



Wayne County Parent Advisory Committee

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Kara Clarke, Chairperson **Jennifer Seal**, Vice-Chairperson
Samara Wolf & Michelle Muse-Worthy, Secretary **Linda MacClinton**, Treasurer

MEETING MINUTES
 October 14, 2021

Call to Order

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

Members Present:

Maha Jaber Crestwood	Iesha Brassell Drb Hts. #7	Joann Goree Detroit	Jennifer Seal Garden City
Dawn Hurley-Powers Harper Woods	Helena Stephenson Harper Woods	Crystle Upshaw Lincoln Park	Eileen Brandt Livonia
Kara Clarke Livonia	Michelle DeJesus Melvindale-NAP	Clare Brick Northville	James Michalik Plymouth-Canton
Linda MacClinton Redford Union	Khalilah Montgomery Redford Union	Monique Draw River Rouge	Michelle Muse- Worthy Southgate
Celestine Tarver Taylor	Jessica Owulette Plymouth Scholars	Samara Wolf Quest Charter	Ebony Payns Taylor Exemplar

Members Excused: Priscilla Grossenheider-Albano

Guests Present: Beth Koehler, Katie Sneath, Katie Urek, Carol Matthews, Nicole Steele, Marissa, Tenisha Williams, Dara Wilson, Tamara Weddington, Leah, Lisa Horvatic

RESA Representatives: Vita Lusk, Regina Baker

<i>Dates to Remember</i>	
<i>Dates to Remember</i>	
<i>Next Meeting on November 11, 2021</i>	

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 Samara Wolf and seconded by Linda MacClinton to accept the agenda. Motion was supported by majority of members present. No objections were made.

Objections: _____

II. **Approval of Minutes**

A copy of the September 9, 2021, minutes was emailed and posted to the website to members in advance and made available at the meeting. A motion was made by Monique Draw and seconded by Iesha Brassell to accept the minutes as noted. Motion supported by majority present. No objections were made.

Objections: _____

Presentation:



Advocacy Pieces.pdf

Advocacy 101 – Brett Williams from the Michigan Developmental Disabilities Council

Types of Advocacy:

1. Case Advocacy – Individual/ Self Self started, self-directed
2. Cause Advocacy – Advocate together to support each other's efforts
3. Grassroots Advocacy – Building from the ground up, mobilize and engage
4. Citizen Advocacy – Community comes together for promoting change
5. Group Advocacy – groups with similar interest working together ex: coalitions
6. Professional Advocacy – Paid representation of an individual or group.

Chairperson Report – After our meeting last month, I realized that we missed covering one important piece of information... conferences! In your member packs there is a document with information regarding sponsored conference participation. The short version - for those attending in person: RESA will cover the cost of the conference, mileage, lodging and meals not included in the conference (up to \$50 per day).

For those attending a virtual conference RESA will cover the cost of the conference.

If you come across or hear about a special education conference that you'd like to attend, such as MTSA which is March 14-16 at the Grand Traverse Resort in Traverse City, or the START conference in Lansing on May 2, or any other conference related to special education, you need to request to attend. To do that, just send an email either to Vita, Regina or myself and then we'll go from there. Rule of thumb is that the conference is booked, and arrangements are made by RESA, unless you are instructed otherwise. One more quick note, to be reimbursed you MUST have an ACH form & W9 on file. Both those forms are also part of your member pack. If you think you already have a form on file with RESA, we can check and confirm.

I encourage you to closely review this document if you have not already done so. And again, I apologize for missing that last month!

In case you were not aware, October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month!

For more information, please see <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/odep/initiatives/ndeam>

To read the Presidential Proclamation, please click on the following link.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2021/09/30/a-proclamation-on-national-disability-employment-awareness-month-2021/>

If you are looking to learn more about legislation that effects people with disabilities, the following describes two meetings that you are more than welcome to attend. The first is the DD Council's Public Policy Committee. They meet on the 1st Tuesday of the month; meeting times begin at 9am or 10am and usually last an hour and half to 2 hours. The other is the Self Advocates of Michigan (SAM) Public Policy Committee. They meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month at 5pm. One of the things that SAM is working on is the 14(c) waiver to the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) - this allows people with disabilities to be paid less than minimum wage.

See <http://www.dnmichigan.org/public-policy/public-policysub-minimum-wage/> for more info on the sub minimum wage and the 14(c) waiver.

If you are interested in attending either, feel free to let Kara know and she will make sure you get the meeting link or you can reach out to Brett Williams and ask him to add you to the list.

For those that enjoy listening to Podcasts, Kara has a new one to share from the Michigan Developmental Disabilities Institute. Elizabeth Janks, who presented to the WCPAC last year, discusses transitioning young people with disabilities to adulthood and promoting their independence.

<https://ddi.wayne.edu/.../transitioning-to-independent-life>

Another way you can get involved...

MiPAAC – The Michigan Parent, Advocate & Attorney Coalition powered by the Autism Alliance of Michigan is a newly formed statewide group focuses on student-centered advocacy. They meet regularly to identify priorities to address issues which exist across our special education system. MiPAAC aims to educate families of children with special education needs on specific topics relevant to their advocacy efforts.

For more information about MiPAAC, the link will be included in the minutes.

<http://www.mipaac.org>

Don't forget... when you are in need of resources –

Michigan Alliance for Families is a great resource for all things special Ed.

MTSA is a great resource for transition!

And of course, the Wayne RESA website has a ton of great info!

<https://www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org>

<https://www.michigantsa.org>

<https://www.resa.net/teaching-learning/special-education/parents-family-resources>

- III. **Vice Chairperson Report-** If you need packets or paperwork, please reach out to Jennifer Seal.

- IV. **Secretary Report-** If you need business cards either because you are new or just need new ones, please contact Samara Wolf. Even though we are not meeting in person please make sure you sign in at each meeting not just for minute purposes but also for yearend mileage reimbursement (only applies for in person meetings). If it is a virtual meeting, please make sure a member of the board knows you are there so you can be accounted for.

- V. **Treasurer Report -** The account balance is \$2,251.30.

VI. Subcommittee Reports – Kara will be in touch with the chairperson for each subcommittee soon.

VII. RESA Reports – Vita reported out. Development of modules, and resources for district training related to Results and Compliance Indicators of the Individual with Disability Education Act. The focus for 2021-2022 will be on maintaining and improving compliance and developing resources to improve outcomes county wide. The general supervision and accountability team will continue working with the districts. For further information please contact Vita Lusk.

VIII. Member Reports –

On October 6, 2021, Ilesha presented to her school board to familiarize them of district PAC roles and importance of the school districts providing WCPAC representative, and parents having access to their WCPAC representative at the IEP meeting. Parent just need to reach out to their special education director. Ilesha also requested business cards and brochures to be provided at each IEP.
Kara – Kara’s son, Noah, went to a special tailgate party for homecoming and then the homecoming dance. He had a great time!!!!!!!!!!!!!! And a big, huge thank you for your support Steve Michael from WRESA’s IT department for his support at meetings!!

IX. Adjournment

A motion was made by Samara Wolf and seconded by Ilesha Brassell to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 p.m. Motion passed by majority present. No objections were made.

The next WCPAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday November 11, 2021, at 6:30pm virtually (when in person at Wayne RESA in the Boyd’s Arthur’s Auditorium).