

**LEGISLATIVE SUBCOMMITTEE  
SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 2021 – 2:00 P.M. TO 3:30 P.M.

*Public Meeting at:*

Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85889223005?pwd=dWNYSlpZeVlyL0NtTFYzcmxanRIZz09>

Meeting ID: 858 8922 3005

Passcode: 2021

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1. INTRODUCTION. The regular meeting of the Legislative Subcommittee of the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) was called to order and roll call was taken.

Present: Mariana Delgiudice, MaryAnn Demchak, Penni Echols, Danielle Fredenburg, Jodee Prudente, Karen Taycher, and Aliceandrea Untalan

Absent:

Staff: Will Jensen and Jessica Boles

Public: No Public

2. PUBLIC COMMENT #1

No public comments at this time.

3. 2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION UPDATE

The director of the Office of Inclusive Education at the Nevada Department of Education provided information of special education bills being brought forward at the Legislative Session. Discussion ensued:

- What we are going to do today with this meeting, is to get an update and go back to the bigger SEAC and update them on the bills. We can give information to the Superintendent.
- SEAC officially support or not support anything. Penni created a support letter to give to the Supt. Can do the same thing for other bills.
- AB67-Is a department level bill and we covered in the last SEAC meeting. Put forward by the department was an attempt to clean up the language misunderstandings of AB168, passed in 2019.

- Good job in just putting forward language clean up. Other folks want other things in the bill. The department is playing its role as a neutral party.
  - Put forward 1 amendment, not all clean ups got translated over to the bill.
  - Wanted to make it clear when the board of trustees have to be present for a decision. A quorum needed for a matter. What was put forward was what we believe the legislative intent was. That designees of the board of trustees can decide some things about discipline as long as they are under the umbrella of board policy.
  - Believe that it will pass and pass along with amendments put forward.
  - Concerns about changing the rules around hearings and public access. Covers things other than hearings that are related to disciplinary events where the board has to be involved.
  - Suspension is a disciplinary removal from school for less than 6 months. Anything over 6 months would be expulsion or permanent expulsion, you have to seek educational services are required by law. The bill just addresses suspension.
  - If we want an official chain of events, we can have an official motion from SEAC to direct the department to address guidance once we see it go through.
- SB210- Mirror's requirements previously put forward under SB485, in the hospital reimbursement bill.
    - SB485 has the department taking the educational funding from individual school districts and giving it to the facility providing services to the child.
    - SB210 calls out students with disabilities specifically. Asks to have a plan and of continuing education, forces school districts and agencies to collaborate.
    - Give us more planning for these kids who are in trauma.
  - SB27- This bill calls for the licensing of paraprofessionals.
    - Concerns with 2 parts, a new requirement and one that is in law.
    - Districts have brought concerns about not having anyone working, negotiations have been taking place.
    - If the prevision passes, it could be passed as keeping track of everyone who works in the school system in the state of Nevada. May end up be clerical in nature.
    - SPED and Gifted Teachers combined licenses. Some potential issues with that, in terms of equity. Differentiation necessary to give both groups a meaningful education are starkly different. Districts will be taking that cause up.
    - This bill has gone through the first house passage and on its way to Assembly.

- Department did amend with accordance to the school districts recommendations.
- AB109- Bill that effects charter schools and licensure. To not have barriers on licensure so a lot of professionals can come and give input.
  - Equity issues, especially with students with disabilities.
  - 30% of teaching staff at charter schools don't have to be licensed.
  - This bill crosses out almost everything. All teachers who provide instruction at a charter school must be licensed to teach.
  - All teachers would need to have a license in the areas.
  - Students will receive full benefit from our licensing structure.
  - No opposition from charter schools, but a worry that we could lose teachers during this shortage.
- SB169- This is the bill that makes trauma becomes an eligibility category for special education.
  - Developmental trauma means adaptive response to one or more distressing events experienced in childhood: childhood abuse, neglect, homelessness, poverty, sexual abuse, racism or violence in the community.
  - In terms of helping with minority disproportionality of identification, this isn't helping.
  - Fiscal notes for this bill are gigantic, almost everyone would qualify. Districts are reacting to this bill and are in negotiations.
  - Trying to solve issues with resources with policy. Solving the trauma issues doesn't help our students. It depletes the money.
- AB194- revises provisions governing of suspension and expulsion of a pupil. It allows students to appeal any disciplinary measures that involve removal, suspensions, expulsions, and permanent expulsions.
  - A quorum of the board of trustees has to meet in order to give a hearing within 3 days. It would be an impossible task.
  - Address the language on the designee.
  - Must offer an appeal to the student who was suspended.
  - Not an appeal process for suspension in place, as of yet.
  - No specific concerns around Special Education, coming off of our watch list.

#### 4. PUBLIC COMMENT #2

No public comments at this time.

#### 5. ADJOURNMENT

The next regular Legislative Subcommittee meeting is March 30, 2021 on Zoom Platform.