



OFFICE OF THE STATE
SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
STATE ADVISORY PANEL ON SPECIAL EDUCATION**

Public Meeting 7
Thursday, March 19, 2026
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Meeting conducted virtually via Microsoft Teams.

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Meeting ID: 242 524 510 978 95
Passcode: FJ2es3N3

AGENDA

SAPSE members: Tikeya Milburn (DDS), Michelle Parish, Nicole Lee-Mwandha, Kimberly Pogue (DOC), Terrence Gunthrope (DYRS), Julie Camerata

Public attendees: Alex Simbana, Elizabeth Mitchell, Aaron Wesolowski, Andrea Jones

OSSE: Jasmine Fleming, Christie Weaver-Harris

Time	Topic
6:00 – 6:10 p.m. (10 mins)	Call to Order/Welcome Vote on Agenda Vote on December 2025 and January 2026 Meeting Minutes <i>Michelle Parrish – SAPSE Vice Chair</i>
6:10 – 6:40 p.m. (30 mins)	Public Comment
6:40 – 7:25 p.m. (45 mins)	DC Graduate Profile <i>Mid Atlantic Comprehensive Center (MACC)</i> Leanne Wheeler, Rose Buckley, Kandace Jones, Barbara Friedlander, Melanie Upright OSSE: Chimere Jones - Members talked about how students with disabilities were included in the development of the competencies. They stressed the need for clear pathways that match the different types of support students may need. - Members discussed pathways for students who need disability services and noted that many families do not know about RSA services, including Pre-ETS, making it harder for students to get early transition support.

	○ Participants stressed the importance of improving communication so families understand these services before students enter high school. ● Participants asked for more “real-world” examples that show what each competency looks like in practice. These examples would help educators, families, and students understand what skills are expected. ● Members suggested creating a simple, easy-to-use resource hub that brings together tools, services, and supports connected to the competencies. This would help families and school staff know what is available and understand how different agencies work together. ● Several members said that early intervention is not clearly shown in the current framework. They recommended including basic skill development before middle school so students are better prepared for later expectations. ● The panel asked for clearer guidance on when competencies should start and how early LEAs should share this information with families. Members stressed the need for families to receive this information well before major transition points. ● Participants discussed the importance of helping students see themselves in the profile early on to help build student ownership and engagement. ● Members suggested giving panelists who could not attend the meeting a chance to share additional comments. ● The group raised questions about how homeless students are represented in the competencies and related resources. ○ Members noted that DC’s situation and number of students experiencing homelessness are different from many other states, noting that the framework may need specific adjustments.
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7:25 – 7:55 (30 mins)	SAPSE Priority Issues <i>Michelle Parrish – SAPSE Vice Chair</i> • The panel chose to delay the discussion on priorities and activities until a future meeting due to low attendance. • April agenda items will focus on taking action and planning around key priority issues. • Updates from OSSE: ○ OSSE may ask the panel for feedback on a possible change to the APR methodology at an upcoming meeting. ○ The State Board of Education (SBOE) is expected to make recommendations on the proposed graduation requirements in May. ○ OSSE acknowledged that the US Department of Education Office for Civil Rights released a statement regarding its investigation of DCPS.
7:55 –8:00 (5 mins)	Closing Future Meetings: APR

This meeting is governed by the Open Meetings Act. Please address any questions or complaints arising under this meeting to the Office of Open Government at opengovoffice@dc.gov.