

KANSAS SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

*Dedicated to the Education of
"ALL"*



Annual Report **July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2004**

Student Support Services
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Secretary's Report

The overarching focus of Kansas special education is to improve outcomes for students and their families. Services for students who have special educational needs in Kansas are continuously improving because of the dedication and commitment of many exemplary teachers and administrators who are supported by concerned and invested parents who work in partnership with the schools. Another Kansas asset, often overlooked because of their work behind the scenes of Kansas education, is the Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC). The primary motivation for individuals to accept appointments to SEAC is the focus on quality improvement in the Kansas education system, particularly as it relates to students with special needs. The SEAC members voluntarily meet on a regular basis, study issues of significance, provide a representative advocacy function, and advise the Student Support Services team on matters of special education. This report summarizes the activity and accomplishments of SEAC for the 2003 – 2004 school year.

SEAC continues to function as an advisory panel to the Kansas State Board of Education. The State Board appoints members to SEAC. SEAC advises the State Board in five key areas as required by the implementing regulations of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and by Kansas Statutes. Those areas include:

- ✓ Advising the State Education Agency on unmet needs
- ✓ Commenting publicly on rules and regulations
- ✓ Advising the State Education Agency in developing evaluations and reporting on data
- ✓ Advising the State Education Agency in developing federal monitoring reports
- ✓ Advising the State Education Agency in developing and implementing policies related to coordination of services

SEAC has represented its constituencies well during the past year and has been productively engaged in fulfilling its legal commitments and mission on behalf of students. SEAC's 2003 – 2004 accomplishments are wide ranging. To summarize, SEAC has been involved in these activities of importance:

- ✓ Provide oversight of the implementation of IDEA and state regulations through review of the Continuous Improvement Monitoring (CIM) and focused monitoring, due process & formal complaint and educational advocates
- ✓ Review and comment on the Kansas Annual Performance Report (APR) submitted to OSEP
- ✓ Study and advise on issues identified in APR: Early Childhood least restrictive environment, positive behavioral support, secondary transition, vocational special needs, and student intervention teams
- ✓ Promote interagency work through discussions with Vocational Rehabilitation Services and agencies collaborating on the Foster Care database
- ✓ Study practices impacting disproportional representation in Special Education
- ✓ Study Effective Schools Advisory Council practices
- ✓ Review of funding alternatives for Kansas special education
- ✓ Study issues of state assessments as they relate to students with disabilities
- ✓ Review and comment on State Improvement Grant (SIG) projects
- ✓ Serve as a sounding board for the public and current and emerging public organizations
- ✓ Review the implementation of the redesign of teacher licensure
- ✓ Review and comment on the KSDE coordination of services
- ✓ Monitor and advise on reimbursement for categorical aid issues
- ✓ Monitor and advise on issues related to secondary transition and bringing Kansas into compliance in this area
- ✓ Review of state and federal special education funding, including categorical aid, IDEA funds and Medicaid
- ✓ Monitor and review state and federal legislative issues

SEAC serves a valuable role in representing the stakeholders of Kansas special education services. There is no question that because of SEAC's investment in the future, students with special needs will have a better chance of fulfilling their lifelong dreams. The State of Kansas is fortunate to have an active and involved SEAC.

ZoAnn Torrey,
Team Leader Student Support Services
Secretary of the Kansas Special Education Advisory Council (2003 – 2004)

Annual Report

Kansas Special Education Advisory Council

July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2004

Introduction

The Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) has met for six one or two-day meetings during the 2003 – 2004 school year. Their primary areas of emphasis during the past year were on the following:

- ✓ Provide oversight of the implementation of IDEA and state regulations through review of the Continuous Improvement Monitoring (CIM) and focused monitoring, due process & formal complaint and educational advocates
- ✓ Review and comment on the Kansas Annual Performance Report (APR) submitted to OSEP
- ✓ Study and advise on issues identified in APR: Early Childhood least restrictive environment, positive behavioral support, secondary transition, vocational special needs, and student intervention teams
- ✓ Promote interagency work through discussions with Vocational Rehabilitation Services and agencies collaborating on the Foster Care database
- ✓ Study practices impacting disproportional representation in Special Education
- ✓ Study Effective Schools Advisory Council practices
- ✓ Review of funding alternatives for Kansas special education
- ✓ Study issues of state assessments as they relate to students with disabilities
- ✓ Review and comment on State Improvement Grant (SIG) projects
- ✓ Serve as a sounding board for the public and current and emerging public organizations
- ✓ Review the implementation of the redesign of teacher licensure
- ✓ Review and comment on the KSDE coordination of services
- ✓ Monitor and advise on reimbursement for categorical aid issues
- ✓ Monitor and advise on issues related to secondary transition and bringing Kansas into compliance in this area
- ✓ Review of state and federal special education funding, including categorical aid, IDEA funds and Medicaid
- ✓ Monitor and review state and federal legislative issues

In addition, a major change was initiated with regard to the format for SEAC's action plan, which is now updated monthly and is written to guide SEAC for a two-year period. The priority areas for 2004 – 2005 will remain the same as they were for 2003 – 2004. Those areas are as follows:

- ✓ Priority Area 1: Advising the State Education Agency on unmet needs
- ✓ Priority Area 2: Comment publicly on any rules or regulations
- ✓ Priority Area 3: Advise the State Education Agency in developing evaluations and reporting on data
- ✓ Priority Area 4: Advise the State Education Agency in developing federal monitoring reports
- ✓ Priority Area 5: Advise the State Education Agency in developing and implementing policies related to coordination of services.

For each priority area, key areas of activity are also identified and can be reviewed in the Appendix A (2003-04 SEAC Action Plan).

Kansas Special Education Advisory Council

The SEAC is composed of individuals in, or concerned with, the education of children with exceptionalities. The council performs such duties as specified by law, statute or regulation and as outlined in the Kansas SEAC manual. The major responsibilities of the council are to advise, consult and provide recommendations to the Kansas State Board of Education

regarding matters concerning special education services. Much of the work is directed through the Student Support Services team.

The primary role of the council is as an advocate for achieving excellence, equity and lifelong learning opportunities for all students in Kansas. As such, it is committed to representing individuals with diverse and changing educational needs. The role of advocate presupposes a sensitivity and responsiveness to these needs. This responsibility leads the SEAC to support the vision and mission of KSBE and the Learning Services Division - Student Support Services:

Vision

Schools will work with families and communities to prepare students for success.

Mission

The mission of the Kansas State Department of Education Division of Learning Services is to work collaboratively to provide leadership for continuous improvement of educational systems to insure and enhance learning for all students in Kansas.

SEAC Goal

The Kansas Special Education Advisory Council will advocate for an educational system that achieves excellence, equity, and lifelong learning for all students in Kansas.

SEAC Beliefs

The Kansas Special Education Advisory Council is committed to life long learning. SEAC believes that:

- Partnerships increase collaboration for better services.
- Visionary leadership is essential for appropriate services to meet the needs of all students.
- Innovation is essential to the process of life long learning.
- All child service systems must be provided in an integrated and collaborative manner.
- Education is an evolving process that requires innovation, continuous growth, and evaluation.
- The needs of individuals in a diverse community must be met.

Council Membership

The SEAC is composed of seventeen individuals concerned with the education of children with exceptionalities and the state director of Student Support Services. A majority of the members (10) of the council are individuals with disabilities or parents of children with disabilities. The 2003-2004 membership include:

State Advisory Council for Special Education
2003-2004

Council Member	Address	Telephone	Representation	Board Region	Appointment Expires
Shirley Armentrout <i>Co-chair</i>	Most Pure Heart School 6934 SW 33 rd St. Topeka KS 66614 shirarm@mphm.com	785-478-4090	Private Schools *	4	June 2004
Doug Bowman	Kansas Interagency Coordinating Council 1000 SW Jackson Suite 220 Topeka, KS 66612 dbowman@kdhe.state.ks.us	785-296-1294	Parent of a Child -with Giftedness	4	June 2005
Matthew Cook	1460 N. Clarence Apt 202 Wichita, KS 67203 matthewcook@sbcglobal.net	316-945-0323	Individual with Disability *	7	June 2006
Bob Goodwin	USD 259 Wichita 201 N. Water Wichita KS 67202 BGoodwin@usd259.net	316-973-4470	State Agency/ Service Delivery	8	June 2004
Ken Hund	Kansas Dept. of Corrections Lansing Correctional Facility Box 2, Mailbox 13 Lansing, KS 66043 kenh@kdoc.dc.state.ks.us	913-727-3235 ext. 7719	Adult Corrections	1	June 2005
Robert Maile, Ph.D.	KS School for the Deaf 450 E. Park Olathe KS 66061 rmaile@ksd.state.ks.us	913-791-0573	State Official	3	June 2004
Barb McGrath	North Beloit High School Beloit Juvenile Corr. Facility 1720 N. Hersey Beloit, KS 67420 bmcgrath.nbhs@ncktc.tec.ks.us	785-738-5735	Juvenile Justice *	5	June 2005
Bert Moore	USD 286 Chautauqua & Elk Cty P O Box 607 Howard KS 67349 bmoore@terraworld.net	620-374-2113	Administrator of Exceptional Programs	9	June 2005

* **These representatives fulfill the majority requirement; persons who are both individuals with a disability or parents of children with a disability and who may represent another required area.**

Council Member	Address	Telephone	Representation	Board Region	Appointment Expires
VACANT			Related Services *	(6)	June 2004
Patricia Schremmer	3560 SW Oak Parkway Topeka, KS 66614 pschremmer@cox.net	785-273-9840	Parent of Child with Disability *	4	June 2005
Tom Skrtic, Ph.D.	Dept. of Special Education 521 J.R. Pearson Hall University of Kansas Lawrence, KS 66045 tms@ku.edu	785-864-0542	IHE Special Education	4	June 2006
Sue Stacey	McPherson Co. SPED Coop. 514 N. Main McPherson, KS 67460 sue.stacey@mcpherson.com	620-241-9420 ext. 122	Vocational/Commerce or Business concerned with Transition *	7	June 2004
Janice Suddath	10611 W. 56 th St Shawnee, KS 66203 jsudda01@earthlink.net	913-262-3562	Parent of Child with Disability *	2	June 2006
Danny Thornton <i>Chair</i>	NWKESC 703 W. 2 nd Oakley, KS 67748 nkescga0@st-tel.net	785-672-3125	LEA Official *	5	June 2006
Josie Torrez	517 "B" SW 37th St. Topeka KS 66611 jtorrez@kacil.org	785-342-9241	Parent of a Child with Disability *	4	June 2004
Karen Untereker,	716 W. Euclid Pittsburg, KS 66762 untereker@cox.net	620-231-2577	Teacher *	9	June 2006
Jim Wheeler, Ph.D.	NEKESC PO Box 320 Lecompton, KS 66050 jwheeler@nekesc.org	785-887-6711	Charter Schools	1	June 2005

* **These representatives fulfill the majority requirement; persons who are both individuals with a disability or parents of children with a disability and who may represent another required area.**

Council Leadership

The officers for the 2003-2004 school year were: Chair, Danny Thornton (Oakley, KS); Vice-Chair, Shirley Armentrout (Topeka, KS). They were unanimously elected to fulfill the obligations of these positions at the April 2003 council meeting.

The 2003-2004 Executive Committee was comprised of: Dan Thornton, Chair; Shirley Armentrout, Vice-Chair; ZoAnn Torrey, Secretary; and two appointed members, one of whom must be a parent of a child with a disability or a person with a disability. These two members were Josie Torrez and Doug Bowman . The executive committee met one time prior to each SEAC meeting to establish the SEAC agenda, provided a report to the membership at each meeting, and represented the council at CEC.

Operational Standards

The SEAC's 2003-2004 meeting schedule was as follows:

Meeting Date	Location
July 23 '03	Wichita KS
September 8 '03	KSDE, Topeka KS
November 18 '03	KSDE, Topeka KS
January 13-14 '04	KSDE, Topeka KS
February 10 '04	KSDE, Topeka KS
April 13 '04	KSDE, Topeka KS

The Council must conduct a minimum of four (4) regular, one-day meetings. The 2003-2004 year exceeded this standard by holding six meetings, one of which was a two-day meeting. No other special work sessions or public input sessions were held.

Official minutes of the meetings were kept, reviewed at each following meeting for accuracy, and posted on the KSDE Student Support Services website at www.kansped.org .

A public comment period was offered at each SEAC meeting. There was one occasion that this portion of the meeting was filled this year

Council Accomplishments

Appendix A provides a summary of the activities completed for the 2003-2004 school year by Priority and Action Area.

Appendix A
2003-2004 SEAC Action Plan

**Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC)
Action Plan
2003-2004**

The purpose of the SEAC is to advocate for achieving excellence, equity, and lifelong learning opportunities for all students in Kansas. It is the responsibility of SEAC to:

- Advise the Special Education Administrators (SEA) of unmet needs within the state in the education of children with exceptionalities;
- Comment publicly on any rules and regulations proposed by the state regarding the education of children with disabilities;
- Advise the SEA in developing evaluations and reporting on data to the secretary under Section 618 of the Act;
- Advise the SEA in developing corrective action plans to address findings identified in Federal Monitoring reports under Part B of the Act; and
- Advise the SEA in developing and implementing policies relating to the coordination of services for children with exceptionalities.

To meet these responsibilities, the Kansas SEAC outlines the following action plan.

1. Area of Focus: Advising the SEA of unmet needs

Priority Areas	Action Completed	Date	Result
1.1.1 Increase awareness and understanding regarding the issues on funding of special education, and the formulas used.	Members provided update on changes to KSDE's Guide to Reimbursement for Categorical Aid.	7/23/03	Future updates will be provided as changes occur.
	Members provided update on the Special Education Transportation Expenditures Report that details costs to districts.	9/9/03	
	Members provided update on Governor's proposed funding formula, and comparative transportation costs for Special Education.	11/18/03	Future updates will be provided to members.
	Members were updated on the Governor's funding formula for Special Education, indicating a proposed census-based weighted formula.	11/18/03	Future updates will be provided to members.

Priority Areas	Action Completed	Date	Result
	<p>The Governor's special education funding proposal was discussed briefly.</p> <p>Members were updated on the Governor's special education funding proposal, and the federal legislation for reauthorizing IDEA.</p> <p>Mike Murphy, KSDE's Director of Fiscal Auditing, provided information on common audit exceptions to Special Education Categorical Aid audits.</p> <p>Legislative issues were discussed briefly since there has been no action on school funding.</p>	<p>1/13/04</p> <p>2/10/04</p> <p>4/13/04</p> <p>4/13/04</p>	<p>Future updates will be provided to members.</p> <p>Future updates will be provided to members.</p> <p>Future updates will be provided.</p> <p>Future updates will be provided.</p>
<p>1.1.2 Increase awareness & understanding of provision of services through public comment</p>	<p>A letter was shared with members from Boyd Koehn, Kansas State Transition Council, requesting to work with SEAC as secondary transitions are discussed</p> <p>Members were updated on the Governor's Education Policy Team's regional public forums scheduled across the state.</p>	<p>7/23/03</p> <p>9/9/03</p>	<p>KS State Transition Council will receive agenda prior to every meeting, inviting their participation.</p>
<p>1.1.3 Develop recommendations and suggested solutions for unmet needs.</p>			

2. Area of Focus: Comment publicly on any rules or regulations

Priority Areas	Action Completed	Date	Result
<p>2.1.1 Assist in the implementation of the IDEA and state special</p>	<p>Members discussed current bills being worked at the US House & Senate for possible reauthorization of IDEA</p>	<p>7/23/03</p>	<p>Ongoing updates will be provided</p>

Priority Areas	Action Completed	Date	Result
education regulations.	Zo reported that the State Improvement Plan that was submitted to OSEP and is being tracked through the process.	9/9/03	
2.1.2 Increase awareness and visibility of SEAC.	<p>Member Shirley Armentrout shared her experiences while attending the Annual OSEP Conference in Baltimore.</p> <p>Members were advised that ZoAnn Torrey was honored with a distinguished service award at the recent Kansas Disability Caucus meeting.</p> <p>Members were updated on Josie Torrez' involvement with a series of statewide IDEA Reauthorization forums for parents and other interested persons.</p> <p>Members were updated on Josie Torrez' work with the Big Tent Coalition.</p> <p>State board members were welcomed and visited with SEAC members on current concerns and issues pertaining to special education.</p> <p>John Copenhaver from MPRRC provided an overview & resource guides designed to assist members with the implementation of effective and efficient participation while serving on the SEAC.</p> <p>Member Janice Suddath reported on her</p>	<p>7/23/03</p> <p>9/9/03</p> <p>11/18/03</p> <p>1/14/04</p> <p>1/14/04</p> <p>4/13/04</p> <p>4/13/04</p>	<p>Members will update the State Board periodically.</p> <p>MPRRC will provide on-going support</p> <p>Future updates will be provided.</p>

Priority Areas	Action Completed	Date	Result
	participation in training sponsored by Keys for Networking		
2.1.3 Utilize previous SEAC members as consultants to subcommittee projects.			
2.2.1 Assist in the advocacy for children receiving services in the least restrictive environment.	Dawn Miller provided an overview of the accomplishments of the SIT training project since it's inception in 1997, having now trained 500 unduplicated team in schools across Kansas. Members discussed paraeducator inservice components, assessments available and effective practices.	4/13/04 7/23/03 9/9/03 11/18/03	Future updates will be provided.
2.3.1 Improve the quality of IEPs so that they are specific and clear.	Alexa Pochowski, Becky Gassman, and Ruth Santner lead discussion on the collaborative effort designed to electronically provide a student's Education Enrollment Identification Form (EEIF) & IEP data to schools prior to or at the time of enrollment of a youth in SRS or JJA custody.	11/18/03	

3. Area of Focus: Advise the SEA in developing evaluations and reporting on data

Priority Areas	Action Completed	Date	Result
3.1.1 Maintain oversight of the State Improvement Plan and monitor its yearly activities and evaluation results.	Dave Lindeman, KSTARS project, provided an update on the SIG goal #5 – Personnel Supply & Demand Activities.	7/23/03	Future updates will be provided

Priority Areas	Action Completed	Date	Result
	<p>Darla Nelson-Metzger presented an overview of the Education Advocate project that is managed by Families Together.</p> <p>Marnie Campbell provided update on early childhood placement of preschool children statewide.</p> <p>Linda Geier provided an overview of efforts to weave Positive Behavior Supports (PBS) efforts into school systems across the state.</p>	<p>9/9/03</p> <p>4/13/04</p> <p>4/13/04</p>	<p>Future updates will be provided</p> <p>Future updates will be provided</p> <p>Members agreed to develop a formal endorsement for the state initiative on PBS with a position statement to be drafted by members Janice, Matt, Shirley, and consultant Linda Geier.</p>
<p>3.1.2 Assist in the dissemination of information in the area of transition to help ensure Kansas can demonstrate compliance with IDEA and regulations.</p>	<p>Wenda Blaauw updated council members on the work being done to address transition issues sited in the KS Self-Assessment document sent to OSEP/USDOE</p> <p>Wenda Blaauw provided update on work by Transitions workgroup to create document to assist district with long-range transition planning for SpEd students age 16-21.</p> <p>Wenda Blaauw distributed draft documents that are being considered for packets to educators associated with the transition IEP process.</p> <p>Wenda Blaauw led discussion on the latest draft to educators associated with the transition IEP process.</p>	<p>9/9/03</p> <p>11/18/03</p> <p>1/13/04</p> <p>2/10/04</p>	<p>Regular updates will be provided</p> <p>Regular updates will be provided</p> <p>Regular updates will be provided to members.</p> <p>Regular updates will be provided to members.</p>

Priority Areas	Action Completed	Date	Result
<p>3.2.1 Analyze the effect the adopted licensure design has on the quality of special education services.</p>	<p>Members received a guidance document addressing changes to special education paraprofessional staff development requirements.</p> <p>Members were updated on additional para assessments that were recently approved for para-educator endorsements.</p> <p>Members were provided an overview and draft document describing requirements for vocational special needs certificates for special education professionals.</p> <p>Kerry Ottlinger reported that the Early Childhood Higher Ed. Consortium group has identified common coursework for teachers seeking a unified licensure of birth – 8 years.</p> <p>Martha Gage provided an overview of the stages of teacher licensing, and the new teacher staff development system in Kansas.</p>	<p>11/18/03</p> <p>9/9/03</p> <p>11/18/03</p> <p>2/10/04</p> <p>4/13/04</p>	<p>Future updates will be provided</p> <p>Future updates will be provided</p> <p>Future updates will be provided</p> <p>Future updates will be provided to members.</p>
<p>3.3.1 Analyze the data on the educational progress of students with exceptionalities and make recommendations to enhance their educational program and services.</p>	<p>Information was shared with members on strategies to improve disproportionality of racial/ethnic representation in Special Education.</p> <p>AYP data for schools with sub-group students with disabilities was shared with members</p>	<p>11/18/03</p> <p>11/18/03</p>	<p>Future updates will be provided to members.</p>

Priority Areas	Action Completed	Date	Result
	<p>Received & discussed information from Lynnett Wright detailing the results of the KS 2003 Assessments for students with disabilities.</p> <p>Kerry Ottlinger provided information announcing a federal grant awarded to the KU Life Span Institute designed to promote communication outcomes for children with vision and hearing loss.</p> <p>Members critiqued the draft application to be submitted by KSDE for the next 3 year cycle of the State Improvement Grant.</p>	<p>2/10/04</p> <p>2/10/04</p> <p>2/10/04</p>	<p>Future updates will be provided to members.</p> <p>Future updates will be provided to members.</p>
<p>3.4.1 Evaluate the conditions of special education teachers in Kansas.</p>	<p>Members received information on the Paul McNab study on vacancies & waivers entitled <i>Attrition of Special Education Personnel in Kansas for the School years 02-03 to 03-04</i></p>	<p>4/13/04</p>	
<p>3.4.2 Improve retention & success of new teachers by advocating internships and mentorships.</p>			
<p>3.5.1 Improve supply & diversity of Special Education personnel available to all geographic areas.</p>	<p>Member Tom Skrtic and Jeannie Kleinhammer-Tramill provided background information about the Leadership Preparation Grant that KU has received from USDOE.</p>	<p>7/23/03</p>	<p>Future updates will be provided</p>

Priority Areas	Action Completed	Date	Result
<p>3.5.2 Improve systems for tracking personnel supply & demand based on compatible data sources.</p>	<p>Members were updated on additional funds received for the General Supervision Enhancement grant from the USDOE, to redesign the MIS and personnel reporting systems.</p>	<p>9/9/03</p>	<p>Future updates will be provided</p>
	<p>Members were provided an overview & draft document describing requirements for Vocational-Technical Special Needs Certificate.</p>	<p>11/18/03</p>	<p>Final document/form will be provided members when available.</p>
	<p>ZoAnn Torrey led discussion and members provided input regarding the need for regulations concerning qualifications and professional development credit hours of Vocational Special Needs instructors.</p>	<p>4/13/04</p>	
	<p>Tom Skrtic updated members on KU's grant to train building administrators & principals which will result in 30 superintendents & principals being trained as Special Education directors. Members discussed the need for universities to continue to develop supports for teachers and administrators to receive Special Education Administrator endorsements in order to get thru the transition period.</p>	<p>4/13/04</p>	<p>Members discussed the need for universities to continue to develop supports for teachers and administrators to receive Special Education Administrator endorsements in order to get thru the transition period</p>

4. Area of Focus: Advise the SEA in developing federal monitoring reports

Priority Areas	Action Completed	Date	Result

Priority Areas	Action Completed	Date	Result
4.1.1 Increase and enhance the participation of students with disabilities in state and local assessments.	Members were informed that Modified Writing Standards are being developed.	9/9/03	Future updates will be provided.
4.2.1 Maintain oversight of the implementation of IDEA and its concomitant state laws and regulations.	Ed Stewart, NEKESC, provided an overview of the Continuous Improvement Monitoring (CIM) review process and data collected from the past year's reviews.	9/9/03	Members will be provided updates
	Mark Ward summarized the outcomes of all formal complaints and due process hearing for the past six months.	1/13/04	Members will be provided updates
	Via e-mail, members were provided a draft for review of sections from the Annual Performance Report that KSDE will submit to OSEP on March 31, 04.	2/10/04	Members will be provided updates.
	Members discussed issues of concern in the IDEA bills.	4/13/04	A committee subgroup plans to draft a letter to the State Board about IDEA reauthorization.

5. Area of Focus: Advise the SEA in developing and implementing policies related to coordination of services

Priority Areas	Action Completed	Date	Result
5.1.1 Enhance school-family-community partnerships by encouraging and developing coordinated programs and/or services.			
5.2.1 Promote and enhance the blending of services	ZoAnn Torrey provided update about the planning processes occurring around	2/10/04	Future updates will be provided members.

Priority Areas	Action Completed	Date	Result
<p>between special and general education, including federal, state, and local programs (Title I, Special Ed.)</p>	<p>reorganization of KSDE's Learning Services Division.</p> <p>Members updated on Kansas districts' participation in a National Assistive Technology Study.</p>		
<p>5.3.1 Review & acknowledge blended programs including mental health issues.</p>	<p>Brenda Kuder, SRS School-based Medicaid Services, provided information on distribution of Medicaid federal reimbursement funds to schools with Special Education students. Reimbursement funds are disbursed at a bundled rate based upon a Special Education student's family income.</p>	<p>4/13/04</p>	<p>Future updates will be provided.</p>
<p>5.4.1 Promote and enhance interagency coordination to improve service delivery to children & youth.</p>	<p>Member Josie Torrez provided background information on a coalition to advocate to legislature for services to vulnerable populations (poor, disabled, elderly, sick).</p> <p>Stacie Martin provided info. on the function of transition services provided to Kansans w/disabilities to meet their goals to work independently in their community.</p>	<p>11/18/03</p> <p>1/13/04</p>	<p>Members will be provided updates</p> <p>Members will be provided updates</p>
<p>5.4.2 Promote interagency cooperation in meeting the needs of students in the foster care system.</p>	<p>Members provided overview of Foster Care database by Alexa Pochowski, Becky Gassman and Ruth Santner</p> <p>Tim Berens presented an historical overview and interactive demonstration of the Foster Care database that included how the EEIP works into that database.</p>	<p>11/18/03</p> <p>1/13/04</p>	<p>Members will promote the project by word-of-mouth.</p> <p>Future updates on usage will be provided.</p>

