

**Arlington Special Education Advisory Committee**  
**October 10, 2017**

Members Present: Wendy Pizer (Vice-Chair), Nadia Facey (Secretary), Alison Acker, Keith Chanon, Caitlin Davies, Alison Dough, Cloe Chin, Jennifer Johnson, Kay Luzius, Leila Carney, Margy Johnson, David Rosenblatt, Nick Walkosak, Rebecca Patterson and Tauna Szymanski

Members Absent: Paul Patterson (Chair), Michelle Best, Hannah Dannenfelser and Sarah Jane Owens

Staff: Paul Jamelske (Director of Special Education) and Kathleen Donovan (Parent Resource Center)

Guests: Kristin Gillig, Lee Walzer and Gary Steel

Agenda Items	Discussion/Decisions	What to do/who/when
Welcome		
Wendy Pizer	<p>We have a very busy meeting. Please hold a questions until the end of presentation because the second hour we need to discuss ACI recommendations.</p> <p>Please write questions on notecards.</p> <p>Slides will be posted on the website and emailed to the group.</p>	
Public Comments		
None		
Annual Presentation to ASEAC		
Paul Jamelske, Director of Special Education	<p>The Dept of Special Education and-Student Services and Special Education has merged with the Dept of Intruction and is now called Dept. of Teaching and Learning. They developed mission and vision statement.</p> <p>Our Mission: To ignite a passion for learning with equitable access and multiple pathways where learners connect, create, and innovate</p> <p>Our Vision: All individuals strive for their best as learners and global citizens</p> <p>Inclusion is a focus of School Board this year, as result of dedicated work of parents collaborating with school staff. Policy discussion will begin in the next few months.</p> <p>Descriptive statistics 2017            Students with an IEP = 3956 (tentative, likely to go up)            Students with a Section 504 Plan = 792            Students with an IEP &amp; Gifted = 351 (Twice Exceptional or 2e)            Students with an IEP and English Learner (Dually-identified) = 1237 (31.3% of SWD)            2017 numbers = 3956 IEPs out of 26,941 total students = 14%</p> <p>Update on Federal indicators:            1: Graduation            2: Dropouts            3: Participation and Performance on Statewide Assessments            4: Suspension/Expulsion            5: School Age Least Restrictive Environment (LRE)            6: Preschool Least Restrictive Environment (LRE)            7: Preschool Outcomes            8: Parent Involvement            9: Disproportionality in Special Education &amp; Related Services            10: Disproportionality in Specific Disability Categories            11: Timeline for Part B Eligibility            12: Part C to Part B Transition            13: Secondary IEP Goals and Transition Services            14: Post-Secondary Outcomes</p>	Wendy collected questions from group and will pass them on to Mr. Jamelske for follow up and answers.

Discussion Period about ASEAC Report to ACI

ASEAC report to APS Advisory Council on Instruction (ACI) lead by Wendy Pizer

ASEAC is technically under the structure of ACI. Report is due October 19, earlier than we thought. ASEAC report will be presented to ACI orally on November 1 by Paul P.

ACI will prioritize recommendations based on the School Board 2017-18 priorities and ACI priorities which include:

- Inclusion
- Literacy
- Opportunity Gaps
- Pre-K through 12 Instructional Vision
- The Whole Child

The following three recommendations recs that rose to the top were:

- Training (with a possible priority on training for General Education teachers)
- Co-taught Classrooms
- Accountability

Connections were noted between the following areas:

- Training of general education teachers and co-taught classrooms (possibly be combine into one rec.)
- Training of general education teachers and inclusion
- Accountability and clear written standards

Discussion on Co-taught Classrooms:

Cloe - her kid had all co-taught classrooms last year and it went very well. What is happening on this already county-wide?

Paul J.: varies from school to school. Principal crafts master schedule. Staffing allocations for specific areas, gen ed and special ed teacher staffing. Special ed staffing is driven by numbers of SWD and sometimes by service hours and disability type.

Rebecca -- huge budgetary implications, no accountability

Tauna -- putting cart before the horse, not necessarily best practices, really depends on how it is implemented. Would not support this as an ASEAC recommendation right now.

Discussion on Training:

Aides? Training gen ed teachers with special ed training? - have all their trainings together?

David Rosenblatt: UDL?

Jennifer Johnson: Preschool inclusion? Disability awareness for students without disabilities?

Caitlin Davies: we have tons of training for sped. Problem with gen ed teachers is encouraging them to go. Maybe require a minimum number of hours on certain topics, or incentives -- change a policy on this rather than requiring certain trainings?

Maybe head toward a coaching model of training? Teachers really appreciate flexibility and choice in training Wendy: A teacher who has a cluster of gifted kids in their class is required to get 30 hours of gifted training every year, but nothing equivalent for students with disabilities

Keith: Can we encourage principals to establish master planning schedule to schedule in planning time?

Wendy: Special ed teachers used to support general ed teachers

Margy will draft report with help from committee.

ASEAC send out draft for all ASEAC members to vote on prior to Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> ACI meeting.

	<p><u>Discussion on Accountability:</u>  Wendy: Making sure schools follow through consistently with what they are doing  Nick: Can we use ATSS as a starting point? We are currently starting year 4 of ATSS  Paul J. In synergy this year they are adding new fields to monitor ATSS progress for students  Catilin: Don't tie accountability to test scores and SOLs and there may be kids who never can pass SOLs and they are just written off.</p> <p><u>Conclusion:</u>  Focus on accountability and training in ASEAC recommendations to ACI on Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>.</p> <p>Overall during the discussion Paul J. and Kathleen were helpful providing information on background and answering questions.</p>	
November Agenda	<p>Voted on the agenda for November  Motion Passed – 14 Yes, 0 No, 4 Absent</p>	
Meeting Adjourned	<p>Members offered opportunity to leave at 9:00 the conclusion time of our meeting, however almost everyone stayed to complete the discussion period.  Meeting Adjourned at 9:23 p.m.</p>	

NEXT MEETING: Nov. 14, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. at Syphax Education Center - Room 101

NEXT MEETING AGENDA:

- 7:00 – 7:15 pm Welcome and public comments
- 7:15 – 7:30 pm Updates on outstanding items
- 7:30 – 7:45 pm Updates from Strategic Planning Working Group
- 7:45 – 8:40 pm Discussion on future topics for ASEAC consideration
- 8:30 – 9:00 pm Open Discussion