



Meeting Minutes



Meeting	State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC)	
Date/Time	October 10, 2025 / 9:30 a.m.	
Location	This meeting was held in-person and virtual on Teams	
Members	Members in attendance: 18 attendees, 16 voting members. A quorum was reached. Members Present: Dr. Chad Allgood, Eileen Beazley, Dr. Susan Buttross, Brittany Carter, Dr. Barbara Coatney, Sandra Kelly, Julianna Lieb, Sarah Myers, Nita Norphlet-Thompson. Dr. Julie Parker, LaTonya Pittman, Barbara Saunders, Missy Saxton, Anita Townsend, Keith Vuncannon, and Martha Anna Welch Members not present: Ryan Blakeney, Shanda Boarden, Nicole Boyd, Kara Butler, Karonica Crumbley-Mikell, Dr. Jillian Harper-Peavy, Ashton Hotard, LaDewayne Harris, Leslie Junkin, Sarah Pendleton, Olivia Richardson, Kamme Riddle, Tina Routh, Jennifer Wentworth, and Monica Wimberly, and Kimberly Wheaton	
Additional Attendees	Erica Allen, Lisa Bonds, Dr. Tami Brooks, Melissa Cox, Elizabeth Dezell, Renetha Faust-Robinson, Amy Franklin, Krista Guynes, Sandra Kelly, Nakii Kincaid, Victoria Okonkwo, Tamiela Ramsey, Haley Rishel, Tonya Rogillio, Claudia Shedd, Mandy Smith, Gina Smith, LeSonji Simmons, Courtney Tesh, and Jelisa White	
Agenda	Notes	Action Items
Welcome, Roll Call, and Introductions	Sarah Myers opened the meeting at 9:34 a.m. and completed the roll call. All SICC members and attendees were welcomed, quorum identified, and additional attendees were introduced.	
Review and Approval of the Agenda	The agenda for the meeting on October 10, 2025 was reviewed and approved. Motion: Dr. Chad Allgood Second: Dr. Julie Parker Passed	



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Review and Approval of Minutes	Minutes from the meeting on July 11, 2025 were reviewed and approved with no corrections. Motion: Missy Saxon Second: Dr. Susan Buttross Passed	
Parent Testimony	Brittany Carter shared her experience receiving parent coaching and support. Brittany has a son, born June 3, 2022, who recently transitioned out of Part C Early Intervention into Part B. She shared a brief story of the birth of her son and how she was introduced to the early intervention program through the nurse in the hospital's NICU.	
Introduction of Staff and Personnel Changes	Melissa Cox gave an update regarding upcoming early intervention changes and workgroup review of task force recommendations. A copy of the PowerPoint presentation outlining the details is attached. The following areas were discussed: 1. Staffing – needs, retention, expanded job duties, accountability, and scope of work 2. Staff Training 3. Medicaid 4. Intake Teams 5. OSEP DSM Findings and Actions Taken 6. Delta Outreach 7. Parent-centered Training 8. Reclassification of Staff and Recruitment 9. TCM and Insurance Billing 10. Provider Timely Reimbursement Sarah Myers commented on convenient ideas such as recordings for provider training for best practices. Eileen Beazley asked a question regarding recommended caseloads for services coordinators. Melissa Cox stated that once staff in their right classification and our retention rate increases with more added staff, the ideal caseload for service coordinators is 40 – 45 and for service coordinator coaches, 20 – 25. Intake teams will alleviate some of the workloads from service coordinators.	



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	Tonya Rogillio briefly gave an update on the new process of contracts for service providers and the timelines for meeting the deadlines. Erica Allen and Melissa Cox gave a brief update of OSEP DMS findings, and the actions staff took to resolve the findings. The findings and actions along with the PowerPoint presentation are attached. The targeted areas included: <u>Part 1: Monitoring</u> 1.1 – Identification of Noncompliance 1.2 – Notification of Noncompliance 1.3 – Correction of Noncompliance 1.4 – Annual Determinations 1.5 – Natural Environments 1.6 – State Conformity with IDEA Part C 1.7 – State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC) <u>Part 2: Fiscal</u> 2.1 – Single Line of Responsibility 2.2 – Maintenance of Effort (MOE) Requirements 2.3 – Methods <u>Part 3: Dispute Resolution</u> 3.1 – Complaints 3.2 – Mediators 3.3 – Hearing Officers 3.4 – Complaint Procedures	
Committee Updates	Dr. Susan Buttross gave an update on EI Implementation, which met on October 6, 2025. In attendance was Miranda Richardson, Melissa Cox, Sarah Myers, Jennifer Wentworth, Ashley Hotard, and Monika Lorinczova. Several points came up: Jennifer Wentworth discussed the power of the federal match, must remember there is a high dollar Medicaid match in our state. Jennifer stated there is a bill code allowable at 50% of some of the work being done that could be recouped as an administrative cost of evaluations. How we can get special instructions on how we can get them licensed and covered and billable, they would need to be reclassified as	



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developmental therapists as with other states. Miranda discussed a huge expenditure piece is evaluations and to see if we can improve that such as bundling funds. The goal is less pull on our POLR funds and more billing for private and public insurance. Keith gave an update for attempting to get provider numbers for special instructors as a trail run with Medicaid, in the guidelines it states that you can bill SI so they are doing a trial to see if they can get a provider number to see if it is possible but the challenge is that there is no taxonomy number that will accept the educator's license and you have to have a taxonomy number to get an NPI, and an NPI to become a provider with Medicaid so Keith will contact Medicaid exploring if there is a taxonomy number that will be accepted by Medicaid that will also accept an educator's license.

Dr. Julie Parker with Personnel Preparation stated the committee has not met yet. Currently trying to establish more committee members and participation.

Dr. Chad Allgood with Public Awareness stated the committee has not had an opportunity to meet yet but has a virtual meeting scheduled for October 24, 2025 at 9:00. He is currently reviewing previous goals discussed by the previous committee members.

Julianna Lieb with Transitions discussed concerns with bringing together resources on the regional level to increase local collaborations, regional in-person resources sharing events, and developing a shared document for state leaders with local contacts that can be updated periodically. Also discussed early childcare providers in the transitions process and ways to improve communication and include them in transition conferences if the parent agrees. Strategies for supporting families in transitions and trainings. Department of Education will be hosting a transitions conference on December 4, 2025. Joint trainings in the spring will be hosted by Julianna and Monica Wimberly. CSPD is working to link special education directors to local service coordinators, and they are working on current communication plans also. Lastly, a need to discuss communication between SICC and First Steps.



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Announcement/ Public Comments	There were no announcements or public comments.	
Adjourn	Sarah Myers adjourned the meeting at 11:51 a.m. The next SICC meeting is scheduled for January 9, 2026 at MSDH.	