Continuing Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting Minutes September 28, 2020-Zoom Meeting

CAC Attendees: Agatha Thibodeaux, She

Page 37-38: Code 3 3.2.1.3 Code 2 Eligible for Half-Day Attendance Code 2 indicates that a student is eligible to generate half-day attendance. Code 2 applies to all students entitled to enroll under the TEC, §25.001, who are scheduled for and provided instruction at least two hours but fewer than four hours each school day for the purposes of ADA. These students include prekindergarten (pre-K) students who meet the eligibility requirements in Section 7 Prekindergarten (Pre-K) (see 7.5 Eligible Days Present and ADA Eligibility). Additionally, districts providing a full-day pre-K program to eligible four year olds would need to provide 75,600 operational minutes unless they have received a waiver from the agency.

 New Note: Districts that offer 18+ Transition programs for students who receive special education services can count a cumulative total of not less than 10 and up to 20 hours within a school week as eligible for half-day attendance.

The CAC was in agreement to add these recommendations to the Legislative Report.

Vocational credits for students who receive special education:

The CAC recognizes that while many students who need special education will be able to access the general CTE program, there are a significant number of students who will not be able to participate in general education CTE programs to the same, or any, extent.

Currently, alternative classes for students unable to fully or partially participate in general education CTE classes are considered "innovative courses" and must be applied for and approved by the TEA. This is not a stable system, and the credits do not have "state credit" status, that is, these credits are local credits only.

The CAC recommends consideration of creating a "Subchapter R" under the Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 130. All of the relevant innovative vocational or transition classes would be included within this subchapter. A draft of the proposed Subchapter R is attached. Draft of Subchapter R is available upon request.

The CAC was in agreement to add these recommendations to the Legislative Report.

10:41 Break

10:50 Public Comments-Agatha Thibodeaux

Steven Aleman, Disability Rights Texas-The Special Education Allotment Advisory Committee has completed their final report to the upcoming Legislative session. The report is on the TEA website. The report recommended changes to special education funding.

Teacher Certification & Paraprofessionals Qualifications/Training-

Legislative Report. All recommendations for the Legislative Report will be discussed in further detail in future meetings. There are currently nine recommendations for the rough draft of the report....two new recommendations and seven recommendations from the January 2019 report.

11:20 Discussion, recommendations, and possible action on current minutes and future meeting topics-Agatha Thibodeaux

Discussion was held on adding a meeting in October to further work on the Legislative Report. The next meeting will be October 19, 2020 from 9:00-12:00. A subcommittee was formed to work on the rough draft of the Legislative Report. Minutes were reviewed.

11:54 Motion to Adjourn

Teresa Bronsky made a motion to adjourn. Alicia Giordano seconded motion. Meeting adjourned at 11:55.