

**Continuing Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting Minutes  
April 20, 2022- Hybrid Meeting  
9:05 AM - 11:57 AM**

**CAC Attendees:** Agatha Thibodeaux, Jen Stratton, Laura Villareal, Amy Litzinger, Susan Nichols, Teresa Bronsky, JoAnn Wofford, Shemica S. Allen, April Estrada, Barbie Ezell, Aaron Bangor, Diana Nelson

**CAC Absentees:** Jana McKelvey, Rachel Dreiling, RayTijerina

**Texas Education Commissioner, Rosemary L. Kreitzberg, Executive Director, Texas Education Agency (TEA)**     **IS EIJ0 Tc 0 ncy: M8 0 Td(JCD 7121917885 -1153(I)TJ1**

- Texas Commission of Special Education Funding - Planning is taking place and updates will be provided as progress is made.
  - <https://tea.texas.gov/finance-and-grants/state-funding/additional-finance-resources/texas-commission-on-special-education-funding#:~:text=House%20Bill%201525%2C%2087th%20Texas,related%20to%20special%20education%20funding>
- Keith Swink introduced Stephanie Koch as taking over for him as our committee liaison.

**9:50 Discuss Possible Topics for the CAC's Next Legislative Report**

**Subcommittees**

- Funding (Jo Ann, Amy, Diana, Barbie)
  - Checks & Balance
  - Instructional Arrangement
    - Funding should not depend on setting
    - More funding goes to LRE (least restrictive environment)
    - Staff resources instead of placement
  - Staff Shortages
- Staff Qualifications (Shemica, Teresa, Agatha, April, Susan)
  - Continued Training for Para professionals/Aides
    - State Level

- Level of Education on entry
- Expectation/job descriptions
- Staffing Digital literacy and accessibility (Aaron, Amy)
  - Connectivity in rural areas
  - Procurement
  - Accessibility
  - Staff training
  - Staff literacy of digital media
  - Assistive technology development and troubleshooting
- Transition Planning (Amy, Aaron, Jen)
  - Long and Short Term
  - Virtual Options
  - Lack of opportunities (traditional entry level jobs)
  - Work Programs during/post pandemic
  - More robust health and safety standards
- Mental Health & Behavior Health/Wellness of Staff and Students (Agatha, Barbie, Jen)
  - Restraint and Seclusion
  - Cameras in the Classroom
  - Staff and student well-being post pandemic

**11:47 Discuss Possible Future Meeting Dates and Take Possible Action on Current and Future Topics**

- Request for information from Educator Support on continued training for Instructional aides.
- Request for Information on Transition Funding for on-the-job training.
- Update from Justin Porter on OSEP.
- Request for update on the digital Curriculum Advisory Committee.
- Continued work on legislative report

**11:55 Approve Minutes**

Minutes were approved. Jen Stratton moved to approve the minutes. Barbie Ezell seconded the motion.

**11:57 Motion to Adjourn**

Jen Stratton made a motion to adjourn. Shemica Allen seconded motion. Meeting adjourned at 11:57.