

# State Special Education Advisory Committee (SSEAC) Annual Report

July 2020 -June 2021



## State Special Education Advisory Committee (SSEAC)

The purpose of the SSEAC is to promote the education of children with disabilities by providing advice and policy guidance based on input from citizens and constituent groups. The SSEAC is organized and functions in accordance with state and federal requirements.

- Represents various stakeholder groups as prescribed by the *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act* (IDEA)
- Administrative year runs July 1 - June 30
- Five subcommittees
- Four meetings held virtually



## Public Comment and Constituency Report Themes

- In-person and virtual learning
- Systematic racism and discrimination; equitable education for all students
- Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE)
- Development of Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) during COVID -19
- Virginia Alternate Assessment Program (VAAP) Waiver
- Teacher retention



## Subcommittee Discussion and Presentation Topics

- Parent and community engagement
- Parent Resource Centers (PRC) and Special Education Advisory Committees (SEAC)
- Increasing equity, language barriers
- Disproportionality among students with disabilities
- Teacher retention
- Supporting inclusive school communities where all really means all
- Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) reports
- Virginia Alternate Assessment Program (VAAP)
- Social-Emotional Learning (SEL)



## Commendations

- Recover, Redesign, Restart 2020
- VA LEARNS
- Creating the Office of Equity and Community Engagement
- Virginia Roadmap on Equity
- Office of Student Services Learning Modules
- Social Emotional Wellness Quick Guides
- Adding Culturally Competency Educator requirements for licensure
- Technology Initiatives
- Developing Parent Ombudsman's fact sheet
- Extending teacher licensure requirements during the pandemic



## Recommendations

- Teacher, staff, and other professional support shortages
- Statewide social-emotional learning (SEL) programs
- Individualized Education Program (IEP) training and oversight
- Applied Studies Diploma awareness and implications
- Virginia Alternative Assessment Program (VAAP) criteria and future outcomes
- Post-secondary transitioning and accountability

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Thank You