MINUTES: October 14, 2020
9:30 am - Noon

Panel Members in attendance:

- Jeana Winter - Chairperson
- Todd Tomerlin - Vice Chairperson
- Amy Blakeney
- Shakela Johnson-Ford
- Dustin Chandler
- Jassetta Manning-Jones
- Lisa Clayton
- Temeyra McElrath
- Adriane Creel
- Corrie Merchant
- Kristen Dial
- Jewel C. Pitts
- Lisa Dorman
- Renate Rice
- Pamela Fossett
- Graham L. Sisson, Jr.
- Tasha Harrison-Betts
- Lori S. Skidmore
- James M. Williams
- Amy Williamson

Call to Order - SEAP Chairperson, Jeana Winter
- Greetings.
- Roll call.

Minutes of September 2020 Meeting - approved with no changes

Nomination of new term effective June 2020 – approved with no objections, per the SEAP bylaws they will continue to serve a four-year term of service, until June 2024
- Mark Williams
- Graham Sisson

Public Comments Read Aloud - SEAP Chairperson, Jeana Winter
- There were no public comments submitted to the panel.

Discussion of Current Pandemic Concerns
- K. Dial – increase in homelessness in the state of Alabama, due to downturn of economy and weather related (i.e. hurricane Sally and hurricane Delta);
  - Hurricane victims - temporary housing in a different school district
  - Double families in housing
- C. Merchant – What is the plan for school districts moving forward regarding funding availability for compensatory education to LEA’s?
  - Plan to measure loses or gains of knowledge students with disabilities
- L. Skidmore – SWD’s not able to receive virtual services, some school districts do not have anything in place
- T. McElrath – shortage of teachers to provides services to SWDs
- T. Tomerlin – virtual vs. in-class options were not well planned for SWDs, lack of teachers (retired, did not return, quit, not available), no education knowledge gain for SWDs
- L. Dorman – discussion regarding IHE decrease in enrollment, survey of graduates
Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP) Virtual Meeting

- D. Chandler – how is the legislature informed of the special education teacher shortage? Is there an ALSDE lobbyist? Legislative liaison?
- R. Rice, C. Merchant, J. Winter – data request link, code requirements are not fitting the growing needs of special education, past vs. 2020 needs, (i.e. shortage of certified teachers/staff in the area of autism)

Setting Priority
- J. Winter - How do we close the achievement gap for SWDs?
- A. Creel - Increase special education teachers and staff in LEA’s?
- C. Merchant - COVID recovery: measure gains or losses of educational knowledge for SWD’s during virtual delivery of services; compensatory education?

Bylaws Amendment Draft
- There will be a draft of the Bylaws available for the panel review by the next meeting, 12/9

Adjournment - Jeana Winter, SEAP Panel Chairperson

Next SEAP Panel Meeting Date – SAVE THE DATE - December 9, 2020