	Heather Stefan	Helena Stephenson	Dawn Hurley-Powers
Garden City	Grosse Ile	Harper Woods	Harper Woods
Crystal Upshaw	Eileen Brandt	Kara Clarke	Michelle DeJesus
Lincoln Park	Livonia	Livonia	Melvindale/N. A.P
Maria Warmuth	Linda MacClinton	Khaliliah Montgomery	Carol Matthews
Northville	Redford Union	Redford Union	Riverview
Jacqueline Dalzell	Michelle Muse-Worthy	Celestine Tarver	Philip Czernik
Romulus	Southgate	Taylor	Trenton
Lori Huntington	Jennifer Padgett	Priscilla Grossenheider-	Victoria Martinez
Westwood	Woodhaven/Brownstown	Albano	Wyandotte
		Woodhaven/Brownstown	
Sarah Groeneveld	Jim Michalik	Katrina Good	Samara Wolf
Achieve Charter Acad.	Canton Charter Acad.	Detroit Merit	Quest Charter Acad.

Members on Phone: N/A

Members Excused: N/A

Guests Present: Sharene Nathan DPSCD, Linda Junod, Theresa Beard, Darlene Heard-Thomas, Lynn Swift

RESA Representatives: Karen Howey Regina Baker

Dates to Remember				
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I. Approval of Agenda

A copy of the meeting agenda was emailed and posted to the website to members in advance and made available at the meeting. A motion was made by Linda MacClinton and seconded by Philip Czernick to accept the agenda. Motion was supported by majority of members present. No objections were made.

Objections: None

II. Approval of Minutes

A copy of the February 13, 2020 minutes was mailed and posted to the website to members in advance and made available at the meeting. A motion was made by Philip Czernik and seconded by Carol Matthews to accept the minutes as noted. Motion supported by majority present. No objections were made.

Objections: None

- **III.** <u>Presentation:</u> No presentation however Eileen did do a power point and the first slide was proper etiquette. Then there were various slides on the content which was on COVID-19 and how it affects everyone, especially those with disabilities.
 - 1) Eileen discussed many items and how the WORLD is being impacted.
 - Eileen expressed the importance on getting in contact with your representatives regarding the next stimulus package needs to include funds for IDEA. All the previous packages have NOT included funds for IDEA.
 - 3) It was also brought up that things like Bridge cards for the disabled are not acceptable as an online payment so those at higher risk are still having to GO IN shopping putting them at risk. These are the types of living situations that not everyone may have thought of because they do not live every experience so you should bring it to your representatives attention at such things like virtual coffee hours. You can find many of these virtual coffee hours on your representatives facebook pages. Or you can get on your representative and legislators email lists. You can find your local representatives and legislators at http://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative

See additional information listed at the end of this document.

- IV. <u>Chairperson Report –</u> Eileen had no specific report. She stated how happy she was to see those present and to see we are doing well (given the situation at hand and what we are ALL dealing with).
- V. <u>Vice Chairperson Report-</u> Kara had no specific report. She ALSO was happy to see those present and that everyone looked like they are doing as well as can be expected.
- VI. <u>Secretary Report</u> If you need business cards either because you are new or just need new ones please contact Samara Wolf or Jennifer Padgett so they can gather the necessary information for RESA. Even though we are not meeting in person please make sure your attendance is recorded at each meeting not just for minute purposes but also for year end mileage reimbursement. If it's a virtual meeting please make sure a member of the board knows you are there so you can be accounted for. One of the Secretaries will read off the WCPAC Member names and any guests which can be seen on the video screen, if you do not hear your name called, please inform one of the secretaries.

VIII. Subcommittee Reports

- I. Nominations/Elections Committee- A motion was made by Maha Jaber and seconded by Jennifer Padgett that we delay the Nomination/Election process until May. This motion passed with no objections. Discussion: We will be having elections and the results will be released at the June meeting. Nominations should go to Eileen Brandt via email (when possible) and she will pass on to Helena (who graciously accepted the position) however, this is a unique situation so Eileen is helping.
- II. Special Recognition: Recognition award ceremony WILL be held at a later date and time NO we do not know yet when. Flexibility is being expressed at this time. All submissions received by the deadline (March meeting date) will be honored. The Special Recognition will be postponed. *separate note*
- III. Legislative: Jennifer Padgett reported out only on those that have any movement (due to COVID, very little movement is occurring at this time)
 - i. HR4516 This is the bill about changing the disability logo of the wheelchair to one that implies movement it has moved to the senate's calendar
 - ii. HR 4910 The bill regarding emotional support animals it is getting a 2nd reading at the house.

IX. RESA Reports -

Karen spoke about a vast variety of items some of them included:

- 1) How LEAs/PSAs are supposed to be handling remote learning and what the expectations are of those districts.
- 2) The difference between a Continuity of Learning Plan and a Contingency Plan- A Continuity of Learning Plan is a requirement within the governor's executive order for all LEAs/PSAs. The Continuity of Learning Plan is a written plan that defines how the LEA/PSA is planning to provide instruction for all students during the school closure period (the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year). A Contingency Plan is a process for documenting the services being provided for students with IEPs/504s, for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year, based on the district's Continuity of Learning Plan and the student's individualized education plan (IEP). The Continuity of Learning Plan is a broad district-wide plan. A Contingency Plan is an individualized per student plan. LEAs/PSAs are required to document their "good faith effort" in some way. A Contingency Plan is encouraged by the MDE-OSE, however, not a requirement. There are other methods of documentation that may be used as well.
- 3) LEA's Continuity of Learning Plans were approved by WRESA. PSA's Continuity of Learning Plans were approved by their authorizer, even though the ISDs are responsible for the PSAs for compliance and monitoring.

- 4) If your child was placed in a Center Program at the time of the start of the school closure period, he/she will follow the Center Program Operating District's Continuity of Learning Plan.
- 5) Wayne RESA established Focus Groups lead by WRESA Consultants and included special education professionals from across the county to collaborate regarding the implementation of instruction during the school closure period. The various Focus Groups include a learning disabilities group, autism group, deaf and hard of hearing, visually impaired, physically impaired, cognitively impaired, transition group, and a behavior support group. Additionally, a behavior support/ASD hotline has been established. A representative from the Wayne Assistive Technology Team is a participant in each focus group.
- 6) If your student is in need of technology in order to access the instruction being provided, contact your school, district's special education director, or RESA.
- 7) There is no flexibility with IEP timelines. Districts have been instructed to convene virtual IEP meetings to the greatest extent possible in collaboration with parents. Parents should work with their student's school in a receptive, cooperative manner to do their best to accommodate the completion of virtual/phone IEP's. However, if a parent is not comfortable with completing the IEP virtually/phone, the IEP may be postponed until school resumes. This may cause the IEP timeline to be out of compliance.

X. <u>Member Reports</u>

It was brought up about CHAMPS and people not receiving their payments. Thank you to Sharene for letting us know that payments were mailed on the 10th but due to slow post office service please allow 10-12 workdays, if you then don't receive it go ahead and call to check the status.

XI. Adjournment

A motion was made by Victoria Martinez and seconded by Linda MacClinton to adjourn the meeting at 8:49p.m. Motion passed by majority present. No objections were made.

The next WCPAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 14, 2020 at 6:30pm most likely via Virtual Zoom Meeting again. Watch your email (check spam folder) for the invitation.

Helpful Notes:

- Bills are introduced in either house of the legislature (Senate or the House)
- SB are state level bills introduced by the Senate and filed with the Secretary of the Senate
 - o Find your State Representative HERE
- HB are state level bills introduced by the House and filed with the Clerk of the House
 - o Find your State Representative HERE
- HR are federal level bills introduced into the house at the federal level. Want to know who your representative is click HERE
- Want to be notified when bills are being worked that are in areas of interest to you? Create a free profile and manage your notification prefrence here: https://www.michiganvotes.org/
- Updates since last report show highlighted in yellow

SB600	Bill to amend the revised school code as it relates to Michigan merit curriculum and graduation requirements	Introduced in Oct 2019, referred to committee of the whole with substitutes and amendments on 12/4/2019. No New Update since last report	Link to SB 600
SB0657	Revised School Code Updates as it relates to requirements for professional and alternative teaching certificates and the process	Introduced in Nov 19, referred to Education and Career Readiness committee in Nov 19, passed through several committees, and is now with the committee on education as of 3/5/2020. No New Update since last report	<u>Link to</u> <u>SB 0657</u>
HB5541	Allows an individual applying for a state ID card to elect to have a communication impediment designation tied to their data, data will be limited to law enforcement	Introduced in Feb 2020, sent to both committee on transportation and Ways and Means on in March 2020. No New Update since last report	<u>Link to</u> <u>HB 5541</u>

Bill#	Bill Name / Summary	Status	Link to Bill
HB4516	Symbol of Accessibility: Change the image of the handicap symbol to something that implies action rather than stillness	Passed in the house back in Oct 2019 and out of Senate Committee. Now will full senate and on the senate calendar (#49)	<u>Link to</u> HB 4516
HB4813	Tax credit Home Modification: tax credit when retro fitting or building a home that is accessible. (Caped at \$1m for the entire state of MI). Includes the house of a relative	Referred to committee on Tax Policy in July 2019. Letter of information sent to full house. Should be voted on this session. No New Update since last report	<u>Link to</u> <u>HB 4813</u>
HB4718	Bill to limit the use of chemical restraint	Still with committee on Health Policy in June 2019. No New Update since last report	<u>Link to</u> <u>HB 4718</u>
HB4910	A bill to regulate the prescription of emotional support animals by health care providers and requests for reasonable accommodation for emotional support animals in housing; to provide for the powers and duties of certain state and local governmental officers and entities; and to prescribe penalties.	Substitute bill recommended and sent with referral and 2 nd reading on 3/3/2020. Now with the full house under 2 nd reading	<u>Link to</u> <u>HB 4910</u>
HR555	To prohibit discrimination against individuals with disabilities who need long-term services and supports, and for other purposes. The bill requires the Department of Justice and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to issue regulations requiring government entities and insurance providers to offer community-based long-term services to individuals with such disabilities who would otherwise qualify for institutional placement. Government entities must ensure sufficient availability of affordable, accessible, and integrated housing that is not a disability-specific residential setting or a setting where services are tied to tenancy.	Introduced to the house in January 2019, Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties in February 2019. No New Update since last report	Link to HR 555
HR1529	Purpose is to amend title XVI of the Social Security Act to provide that the supplemental security income benefits of adults with intellectual or developmental disabilities shall not be reduced by reason of marriage.	Introduced to the house in March 2019, referred to the Subcommittee on Worker and Family Support on 3/5/19 and referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means on 3/5/19. No New Update since last report	Link to HR 1529
HR4280	To amend title XVI of the Social Security Act to update eligibility for the supplemental security income program, and for other purposes	Introduced into the house in Sept 2019, referred to both the House Committee on Ways and Means and Subcommittee on Worker and Family Support on 9/11/19. No New Update since last report	Link to HR 4280
HR4882	To authorize the Attorney General to make grants to provide training to improve police responses for people with mental illness and intellectual and developmental disabilities, to increase the authorization of appropriations for mental health awareness training grants, and for other purpose	Introduced into the house in October 2019, referred to a number of committees with the latest one being Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security in Dec 2019. No New Update since last report	<u>Link to</u> <u>HR 4882</u>
SB600	Bill to amend the revised school code as it relates to Michigan merit curriculum and graduation requirements	Introduced in Oct 2019, referred to committee of the whole with substitutes and amendments on 12/4/2019. No New Update since last report	Link to SB 600
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