

Parent Advisory Committee: Roles and Responsibilities

Sandee Koski



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800-553-4821



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TERMINOLOGY

- Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)
- Parent Advisory Committee (PAC)
- Michigan Administrative Rules for Special Education (MARSE)
- Intermediate School Districts (ISD) may also be Educational Service District (ESD) or Regional Educational Service District (RESD)
- By Laws
- ISD Service Delivery Plan



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Handouts:

<https://www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org/workshop-pac/>

- Guidelines for Exploring Interagency Opportunities
- Michigan: SEAC
- Michigan Administrative Rules for Special Education
- Family Matters: Parent Advisory Committees
- Michigan Alliance for Families Website: PAC
- Students with Disabilities: An Advocate's Guide – Disability Rights Michigan



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Agenda

- What is a Parent Advisory Committee?
- Who are you advising?
- How are you advising?
- What do you need to know to advise?
- Who are you representing?



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Special Education Advisory Committee

Michigan's [Special Education Advisory Committee \(SEAC\)](#) is the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) mandated state advisory panel to the State Board of Education and the Michigan Department of Education.

- A parent of a child with a disability, less than 26 years of age, who currently receives special education services and has a current individualized education program (IEP), may apply to be a Member at Large
- **34 CFR 300.167 - 300.167** State advisory panel. (§300)



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Parent Advisory Committees (PAC)

- IDEA does not require regional or local special education advisory committees.
- [Michigan Administrative Rules for Special Education \(MARSE\)](#) requires each intermediate school district board to appoint a Parent Advisory Committee.
 - **R 340.1838** Parent advisory committee. Rule 138.
- Some local school districts form Special Education Parent Advisory Committees – these are not required under IDEA or MARSE



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**Parent Advisory Committee
MARSE R 340.1838**

Handout: MARSE pages 144-145

Responsibilities of the intermediate school district:

- ISD Board of Education appoints PAC Members
- Attempts to assure that all types of impairments and organizations of parents are represented on the PAC
- ISD Board of Education may recommend operational procedures to the PAC for review and adoption.
- ISD shall secure fiscal and staff resources for the PAC



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**Parent Advisory Committee
MARSE R 340.1838**

Handout: MARSE pages 144-145

Responsibilities of the Parent Advisory Committee:

- Determining and documenting, in writing, the organizational structure of the committee
- Participating in the development of the ISD's plan and any modifications of the plan
- Providing input on any matter that the committee deems appropriate to the improvement of special education services within the ISD.



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Things to Consider

Some PAC members attend IEP meetings with families in their districts. Will yours?

Some PAC members act as Surrogate Parents. Will yours?



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Who are you advising?

Intermediate School District's Board of Education?

Intermediate School District's Administration?



Parent Advisory Committee is an advisory committee, not a governing body.



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How are you advising?

Is your advice being communicated through the ISD liaison? Verbal or in writing?

Do you invite the Superintendent to your meetings?

Have you spoken before the ISD Board of Education about the purpose & work of the PAC?



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What do you need to know to advise?

How do you know what is going on in your school district?

Have you been given a comprehensive understanding of the State Performance Plan and the Annual Performance Report for the ISD and local districts?



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Who are you representing?

You are representing your school district on this committee.

How does your local Superintendent and Board of Education know what work the PAC has been doing?



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**Special Education Service Delivery Plan
MARSE R 340.1833**

Handout: MARSE Pages 140 – 144

The parent advisory committee shall **participate** in the development of the intermediate school district's plan or any modification of the plan for the delivery of special education programs and services as required by R 340.1833.



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Special Education Service Delivery Plan

When was the Service Delivery Plan written? Most recent modification?

When was the last time the Service Delivery Plan was reviewed by the PAC?

What does participation in the development of the Service Delivery Plan look like?



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Questions




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Action Plan

Recommendation:
Review Question on Slides 11-15 and 17

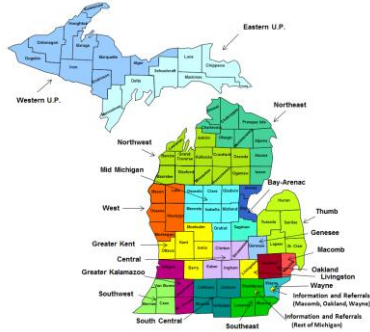
- Answer these questions:
- What is going well?
 - What could be done better?
 - What is something you can do at the next PAC meeting to begin to move forward?



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STATEWIDE RESOURCES

We have you covered



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www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org
info@michiganallianceforfamilies.org
1-800-552-4821

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info@michiganallianceforfamilies.org



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