



# State Advisory Panel

## For Special Education

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**Agenda**  
**State Advisory Panel Meeting**  
**May 6-7, 2010**  
**Lake Blackshear Resort**  
**Veterans Memorial State Park**  
**Cordele, GA**

**Thursday, May 6, 2010**

Time	Events	
8:00 - 9:00	CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST	
9:00 - 10:00	Welcome Panel Member Introductions and Update	Stephanie Moss opened the meeting and welcomed members. Panel members provided updates and announcements.
10:00 - 10:30	GaDOE, Divisions for Special Education Services and Supports Update	<p>Kim Hartsell presented updates from the Division for Special Education Supports.</p> <p>She discussed the implementation of Positive Behavior Supports (PBS) in schools throughout Georgia.</p> <p>Ms. Hartsell reported that the Georgia Project for Assistive Technology (GPAT) has been selected by United Cerebral Palsy of Greater Chicago (UCP)/Infinitec to participate in a potential grant which will allow access to online modules and information systems related to assistive technology.</p> <p>The Georgia Instructional Materials Center (GIMC) has been working with the online program, Lexiflow, to create fully accessible digital versions of textbooks which can be downloaded from the internet. This project has been piloted in 3 systems this year and plans to roll out the program statewide next year.</p> <p>Georgia is developing a pilot special education teacher induction program to address the issue of teacher retention, providing support for special education teachers for up to 3 years.</p> <p>Debbie Gay provided an update regarding professional development opportunities available through the Division for Special Education Services.</p> <p>The second annual Autism Academy will provide training for professionals working with students with Autism this summer. This includes a continuation of training for teachers and staff who attended the first academy as well as a strand for</p>

		<p>individuals attending for the first time.</p> <p>A Make and Take workshop in being offered for teachers of students with significant disabilities to create materials aligned with the Georgia Performance Standards (GPS).</p> <p>Mrs. Gay reported that the Divisions for Special Education continue work with disproportionality issues in areas of discipline, over-identification and placement. The department is also looking at under-identification of students with disabilities and will be working with districts through a series of Elluminate sessions.</p> <p>A work group, including parent attorneys, parent mentors, and parents from around state, has been formed to develop a more easily understood version of the parent rights brochure.</p> <p>The Special Education website has been updated with information and resources on Dyslexia.</p> <p>Mrs. Gay summarized House Bill 907, which requires school districts to give notification to parents on SB10 twice a year and at each IEP mtg.</p>
10:30 - 11:30	Panel Discussion: Special Education and LRE	Susan Brozovic presented on the department's Least Restrictive Environment Initiative and answered questions from the panel.
11:30 - 12:00	Public Comment Session	One person provided public comment on restraint and seclusion. Three public comment letters were presented by Stephanie Moss. Issues addressed included restraint and seclusion and Autism.
12:00 - 1:00	LUNCH	
1:00 - 1:45	Setting Focused Monitoring Priorities for FY11	Julie Moilanen presented on Georgia's Continuous Improvement Monitoring Process and answered questions from the panel. Panel members provided suggestions on areas that should be addressed during Focused Monitoring. Local District least restrictive environment data will be considered in FY11 as districts are selected for Focus Monitoring.
1:45 - 2:45	SAP Annual Report	Panel members discussed recommendations for the annual State Advisory Panel report to the State Board of Education. Topics discussed included the 2% assessment, Positive Behavior Supports, the GNETS program, funding for RESAs, professional development for teachers, transition, parent mentors, legal issues as they relate to the development of the IEP, and restraint and seclusion.
2:45 - 3:00	BREAK	

3:00 - 4:00	Panel Discussion and Input on Rule on Seclusion and Restraint	Kim Hartsell presented on the status of the rule on restraint and seclusion. The rule will be taken before the state board for public comment during the June board meeting. Primary changes to the rule, including preventing potentially harmful action and ministerial services, were presented by Kim Hartsell and discussed by the panel.
4:00 - 5:00	Panel Discussion: SAP Meeting Process Changes	Ms. Hartsell and Mrs. Gay asked panel members to develop ideas on improving the processes involved in the SAP meetings. These suggestions were reviewed on Friday morning and included making the public comment portion of the meeting more accessible through technology and reporting on status of previous panel recommendations.
6:00	DINNER	

**Friday, May 7, 2010**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Events</b>	
7:00 – 8:00	CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST	
8:00 - 9:15	Committee Meetings	All committees met.
9:15 - 10:00	Committee Reports	The following committees reported to panel on current activities and recommendations: Membership, Public Comment, Family Engagement, and Dispute Resolution. Questions and comments were taken on reported activities and recommendations.
10:00 - 10:15	BREAK	
10:15 - 11:15	Proposed General Education Rules and Adopted Amendments to Special Education Rules	Debbie Gay provided an overview of proposed general education and approved amended special education rules. Questions and comments from the panel were discussed. Areas discussed included alternative education, child find, timelines for initial evaluations, the educational performance requirement for special education eligibilities, least restrictive environment and right to revocation.
11:15 - 12:00	Panel Discussion of Parent Fact Sheets and Parent Rights	Input on topics for upcoming Parent Fact Sheets was requested from the panel. Topics discussed included behavior intervention plans, SB10, Response to Intervention, Student Support Teams, Assistive Technology, the Georgia Alternate Assessment and due process.
12:00 - 1:00	LUNCH	
1:00 - 2:30	State Advisory Panel Planning for Future Meetings	Panel members discussed topics for future meetings. Dates and locations for next year's meetings were set. Nancy Woods will serve as Vice Chair.