



State Advisory Panel

For Special Education

Twin Towers East • Suite 1870 Atlanta, GA 30334

Pamela Hunter-Dempsey, Chair
pamhd1@hotmail.com

Kimberleigh Beard, Vice Chair
bkimberleigh@gmail.com

State Advisory Panel Meeting Minutes February 9-10, 2017 Georgia Southern University, Statesboro Georgia

February 9, 2017 Georgia Southern RAC - Room 2204

Time		Final Decision(s)
9:30 am – 10:00 am	Welcome/Opening Pam Hunter, Chair Kimberleigh Baird, Vice Chair	Pam Hunter Dempsey, Chair and Kimberleigh Baird, Vice Chair opened the meeting and welcomed members. <u>The following members were present:</u> Jeff Allen Christina Brown Joya Carter Hicks Steve Derr Gloria Glass Juliet Hardeman Susan Moody Ganesh Mayak Michelle Olympiads Julia Rusert Aarti Sharma Stephanie Alexander Pam Hunter Dempsey Rita Barnes Beth Burns Kristi Cox Alicia Gant Erica Glenn Jacqueline Little Annette Murphy Colleen O’Toole Amy Peterson Patricia Sayeh Laura Shyman Kimberleigh Beard
10:00 am – 11:30 am	Georgia Southern University Presentation	Overview of the Special Education Program at Georgia Southern
11:30 am – 12:00 pm	Debrief/Next Steps	
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	LUNCH (PROVIDED)	
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm	Effective Transition Planning/Collaboration with GVRA (Wina Low, GaDOE Transition Specialist)	State Systemic Improvement Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State identified three main barriers to student success that ultimately impact school completion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to the General Curriculum • Access to Positive School Climate • Access to Specially Designed Instruction • Our goal is to increase the graduation rate for students with disabilities. • All students should have the opportunity to earn a regular diploma. • The dropout rate must decrease.

Time		Final Decision(s)
		<p>Transition Best Practices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective partnership within the Georgia Department of Education and across agencies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key partner: Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA) • Increased knowledge and understanding of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Career Clusters and Pathways • Move on When Ready <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Georgia’s Dual Enrollment Program • Strategies to integrate the increased knowledge of MOWR and Career Pathways to impact every IEP meeting • Building capacity to meet Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) requirements <p>Priorities for 2016-2017:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meaningful annual goals in transition plans to lead to intentional, incremental steps to reach the student’s post-secondary goal • Transition plans should not be developed in isolation but as a part of the IEP meeting • Increase student and parental involvement in the planning and meeting process • Assistive technology must be considered and integrated to support students
2:00 pm – 3:30 pm	GaDOE Updates Zelphine Smith-Dixon, State Director	Shared Student Success Updates and solicited feedback from Panel members about needed changes.
3:30 pm – 4:00 pm	BREAK/CHECK-IN	
4:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Learning Journey Deborah Pérez-López, M.S., LPC Director, Student Disability Resource Center Georgia Southern University	The Panel received a presentation about Georgia Southern University’s Disability Resource Center.
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Public Comment(s)	During Public Comments, the SAP addressed 14 public comments that primarily addressed concerns and/or comments specific to Least Restrictive Environment, Dyslexia, mental health, and lack of personnel that impacts implementation of the IEP, family engagement/communication, and transition/school completion.

February 10, 2017 – Holiday Inn Statesboro – Magnolia Room

Time	Final Decision(s)	
7:30 am – 8:30 am	BREAKFAST (PROVIDED)	
8:30 am – 9:30 am	Committee Meetings	<p>Committees reported to the SAP on current activities and recommendations</p> <p><u>Dispute Resolution:</u> The committee reviewed available information.</p> <p><u>Operating Procedures:</u> Discussed the procedures of concerning attendance at SAP meetings.</p> <p><u>Public Comment:</u> Recognized the trend of increased number of public comments. How can we increase the number of families who take advantage of public comments?</p> <p><u>Family Engagement:</u></p> <p><u>Membership:</u> Application for membership will be posted in both English and Spanish. Deadline for submission, April 1, 2017.</p>
9:30 am – 10:15 am	Committee Reports	
10:15 – 10:30	BREAK	
10:30– 11:30 am	Wrap Up	<p>Pam Hunter, Chair Kimberleigh Beard, Co-Chair</p>

Please note that the times listed above are approximate and may change except the public comment period. Every effort is made to begin the public comment at the appointed time. Pursuant to Panel Policies and Procedures, a full 30 minutes is always allowed even if the start has been delayed. Comment time is limited 5 minutes per speaker so that all have a chance to be heard. For individuals desiring to make comment via telephone conference call, comment time needs to be scheduled with the SAP Chair a minimum of 3 business days prior to the meeting.

Complete	To Do