Texas Special Education Continuing Advisory Committee Meeting
August 9-10, 2011

Meeting Location	Wells Fargo Bank Building Tower
Date and Time	August 9-10, 2011 | 9:00 am – 4:30 pm

Minutes

CAC Attendees	Gwen Boyter, Rose Cruz, Debra Emerson, Julia Erwin, Sherri Hammack, Susan Johnson, Melissa Columbus Keller, Jennifer Taylor, Terry Hernandez, Mel Capelo, Geralda Morales-Whittemore, Nagla Moussa, Heather Pulido, Myeshi Williams-Briley
CAC Absentees	Marjie Haynes, Diane Taylor, Paul Watson
Texas Education Agency Resources	Gene Lenz, Phyllis Gandy, Cindy Swain, Terrie Breeden, David Carrales, Margaret Baker, Heather Reisman, Aneida Ramos
Facilitator	Margie Sanford

Agenda Item	**Minutes – August 9, 2011**
Welcome and Introductions	Participants were welcomed by Margie Sanford. Introductions were made and the agenda for the meeting was reviewed. Minutes from the February 23, 2011 meeting were read and motioned for approval by Sherri Hammack and seconded by Julia Erwin. Minutes from the May 18, 2011 TETN meeting were reviewed and read. Mel Capelo motioned for approval and it was seconded by Debra Emerson.
Meeting Purpose and Result	**Purpose** • Update committee members regarding statewide activities and initiatives in the area of Special Education. • Update committee members on IDEA Coordination Activities. • Provide committee members the opportunity to internalize, make connections, and ask questions about the topics presented by TEA. **Result** • Committee understanding of statewide activities and initiatives in the area of Special Education. • Committee understanding of on-going IDEA Coordination Activities. • Committee members will share their thoughts with each other and TEA regarding topics presented during the meeting.

State of the State (Gene Lenz)	Members were provided an overview and current status of activities and actions related to special education. The actions and activities included: Legislative update and the impact to TEA and Divisions; discussion regarding the Reduction in Force and the reorganization of TEA; overview of the legislative bills and their impact on special education.
OSEP visit (Phyllis Gandy)	Members were provided an overview of the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) visit and Phyllis Gandy reviewed their roles/responsibilities as a CAC member. Members were given the opportunity to ask questions.
Due Process Hearings (Heather Reisman)	The members were provided an update to the most recent due process hearing decisions. A Due Process Hearing Decisions document was provided to the members prior to the meeting. Heather Reisman provided additional details regarding the individual decisions.
Complaints Investigation (Cindy Swain)	Cindy Swain provided the committee with an overview of the complaints investigation process and how complaints are filed and resolved.
OSEP State Advisory Panel survey discussion	Mel Capelo facilitated the OSEP state advisory panel survey discussion. Members were provided a handout with questions and Mel led the discussion as members provided responses to survey questions. Responses were recorded as members discussed the issues.

Agenda Item	**Minutes – August 10, 2011**
Opening (Margie Sanford)	Committee members were welcomed back and an overview of the day's activities was provided.
OSEP State Advisory Panel survey discussion	CAC members continued to complete the OSEP survey discussion. Responses were reviewed and recorded.
State /LEA Determination (David Carrales)	David Carrales provided an overview on State and LEA Determination processes at TEA. In addition, he shared information from the State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR) Response Table.
Continuous Improvement Visit (David Carrales)	David Carrales provided an overview of the Results component of the OSEP Continuous Improvement Visit, specifically the Results Meeting focused on graduation/dropout rates scheduled in October 2011.

Systemic Issues of Noncompliance (Cindy Swain)	Cindy Swain reviewed the statewide issues of noncompliance. She provided background information of systemic issues. CAC members had the opportunity to ask questions.
Stimulus / Funding Update (Phyllis Gandy)	Updates included: Data collection regarding maintenance of effort (MOE); ARAA expenditures; Impact on LEA- MOE and excess cost as a result of state budget cuts.
Reflections/Planning for next year	The members discussed the following topics: • Recap OSEP Continuous Improvement Visit • Four Statewide Systemic Issues of Noncompliance • Redaction of Due Process Hearing decisions • Reports from improvement group meetings • Update on Agency reorganization • Recap of SPP/APR submission • Update on ESC statewide leadership functions and projects • Update on Texas Continuous Improvement Process • Elections
Closing	The next CAC Meeting will be on: November 16, 2011. The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.