

CDE MEETING AGENDA



COLORADO
Department of Education

Meeting Logistics

MEETING:	Special Education Fiscal Advisory Committee (SEFAC) Meeting
DATE & TIME:	October 21, 2024, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm
LOCATION:	Englewood Schools Administration Office – 4101 S Bannock St, Englewood, CO A Zoom video-conference link is available, if needed: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83845200276?pwd=ZNbUMzHMaxKKNrRZrCnQ2e4ZA PFkug.1 Meeting ID: 838 4520 0276 Passcode: 175918
MEETING LEADS:	Tamara Durbin, Executive Director, Northeast BOCES, SEFAC Chair
MEETING PARTICIPANTS: <small>(Who most needs to attend?)</small>	Erich Dorn, Tamara Durbin, Brandi Durr, Paul Foster, Vicki Graham, Lazlo Hunt, Tammy Johnson, Elizabeth Mauler, Lisa Schmit, Scott Smith, Carolena Steen, Lynette Steinhoff, Susan Udenberg, Callan Ware
MEETING OBJECTIVES:	The purpose of the meeting is to provide introductions, orient to the SEFAC work for the 2024 – 2025 school year, complete SEFAC Officer elections, review the High Cost Application process, and Draft the SEFAC Legislative Report for January 2025.

Agenda Items and Next Steps

TIME	AGENDA ITEM	NOTES & NEXT STEPS <small>(Be sure to include communications to those not at the meeting who need to know the results)</small>
10:00	Welcome Introductions Public comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roll Call to be completed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Erich Dorn, Absent ○ Brandi Durr, Absent ○ Elizabeth Mauler, Absent ○ Lisa Schmit, Absent (non-voting member) ○ Paul Foster to log in as he can • 3 minutes per person who has requested to speak to the committee, no later than 24 hours prior, by emailing Suzann Shotts at shotts_s@cde.state.co.us

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There have not been any requests for public comment.
10:15	SEFAC Orientation Officer Elections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SEFAC Membership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tamara provided a printout of the membership. ○ Committee is fully staffed for the first time in a long time. ● SEFAC Bylaws <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tamara provided a printed copy to members. ● Colorado Revised Statutes – 22-20-114.5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tamara provided a printed copy to members. ● Officer Elections – Chair/Chair Elect <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tammy is now the Chair, however, she will be retiring so she can only serve for one of the 2 years the position is usually held. ○ The committee votes for Susan Udenberg to be the Chair Elect. ○ Tamara as past Chair will help support Tammy and the new Chair Elect. ○ Duties of the Chair include: Developing Agenda; working with CDE; Legislative Report Review; High-Cost app review and occasionally testifying to the legislature. ○ Update website with the new membership. (done 11/11/2024)
10:30	High Cost Applications, Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lessons Learned from High Cost Application, 2024 Collection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Was nice to be back in person for application review. ○ Calendars included in applications are helpful.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Other Educational Costs – Tamara asked if they should be allowed? Discussion: they are not costs of the special education program, but some facilities will not take the student if the AU doesn't agree to pay them. Carolena brings up that they haven't been allowed historically, so feels we should be consistent and not allow them. Decision is not to allow the Other Educational Costs as they are not program related. ○ The committee has decided to disburse the funds remaining from the Marijuana trust fund. Further funding of this initiative was discontinued and there is approximately \$50K that is earning very small amounts of interest. The funds should be disbursed in this collection cycle to avoid them being taken away. Vicki to follow up on the amount and the committee wants them distributed 50/50 to IAU and OOD. ● Revisions to High Cost Applications, 2024 Collection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Facility Schools have a new funding model. ○ Should address in next year's legislative report. ○ Wendy or Judy should come to next meeting to discuss the new process. ○ Transportation – empty seat charges should be ok; include in the instructions to include an explanation in the narrative about driver costs (if need to take an average of several staff who cover the route for the year). Just need to support costs

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		<p>of \$70K or more, as we have seen bus driver salary claims of \$100K+.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Paras could exceed the number of days the student attended as the para needs to be there if the student does attend. ○ For errors of less than \$200 don't worry about it. ○ Asking for information on ESY dates and times would be OK for OOD, however, for IAU it would be more difficult. For cases of double billing (both June and July of the start of the year and June and July and August for the end of the year), allow half and half. Be sure to discuss in instructions. ○ Student specific charges – if the billing is stand alone then it must identify the student. If there is a log, then invoice doesn't have to specify the student, but must charge per contract and IEP and log must be included. ○ Change in prior year audit, allowing the year before to be used instead, has been included in application, and needs to be added to instructions and cite the legislation that changed it. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Application Timeline <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ It has been very helpful to have applications available in December, so that AUs have more time to work on them. ○ Vicki has started updates on applications, in order to have them out on December 1, they must go to EDAC in November, which is coming very soon.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tamara is on EDAC and can help shepherd it through. ○ Lazlo asked if it has to go to EDAC, Vicki responded that it did since it is a data collection. ● Training and Technical Assistance. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Vicki plans to do a new webinar this year, time and capacity permitting. ○ Jon Paul had recorded a training the committee feels was good, should try to find that and post. ○ Paul brought up doing office hours and asked if we did them, could committee members help staff them? ○ Committee members can also push back to their regions information that they have gathered from being committee members that would help applicants.
11:30	Lunch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To Be Provided (by Tamara Durbin, not with public funds)
12:00	SEFAC Legislative Report, Draft	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Distribute SEFAC Legislative Report from January 2024 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tamara distributed to members. ● Review of Draft SEFAC Legislative Report for January 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Vicki has updated numbers throughout the report. ○ Appendices have been updated, except for part of Appendix C and all of Appendix D. ○ Yellow highlights indicate recommendations or other data that the committee needs to work on. ○ In the data analysis section, Vicki has not mixed the years of 2022/23 and 2023/24 as has been done in

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		<p>the past. Options for the committee to discuss is to either leave it out since it is a report for 2022/23, call it out as available 2023/24 data or continue to mix the years, whichever the committee supports.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Vicki will send out in a Google Doc as soon as possible (Done on 10/25/2024). Committee to enter comments and work on recommendations by the next meeting scheduled for 11/04/2024.
1:30	SEFAC Legislative Report, Draft Recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Review of Recommendations from SEFAC Legislative Report, January 2024 ● Discuss Recommendations for SEFAC Legislative Report, January 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The committee wants the 2023/24 data included, in the data analysis section, but called out as separate data from a more recent year. (Done 10/25/2024) ○ Add 24/25 numbers to Executive Summary. ○ Strike Child Find in Appendix A. ○ In regard to fully funding special ed at \$6,000 per Tier B student being stated as achieved for 24/25 school year, it should be noted that this is for the amount set for Tier B in 2006. ○ Address this fully funded with 24/25 numbers in legislative report. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Include small/rural are least able to make up lost dollars. ▪ MOE data. ▪ Adequacy study.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ New School Finance Bill. Sped factor in that bill is not really sped as the funding goes to the general fund. • Draft Recommendations for SEFAC Legislative Report, January 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Wait on recommendations until the November 4th meeting, so that the committee can take into account the information to be provided on Preschool Special Education and Facility Schools new Tuition Cost System. ○ Vicki will put the revised draft report into Google Docs. The committee members should review the revised draft and try to add comments prior to the November 4th meeting.
2:00	Adjourn	Tamara Durbin, SEFAC Chair, announces meeting adjournment.

Future SEFAC Meetings:

Monday, November 4, 2024, 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. virtual meeting via Zoom

Monday, April 21, 2025, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m, in-person at Englewood School Admin Office

Monday, May 5, 2025, 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m, virtual meeting via Zoom