



State Advisory Panel for Exceptional Children (SAPEC)
Aug. 25, 2026
Hybrid Meeting-KDE, 300 Sower Blvd., Frankfort, KY
40601, and Virtually through Microsoft Teams
9 a.m. to 2 p.m. ET, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. CT

Purpose: The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requires that states establish advisory panels to advise and assist the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) on special education and related services for children with disabilities. The SAPEC members represent various agencies, individuals with disabilities, parents of children with disabilities, service providers and administrators.

[3 CFR §300.169](#)

Duties.

The advisory panel must—

- (a) Advise the SEA of unmet needs within the State in the education of children with disabilities;
- (b) Comment publicly on any rules or regulations proposed by the State regarding the education of children with disabilities;
- (c) Advise the SEA in developing evaluations and reporting on data to the Secretary under section 618 of the Act;
- (d) Advise the SEA in developing corrective action plans to address findings identified in Federal monitoring reports under Part B of the Act; and
- (e) Advise the SEA in developing and implementing policies relating to the coordination of services for children with disabilities.

AGENDA

9 a.m. ET, 8 a.m. CT

I. Call to Order

Jarrold S. Slone, Director of the Division of IDEA Monitoring and Results (DIMR)

II. Roll Call of Members

Erin Harrell, SAPEC Liaison, OSEEL

III. Welcome and Introduction of New Staff Members

Gretta Hylton, Ed.D., Associate Commissioner and State Director of Special Education
Office of Special Education and Early Learning (OSEEL)

IV. Agenda Review and Review of Meeting Purpose, Duties, and Norms

Erin Harrell, SAPEC Liaison, Office of Special Education and Early Learning (OSEEL)

V. Election of Officers

Chair

Jarrold S. Slone, Director of the Division of IDEA Monitoring and Results (DIMR)

Vice Chair
Secretary
Presiding Chair Once Elected

VI. Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes

Jarrod S. Slone, Director of the Division of IDEA Monitoring and Results (DIMR)

VII. SAPEC Future Date/Time/Location Meeting Setting

Presiding Chair Once Elected
Erin Harrell, SAPEC Liaison, OSEEL

VIII. Fall 2026 Accountability

Jennifer Stafford, Ed.D., Associate Commissioner, Office of Assessment and Accountability (OAA)
Shara Savage, Director, OAA

IX. State-Defined Alternate Diploma Updates

Tania Sharp, Exceptional Children Consultant, Division of IDEA Implementation and Programs (DIIP)

Break

X. OSEEL Monitoring Shareholder Feedback Project

Gretta Hylton, Ed.D., Associate Commissioner, OSEEL
David Wickersham, Federal Policy and Regulatory Coordinator, OSEEL
Jeanna Mullins, Consultant

XI. IDEA Monitoring and Trends for 2025-2026

Jarrod S. Slone, Director of the Division of IDEA Monitoring and Results (DIMR)
Jessica Jones, Education Program Manager, DIMR

XII. Public Comment

Presiding Chair Once Elected
Erin Harrell, SAPEC Liaison, OSEEL

XIII. Final Remarks and Exit Slip Reminder

Presiding Chair Once Elected
Erin Harrell, SAPEC Liaison, OSEEL

Adjournment

Next Meeting: TBD