

# CHILD PROTECTION ACCOUNTABILITY COMMISSION

## Education Committee Meeting Wednesday, July 19, 2017 Collette Education Center, Department of Education

**Welcome:** The Child Protection Accountability Committee (CPAC) Education Committee was called to order at 1:05 p.m. on Wednesday, July 19, 2017 at the Collette Education Center in Dover by Chairperson Susan Haberstroh.

### Attendees:

Jennifer Davis (DOE)  
John Hulse (DOE)  
Harvey Doppelt (PBH)  
Susan Haberstroh (DOE)  
Kathryn Herel (PIC)  
Chris McIntyre (DSCYF)  
Rachael Neff (Family Court)  
Tracy Neugebauer (DOE)  
Deb Stevens (DSEA)  
Wendy Strauss (GACEC)  
Eliza Hirst (OCA)

Excused: Brittany Willard (OCA), Judge K. Millman, Judge Barbara Crowell, Na-Tasha Williams (Nemours)

**Welcome and Introductions:** Everyone was welcomed to the meeting, and introductions were made.

**Approval of Minutes:** The Committee reviewed the minutes of the March 8, 2017. Eliza Hirst motioned to approve the minutes, and Tracy Neugebauer seconded the motion.

### Legislative update:

**SB 86:** Education Decision Maker Legislation. The bill passed the General Assembly and is awaiting Governor Carney's signature. Next steps include creating a court form, a summary of the legislation, and training. Eliza will draft the summary, court form, and training. Once completed, Eliza will send to CPAC Education Subcommittee for review. The draft plan will be discussed at the September CPAC Education meeting.

**SB87:** ESSA School stability for students in foster care. This legislation separates out students in foster care from McKinney-Vento homeless for the purpose of school stability based on changes from the Every Student Succeeds Act. The bill passed the General Assembly and is awaiting Governor Carney's signature. Once signed, it will take effect once DOE promulgates regulations. DOE is currently working on draft regulations. In most cases the decision will be to have the child remain in the school of origin, unless it is not in his or her best interest. There was a discussion

about who should be a decision maker for the best interest determination, which will be addressed in the regulations. In addition, school of origin will need to be defined. For example, if a student has been out of the school district for more than two full school years, then there is no school of origin. All districts will use the same best interest determination form, which will promote uniformity. Draft regulations should be ready for circulation to this subcommittee by late August.

SB 102: Nonacademic trainings. This bill consolidates the training schedule and allows for 12.5 hours of training within a three year period (except suicide prevention, which shall remain annual). The legislation also allows credit for training on Compassionate Schools, restorative practices, Stewards of Children, etc. In addition, “Erin’s Law” will now include the term evidenced based “*when available*.” That way, schools can still train even if no specific evidence based program is available. The bill passed the General Assembly and is awaiting Governor Carney’s signature.

### **Workgroup updates:**

MOU workgroup: Jenn Davis explained that the MOU is still being redrafted. The group is aligning language from the ESSA legislation with the MOU. Next steps are to have DOE and DSCYF review the redrafted language. Until the regulations are finalized, the current law to support school stability will control. Jenn Davis plans to introduce the changes by August 30<sup>th</sup> before the start of the school year. Going forward, transportation will be managed by “the state”. DSCYF has designated DOE to facilitate transportation payments to the LEAs. DOE will cover 100% of the cost for youth in foster care. The 90%-10% split will continue for homeless students.

Data Workgroup: Brittany was absent, so Eliza reported out that updated data has been requested for CPAC. Brittany will present the data once it has been provided to her. DOE and OCA are refining definitions and have determined that county-wide data reporting can be eliminated in favor of statewide reporting. Eliza also reported out that out of school suspensions have decreased for students in foster care and are now more in line with out of school suspension numbers for students who are not in foster care.

Capstone Project: Eliza reported out that over 900 educators have been trained on trauma and the impact on learning since January 2017. The Compassionate Schools group is holding a Summer Symposium on July 27, 2017, where school teams will receive advanced technical support. Eliza also reported that the team has presented at multiple statewide and national conferences including the National At-Risk Youth Conference, the American Bar Association Children and the Law Conference, and the First Annual Trauma Informed Schools Conference.

**Comprehensive Education Report**: Rachael Neff reported out that she co-trained the DSCYF regional office along with JoAnn Bruch and Eliza Hirst on the Comprehensive Education Report. Rachael also prepared an FAQ for DFS workers. Last month, Michele Marinucci presented the Comprehensive Education Report to the Family Court Judges, so they will be expecting the Report to be submitted in Court in the coming months. Jenn Davis will be training all of the foster care liaisons on August 30<sup>th</sup> about access to the report. Eliza indicated that DFS social workers and CASAs/Child Attorney would be the ones to request the report from the foster care liaison. She

will send a reminder out at the end of the summer once schools are trained so that this new report can be generated.

**Other:** DSEA is partnering with priority schools on asset mapping and other work around trauma.

The DOE received a grant from the University of Maryland called the Shape System. Jenn Davis and Michele Marinucci applied together, and Delaware was one of nine states awarded the grant. The grant enables schools to assess their mental health services and supports.

John Hulse also mentioned that an opportunity grant will be available to schools shortly. This will be a competitive grant for \$100,000 each for up to 10 schools on trauma informed care and other interventions.

**Goals for 2017-2018:**

The CPAC education subcommittee has completed the following goals: creation of a uniform best interest form for best interest meetings, finalization of the education court report, and education decision maker legislation.

The subcommittee agreed that ongoing goals include finalization of the updated MOU, collaboration on districts for trauma informed programs in schools, and streamline information sharing between Nemours, Schools, and DSCYF. Susan stated that she would check in with Jane Boyd, who oversees school nurses at DOE to address this goal. Eliza and Rachael also indicated it would be worth exploring a new goal on college and career readiness. Our current data does not capture students who go to alternative programs, job core, GED, etc.

**Next meeting:** September 13, 2017 at Collette Education Center, Room A (Location change).