

**State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC)
EARLY ON® MICHIGAN (PART C OF IDEA)**

Friday, June 15, 2007

Michigan Department of Education
State Board of Education Room

Minutes

Members Present: Keith Alexander, Sheri Falvay, Mark Larson, Mac Miller,
Joan Moiles, Johanna Ostwald, Mark Reigle

Alternates Present: Lindy Buch, Mary Scoblic, Pattie Walter

Staff Present: Reneé DeMars-Johnson, Lori Goike, Mischele McManus,
Rose Marie McNeil, Nancy Peeler, Dawn Ritter, Barb Schinderle,
Jessica Wolf

Grantees Present: Citizens Alliance to Uphold Special Education (CAUSE):
Roger Phillips and Mary Suurmeyer
Early On Training and Technical Assistance:
Christy Callahan and Victoria Meeder
Michigan Alliance for Family Involvement
Sherri Boyd, Sandee Koski, Ellen Sugrue-Hyman
Wayne State University (Evaluation Project):
Charo Hulleza

Call to Order: Chairperson Mac Miller called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m.

Introductions: Introductions were made and everyone was welcomed.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Sheri Falvay and supported by Mary Scoblic to approve the minutes.

Motion carried.

Approval of Agenda:

An addition to the agenda included an update about SICC appointments. A motion was made by Johanna Ostwald and supported by Sheri Falvay to approve the amended agenda.

Motion carried.

Public Comment:

None.

Updates:

SICC Appointments

Keith Alexander spoke with the Governor's office, and learned that the goal is to have the new appointments to the Governor's office in thirty days. Mark Reigle shared a list of appointments to miscellaneous boards that have been made by the Governor recently.

Keith proposed writing a letter to Governor Granholm, inviting her to the September retreat, so she can get familiar with our work. Barb will draft the invitation and Lindy will let Sue Carnell know the invitation is coming.

A motion was made by Keith Alexander and supported by Mary Scoblic to send an invitation to Governor Granholm inviting her to the SICC retreat in September.

State Budget

The 2007 budget has been settled. To balance the budget the majority of the money will come from future tobacco settlements. In the Department of Education there will be no lay offs or furlough days. Cuts will be made from the office of the Superintendent and Early Childhood Education and Family Services (ECE&FS). ECE&FS operates a state preschool program and the cuts will be made from the administration funds designated for it, since most of the office is federally funded.

The Governor has forwarded a proposal for the 2008 budget that includes an additional \$90+million for full-day preschool programs. During discussion of a proposed amendment to the introduced bill that would designate \$15M of those funds to Part C only children, a question was raised about having an allowance to serve expectant mothers, such as there is in Early Headstart. Lindy will follow up with this. The federal money Michigan will receive for Part C, based on population, is approximately \$300,000 less than last year.

Determinations

The formula for deciding determinations for the local Intermediate School Districts (ISDs) was based on EETRK data and data collected through other reports. Letters will be sent, letting each service area know what category they fall into. Staff followed the SICC recommendation from its April meeting that no ISDs will be in the lowest category this year. Webinars will be held June 21st and June 25th to discuss the determinations and clarify the difference between them and Public Reporting. Michigan has not received the federal determination from The Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) yet.

Request for Proposals (RFP's)

Reader sessions were held the week of June 4th for the Comprehensive System of Personnel Development (CSPD) and the Public Awareness/Information and Referral (PAIR) RFPs. The packets are in process for approval by the Superintendent. The PAIR RFP has to go to the Office of Special Education and Early Intervention Services (OSE-EIS) since the office is also involved with the RFP. An announcement will be made once the Superintendent approves them. October 1, 2007 is the start up date for the new grants.

Continuous Improvement Monitoring System (CIMS)

The service areas that 'need intervention' will receive focused monitoring. If service areas already have had focused monitoring, they will receive a compliance visit. The Determination letters will indicate whether or not they will receive focused monitoring.

The Service Provider Self Review (SPSR) for Cohort 1 is on track. Liz Weston from Public Sector Consultants has pulled together a project team to go through the process with the Michigan Department of Education (MDE). Training for Cohort 1 is being planned.

Redesign

The Management team, Supervisors and State Interagency staff continue to meet and the communication process continues to be worked out. The Interagency Agreement is being worked on. The recommendations from the Fiscal Study will be addressed through a work group.

Social Emotional Pilot

An RFP was put together and sent to the *Early On* Coordinators to solicit up to five communities to participate and get their staff trained to use the Devereux Early Childhood Assessment-Infant/Toddler (DECA-I/T) and the Attachment, Interaction, Mastery, Social Support Tool (AIMS). Applications are due back July 9, 2007 and the pilot will run from August 1st through January 2008.

Michigan Alliance for Families Presentation:

Sandee Koski distributed information about the project and shared their strengths which include 75% of staff are parents who have children with developmental disabilities, and all are or have been involved with Local Interagency Coordinating Councils (LICCs) and Parent Advisory Committees (PACs).

The Michigan Alliance for Families is made up of many advocacy organizations across the state. Their goal is to implement a statewide system that will provide information, educational workshops in collaboration with several statewide organizations and initiatives, family mentoring and regional sites.

Regional work will be led by Jessie Morton in the Cadillac/Manistee area and Michelle Miller in the Benton Harbor area. A third area will be established in the western upper peninsula.

Jessie and Michelle regularly attend LICC and PAC meetings, have supported parents to become co-chairs of their LICC, have encouraged parents to take on-line courses, and helped parents to start support groups. Helping parents to become leaders in their community has been rewarding and what the work is all about. Communities have helped to support parents with costs for child care.

As part of the Leadership/Mentoring component, the Michigan Alliance for Families will support parents on the SICC and SEAC, as well as parents involved with LICCs and PACs that aren't in the targeted regions. They are also helping with the APR/SPP, particularly indicator #4 for Part C, indicator #8 for Part B.

Discussion/Questions:

- The annual budget is \$398,000.
- Although many of the learning opportunities involve internet learning, the main focus of the program is on the regional sites, where face to face contact is happening.
- The grant is not set up to do direct advocacy but instead support and work with families to empower them to be advocates for their own children.
- The grant will work with Barb Schinderle to orient and support new SICC appointees once they are made.

Part C Proposed Regulations:

Nancy shared additional resources from IDEA Infant Toddler Coordinators Association, the Division of Early Childhood, and the Early Intervention Family Alliance.

Action: The SICC will discuss the proposed changes, provide comments, and authorize the final product to be written by the State Interagency staff. The comment document will be emailed to the SICC for review and feedback. The final document will be sent to OSEP by July 23, 2007.

A motion was made by Mary Scoblic and supported by Johanna Ostwald that pursuant to the process discussed, the SICC would authorize the Chair of the SICC to submit the final comments pertaining to the proposed Part C regulations to OSEP.

Discussion:

Members could still submit their personal comments.

Motion carried.

Topic	Comments
Screening	<p>What do you support about this change in the regulations? It is a permissive activity.</p> <p>What concerns you about this change in the regulations? Validated and reliable screening tools</p> <p>What impact will this have on families? Could be good for families because children would be identified who otherwise may not have been identified until later.</p> <p>Suggestion: With validated and reliable screening tools, this would be</p>

	acceptable.
Multidisciplinary definition	<p>What do you support about this change in the regulations?</p> <p>What concerns you about this change in the regulations? For the assessment, the multidisciplinary personnel requirements should align with the child and family’s needs.</p> <p>In order for the SICC to accept this, language needs to be added that takes the child’s needs into account when determining which personnel perform the assessment; and it needs to be written in family friendly language.</p>
Family Assessment procedures	<p>What do you support about this change in the regulations?</p> <p>What concerns you about this change in the regulations? SICC is not comfortable with the language as written. The language needs to be more family friendly. It should be done <i>with</i> the family, not <i>to</i> the family.</p>
45-Day requirement	<p>What do you support about this change in the regulations? Mixed</p> <p>What concerns you about this change in the regulations? The length of time it could take to begin serving children and families.</p> <p>What impact will this have on families? Children and families may receive services later if it takes an ISD longer to get the consent signed.</p> <p>What impact will this have on the system? Could look better in the eyes of OSEP, but data could be collected that requires documentation when ISDs have not been able to establish contact with families.</p> <p>Suggestion: There was not consensus on this change. Maintain current language OR define “ASAP” in 303.420 (a).</p>
Native Language	<p>What do you support about this change in the regulations? Mixed Good idea, concerns about implementation.</p> <p>What concerns you about this change in the regulations? Assessments don’t exist in all languages.</p>

	<p>What impact will this have on families? All families would be served regardless of native language.</p> <p>What impact will this have on the system? Expensive for systems. Hard to find the personnel resources.</p> <p>Suggestion: There was not consensus on this.</p>
Surrogacy	<p>Suggestion: Review the proposed Special Ed rules tried to clarify the definition of parent.</p>
Parental Consent	<p>What do you support about this change in the regulations?</p> <p>What concerns you about this change in the regulations? Medicaid consent is a concern. Funding could be lost.</p> <p>What impact will this have on families? Privacy issue</p> <p>What impact will this have on the system?</p> <p>Suggestion: SICC recommends doing something that protects privacy of families and funding.</p>
Transition	<p>Suggestion: SICC supports it.</p>
SICC Changes	<p>Suggestion: SICC is not in favor of one individual representing more than one program or agency.</p> <p>SICC is not in favor of putting restrictions on parent representation and feel it should be handled through the creation of a best practice guidance document.</p>
Natural Environments	<p>What do you support about this change in the regulations?</p> <p>What concerns you about this change in the regulations? Outcomes could be written so that they could only be provided in a segregated setting. The setting should be based on the child's needs rather than outcomes.</p> <p>What impact will this have on families? Less services are provided in the child's natural environment.</p>

	<p>What impact will this have on the system?</p> <p>Suggestion: SICC does not support this change.</p>
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Child Abuse and Prevention Treatment Act (CAPTA) Ad Hoc Report:

Dawn Ritter shared a CAPTA report which was the result of the Ad Hoc committee. All referrals should now go through a statewide referral line so that referrals will be sent to the correct service area based on where the child and/or family are living.

Dawn explained the categories of abuse and neglect when children would be referred to *Early On*.

The DHS policy is now going through the review process.

The MDE policy will be embedded in the state plan and will go through its review process. Both policies reflect the same information with regards to CAPTA.

Early On Training and Technical Assistance Presentation (EOT&TA):

Packets were distributed by Christy Callahan and Victoria Meeder. A power point was shared about EOT&TA and *Early On* Public Awareness. In order to determine what needs service areas have, EOT&TA take into account the following:

- Wayne State surveys
- EETRK data
- Self assessments
- Coordinator surveys
- Focused monitoring findings
- Record review findings
- Training feedback forms

They provide training on core and special topics, technical assistance, system update meetings, *Early On* institutes, *Early On* Annual Conferences, LICC conferences, conference workshops and online training. All trainings are evaluated in many ways, including a Wayne State QCIP, a standardized feedback form, coordinator’s surveys and staff observation/evaluation.

Public Awareness is a mandate and the intent is to inform parents of availability of early intervention services and to disseminate information to primary referral sources.

Prior to *Early On* Public Awareness (EOPA) a marketing campaign was done in the year 2002, and EOT&TA worked with Pace and Partners to develop a statewide campaign. EOPA assists the state in public awareness and child find efforts. A statewide referral system was developed and maintained. They operate a statewide toll-free referral hotline (1-800-EARLY ON). Many outreach materials are available such as magnets, web cards, baby steps posters, *Early On* Family Guidebooks and brochures, and developmental wheels available in English, Spanish and Arabic. Traveling *Early On* Display boards can

be borrowed by *Early On* Coordinators for local use. A TV public service announcement was aired up to 78,000 times throughout the state. *Early On* information is also posted on message boards through public broadcasting stations.

Transit ads were placed on busses in Kalamazoo, Genesee, Macomb and Washtenaw counties to aid in child find efforts, which did increase during the time period of the ads.

Their website has received 10,000 visitors in nine months.

The Project Find Michigan grant also is housed at EOT&TA.

Annual SICC Retreat Planning:

The Executive Committee will plan the retreat and if members have suggestions, they should email Barb Schinderle.

Adjourn:

A motion to adjourn was made by Mark Reigle.

Motion carried.