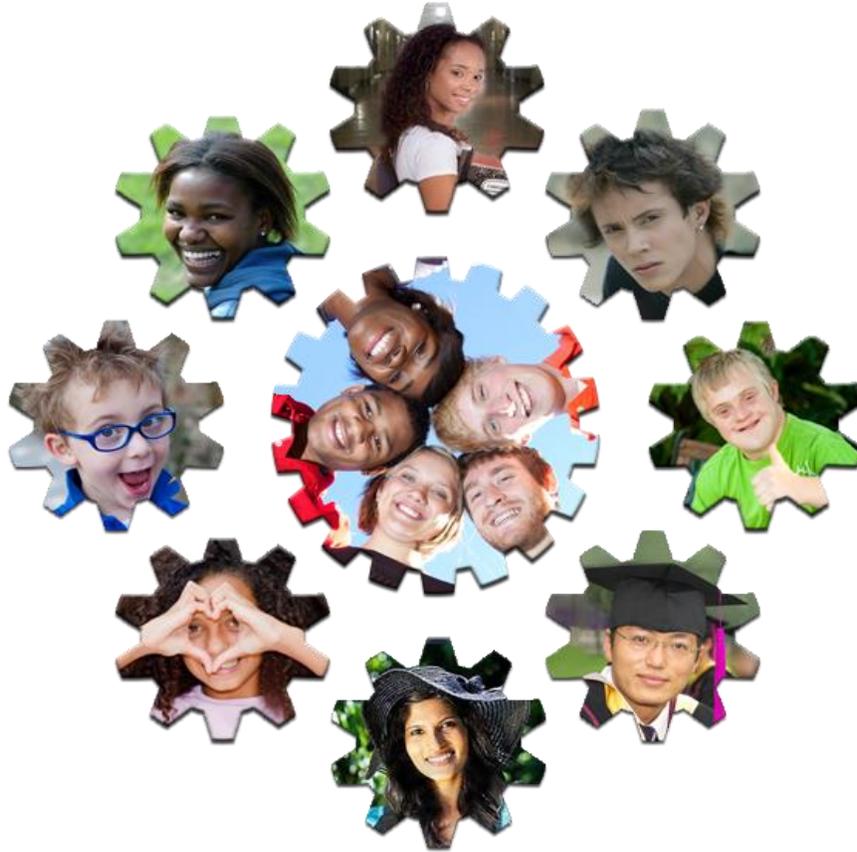


Gearing Up For Your Transitions



Annual Report 2013-2014



Submitted by:

Wendy S. Strauss, GACEC Executive Director

Terri A. Hancharick, GACEC Chairperson

Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens

516 West Lookerman Street, Dover, DE 19904

www.gacec.delaware.gov

Table of Contents

Mission Statement	1
Legal Authority	2
A Word from the Executive Director	3
Message from the Chair, Terri Hancharick	5
2013-2014 Council Goals	7
2013-2014 Highlights & Collaborative Efforts	9
Infant and Early Childhood Committee Report	13
Adult Transition Services Committee Report	15
Children and Youth Committee Report	17
Policy and Law Committee Report	18
GACEC Organization and Committee Involvement	20
2013-2014 Speakers and Presenters	23
GACEC Members	25
GACEC Staff	26
2013-2014 Regulatory Commentary	27
2013-2014 Legislative Commentary	39

MISSION STATEMENT

The Council's mission is to provide leadership through advice and advocacy for the unmet needs of citizens of all ages who are exceptional, in order to improve their lives.*

- * The term "exceptional citizens" refers to persons of all ages who have special needs. It should be noted that the GACEC state mandate for exceptional citizens includes children with special gifts and talents.



GACEC Member Howard Shiber poses with his daughters and the Lt. Governor after supporting HB 229 relating to standardized testing of students with multiple complex disabilities.

What is the Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens?

Statutory Responsibilities

In accordance with CFR 300.650 (b), the Council serves as the State Advisory Panel for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and its amendments.

1. Delaware Code: Title 14, Chapter 31, Sub. Sec. 3111
2. Federal Statute: Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and its amendments

The State Advisory Panel will:

- (1) "...advise(s) the state educational agency of unmet needs within the state in the education of children with disabilities;
- (2) comment(s) publicly on any rules or regulations proposed for issuance by the state regarding the education of children with disabilities and the procedures for distribution of funds under this part; and
- (3) assist(s) the state in developing and reporting such data and evaluations as may assist the Secretary under Section 618..."

GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CITIZENS (GACEC)

The legal authority of this Council shall be Title 14, Chapter 31, Exceptional Persons, Sub. Sec. 3111: "The Governor shall appoint an advisory council to act in an advisory capacity to the State Board of Education and other State agencies on the needs of exceptional citizens." The General Assembly shall provide for the maintenance of the Council. The Council shall also serve in the capacity of the Advisory Panel as required by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

(a) *General.* The membership of the State advisory panel must consist of members appointed by the Governor, or any other official authorized under State law to make these appointments, that is representative of the State population and that is composed of individuals involved in, or concerned with the education of children with disabilities including:

1. Parents of children with disabilities (ages birth through 26);
2. Individuals with disabilities;
3. Teachers;
4. Representatives of institutions of higher education that prepare special education and related services personnel;
5. State and local education officials, including officials who carry out activities under subtitle B of title VII of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11431 et seq.);
6. Administrators of programs for children with disabilities;
7. Representatives of other State agencies involved in the financing or delivery of related services to children with disabilities;
8. Representatives of private schools and public charter schools;
9. Not less than one representative of a vocational, community, or business organization concerned with the provision of transition services to children with disabilities;
10. A Representative from the State child welfare agency responsible for foster care; and
11. Representatives from the State juvenile and adult corrections agencies.

(b) *Special Rule.* A majority of the members of the panel must be individuals with disabilities or parents of children with disabilities (ages birth through 26).

GACEC plants the seeds to ensure equal justice for Delawareans with disabilities and their families



A WORD FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

A very significant part of life for youth with disabilities and their families is transition planning. This usually begins at the age of 14 however; families are encouraged to think about the future of their child as they are growing. The focus is on improving academic and functional achievement while promoting the students long-term goals and movement from school to post school activities by preparing them for adulthood. As you might imagine this process can be daunting, this gives emphasis to the need for the Delaware disability hub, now known as Deldhub.

The GACEC worked on the creation of the State Transition website this past year with funding and support from the legislature. The process introduced us to a great team from Delaware Technology Initiative (DTI), who we now consider our family. We were also blessed to have Robin Coventry as our project coordinator. Having a website to assist students, parents, caregivers, teachers, administrators and case workers and all other interested parties to understand transition and how to access resources was one of the overarching recommendations of the State Transition Task Force for Emerging Adults with Disabilities and Special Health Care Needs (STTF) that was headed by GACEC Chair Terri Hancharick and myself. There was a need to develop, support and maintain a transition website to improve access to information about transition planning and to have reliable, up to date information in one central location. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the STTF members, individuals, organizations and state agencies from around the state and the country as well as our state legislators and believing in us and to the GACEC design team and staff that put their heart and soul into this project. I know this site is going to be beneficial to so many in the state and across the nation. Additionally, the support of our student interns was a blessing during this busy time. Thank you to Brian Hartman and Marissa Band from the Disability Law Program who were very instrumental in the process. It should also be noted that a debt of gratitude is owed to Dr. Ninka Dosa and her team from Healthy Transitions New York for allowing us to use the amazing information that they had already collected on healthcare.

This year the Legislature again tasked GACEC to head up a Task Force to investigate the current web based resources available to the early childhood disability community. Terri and I chaired the House Concurrent Resolution 31 Task Force and met several times with members of the early childhood community to explore existing services for this group, as well as identify gaps in services and areas of improvement. The final report of the Task Force was submitted in July.

Once again we had a wonderful turnout for our Disability History and Awareness poster contest. We had over 200 entries and this year we added the submission of electronic graphics for this poster contest. As you can imagine each year gets harder and harder to pick the winners. GACEC is pleased to continue our partnership with the Delaware Department of Education to continue to promote inclusion, acceptance, and understanding of Disabilities, Disability History and Advocacy in our schools. In addition to the poster contest every year we also send out a newsletter starting at the end of September and all through October to talk about disability history and awareness month. The Disability Education and Awareness Program (DEAP) coordinator worked with students from Dover High School training them in puppetry skills used during a Kids on the Block performance, allowing them to perform for the younger students in the district. The DEAP was also excited to venture into the arena of early childhood oral health with a grant from the Department of Public Health, Oral Health Division. DEAP coordinator Sybil White, with volunteers from the oral health profession took to early childhood centers to teach about oral health, including ways that individuals with disabilities might use adaptive equipment or do things differently. In all, over 250 early childhood students were able to enjoy the program.

Another exciting project that the GACEC organizes annually is the Heart-to-Heart Hugs campaign previously known as the Sleeping Bag Campaign or Project Hug. Every year it just warms my heart to see the amount of giving in Delaware Communities. We had so many beautiful homemade scarfs, blankets, mittens and other

items it was unbelievable. Well over 3000 items were donated for the children who are homeless or in foster care in Delaware.

I would like to thank Council members for all of their hard work and dedication to the many projects that we have worked on this past year. I want to take this opportunity to thank our past chair, Terri Hancharick for a great five years of service as the chairperson of the GACEC. Thank goodness we are not saying goodbye but we will just be seeing you in a different role on Council. Good luck to you and Jack Jadach as you Develop and implement the EPIC program.

Delaware has so many great things to be proud of when it comes to the disability field however as we all know there's always room for enhancement. I'm looking forward to another fantastic year with our great advocates on the Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens, as well as our state and community partners.

Fondly,

Wendy



Message from the Chair

Ten years ago I was invited to speak on a panel at one of the GACEC's retreats. I had no idea what the GACEC was. The topic was inclusion in schools. My daughter had been at John G. Leach School for many years and I had been the PTA President at the school for many years as well. That was pretty much the extent of my advocacy skills. I gave a talk on why my daughter was in a segregated setting. I remember I talked about how grateful I was that if I had chosen to do so, I could have sent Brigitte to her neighborhood school. I didn't feel the supports were there for a child with the intense needs that she had. I'm not sure if Brigitte was still young and you asked me today what my answer would be. I do know that I don't regret the intense supports that were afforded her and the resources given to parents in that setting. I do wish that Brigitte had been more prepared for life in the community. Now that she is 27 and totally in the community I see so much more that we need to do to prepare students and families for adulthood.

That is why I am so proud that the State Transition Task Force for Emerging Adults with Disabilities and Special Health Care Needs was formed last year under the GACEC. From the work of that Task Force, the DeLAWARE DisABILITY Hub was born. The DeLAWARE DisABILITY Hub will help many students and their families through the transition process that is so difficult to navigate. I hope that this website will allow families and students to see all of the options available to them. Wendy and the staff at GACEC worked tirelessly gathering information and compiling the most complete repository of information for individuals with disabilities, their families, and those who work for and with them.

As you read through this annual report you will be amazed at all of the accomplishments we had this year. We are so fortunate to have a group of volunteers that spend their day working at their jobs or taking care of their sons and daughters with disabilities and then give up a very long evening each month to lend their expertise to our monthly meeting. It has been a privilege to work alongside of the Department of Education and this group of advocates.

After my talk all of those years ago at the retreat, members of the Adult Transition Committee approached me and asked me to join the GACEC. The GACEC was my first membership on a council. You taught me that I had a voice in a larger community than my daughter's school. I have joined just about every disability council in the state of Delaware since that time. It has been an honor to chair the GACEC for the past 5 years. And no, in all of that time I have not learned Robert's Rules!

Respectfully,
Terri Hancharick,
Chairperson





June 2014 saw the launch of the State Transition Website, Del**AWARE** Dis**ABILITY** Hub, or DELDHUB as it is affectionately called. The website was the culmination of many hundreds of hours of hard work and dedication by GACEC staff, as well as members of the State Transition Task Force for Emerging Adults with Disabilities and Special Health Care Needs.

GACEC COUNCIL GOALS FOR 2014-2015

Action is the foundational key to all success.

-Pablo Picasso

GOAL 1: Outcomes for students with exceptionalities will be improved by monitoring and supporting the implementation of the Annual Performance Report (APR), State Professional Development Grant (SPDG), Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) Flexibility Waiver, Race to the Top (RTTT) for Early Childhood, No Child Left Behind (NCLB) as the NCLB pertains to students with exceptionalities and review of the Department of Education (DOE) Special Education Regulations.

Activities for this year include:

1. Ensure compliance of IDEA and RTTT by monitoring and reporting on results of:
 - Annual Performance Report
 - State Professional Development Grant
 - No Child Left Behind
 - DOE Special Education Regulations
 - Doe Focused Monitoring reports for all districts and charter schools, including Needs Based Funding Verification
 - ESEA Flexibility Waiver
 - Early Childhood RTTT
 - Overall DOE enforcement and district compliance of State and Federal requirements.
2. Work with DOE when a district non-compliance issue arises until it is resolved.
3. Advocate for professional development for teachers, paraprofessionals and specialists in area of students with exceptionalities.
4. Advocate for service personnel at the appropriate levels with the appropriate qualifications.
5. Monitor and facilitate implementation of Speech-Language Pathology (SLP) program.

GOAL 2: Programs and services for students with exceptionalities will be improved by monitoring and advocating for the delivery of evidence-based special education and related services in the least restrictive and natural environments.

Activities for this year could include:

1. Review and comment on Medicaid funding, including programs and system for processing requests for all individuals with special needs. Comments will be sent to DMMA and Medicaid Representatives.
2. Review and comment on proposed Department of Education regulatory changes. Comments will be sent to DOE, State Board of Education and Professional Standards Board for discussion at the State Board of Education meetings.
3. Advocate ensuring that educational services and materials, particularly accessible instructional materials (AIM), will be available in all settings.
4. Foster collaboration among agencies that address special education in the State of Delaware.
5. Review and comment on proposed charter school regulations and the development of the charter school framework.
6. Review educational programs in the Department of Services for Children, Youth and their Families (DSCY&F) for compliance with FAPE (Free Appropriate Public Education).
7. Research and advocate for appropriate physical education services for students with exceptionalities.
8. Advocate for participation of students with exceptionalities in school sponsored athletic teams and activities.
9. Facilitate the development and implementation of student-oriented regulations on the use of restraints and seclusion as mandated by Senate Bill 100.
10. Provide commentary on school discipline regulations and collaborate with the Department of Education on improving Annual Performance Report Indicators relating to discipline.

GOAL 3: Programs and services for citizens with exceptionalities will be improved by reviewing and advocating for funding, policies and procedures that positively impact and empower citizens with exceptionalities.

Activities for this year could include:

1. Identify, review and provide comments on memoranda of understanding, inter-agency agreements, legislation and regulations. Send comments to the lead agency in the memoranda with copies to the other agencies involved.
2. Promote implementation and compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
3. Advocate for increased and appropriate transition services statewide in accordance with the recommendations of the State Transition Task Force for Emerging Adults with Disabilities and Special Health Care Needs developed by Senate Concurrent Resolution (SCR) 34.
4. Advocate and promote partnerships working toward the development and implementation of a transition website as recommended by the report from the State Transition Task Force for Emerging Adults with Disabilities and Special Health Care Needs.
5. In implementation of House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 31, facilitate completion of a report to policymakers by June 25, 2014 with recommendations for development of a resource website for use by families of children with exceptionalities from birth through age 13.
6. Advocate for programs that enable individuals with exceptionalities to live independently and become active citizens in their community.
7. Foster partnerships with other agencies and councils to promote rights and quality of life for individuals with exceptionalities.
8. Review and comment on prison education system and adult educational services.
9. Advocate for and promote the expansion of the Disability Education and Awareness Program/Kids on the Block Puppet Programs throughout all schools, childcare facilities and community settings in Delaware.
10. Monitor and support the inclusion of students with disabilities in the Delaware Stars rating system.

GOAL 4: The GACEC will impact legislators, agencies, councils and other entities through more effective communication strategies.

Activities for this year could include:

1. Continue current modes of communication (letters, outside committee involvement, etc.).
2. Provide training for GACEC members on how to discuss issues with state legislators and on the GACEC Code of Ethics.
3. Increase partnerships with other agencies and councils that are involved in promoting rights and quality of life for individuals with disabilities.
4. Encourage diversity of participants in GACEC meetings, membership and activities.
5. Encourage collaborative efforts among committees, particularly in working with the Policy and Law Committee, on issues of overlapping interest to individual committees.
6. Encourage Council members to contact their legislators each year to introduce themselves and the GACEC and report back to the Council.

GOAL 5: Delaware Department of Education standards-based reform and accountability efforts will be reviewed in order to provide advice and advocacy for the inclusion of students with exceptionalities in all programs and initiatives.

Activities for this year could include:

1. Review and comment on any changes to statewide services and the educational accountability system in relation to the needs of children with exceptionalities.
2. Participate on Department of Education committees and workgroups in order to provide input on issues impacting students with exceptionalities.

Highlights and Collaborations

The GACEC held its Annual Fall Retreat on October 4 & 5, 2013, at the Atlantic Sands Hotel and Conference Center in Rehoboth Beach, DE as part of the Council's planning activities for FY 2014. Retreat participants included Council members, as well as Sarah Celestin and Barbara Mazza from the Delaware Department of Education (DOE), who presented on the Department's new compliance monitoring system.

The following is a list of some of GACEC's collaborative efforts with other organizations and agencies to promote education and awareness:

- The GACEC **wrote more than 1800 letters** to the Governor, Legislators, the Department of Education and other agencies advocating on behalf of individuals with disabilities and their families.
- **LIFE Conference Design Team**- The annual LIFE Conference seeks to assure that persons with disabilities in Delaware have full access to supportive Legislation, Independence, Family support services and Education. GACEC Executive Director Wendy Strauss is a member of the LIFE Conference Design Team. The team is also comprised of representatives from DDC, SCPD, Delaware Health and Social Services (DHSS), Delaware Public Health (DPH), Easter Seals, the Division of Medicaid and Medicare Assistance (DMMA), DOE and the Delaware Coalition for the Americans with Disabilities Act (DCADA).
- The annual **LIFE Conference** on January 16, 2014 was attended by over **600** people. **LIFE** stands for **L**egislation, **I**ndependence, **F**amily and **E**ducation. This is the largest conference focusing on disabilities in Delaware.
- **Disability Awareness Legislative Event** –On April 2, 2014, participants spent the afternoon at Legislative Hall speaking with their legislators on policy issues, such as ensuring that school districts throughout Delaware have qualified Speech Language Pathologists (SLPs) and other educational professionals. Over **200** individuals received information on disability related issues at Legislative Hall through the information packets provided and by speaking with the advocates in attendance.
- GACEC Executive Director Wendy Strauss is a member of the **SCPD Policy and Law Committee**. This committee reviewed and/or provided commentary on **more than 130** proposed or final regulations, State bills, Federal bills and many other policies which impact persons with disabilities.
- **SCPD Brain Injury Committee (BIC)** - GACEC Executive Director Wendy Strauss is a member of the SCPD Brain Injury Committee (BIC). BIC's mission is to improve the lives of Delawareans with brain injury by providing the following: 1) a forum for the sharing and analysis of information; 2) a network to identify and facilitate acquisition of enhanced resources; 3) a technical assistance provider to educate public and private policymakers; and 4) an advocacy agency to promote a consumer oriented, effective injury and prevention service delivery system.
- **Statewide Transition Task Force for Emerging Adults with Disabilities and Special Health Care Needs**-GACEC Executive Director Wendy Strauss and GACEC Chairperson Terri Hancharick took the lead on forming this task force following a request from Council's Adult/Transition Services Committee in 2011. The Delaware Legislature passed Senate Concurrent Resolution (SCR) No. 34, establishing the State Transition Task Force for Emerging Adults with Disabilities and Special Health Care Needs and its related work groups. The Task Force studied the transitional needs of youth and young adults with

disabilities and special health care needs. The Task Force's main goal was to develop strategies to ensure successful transition from school age to adult services.

Within the Task Force, there were four work groups, each focusing on a specific area of concern. The Work Groups addressed concerns and issues within the following areas: Education, Employment, Health and Housing/Transportation. The Task Force for Emerging Adults with Disabilities and Special Health Care Needs was pleased to count self-advocates and parent advocates from each of Delaware's three counties among its members. The Task Force Report was released to Governor Markell and the General Assembly in July 2014.

- **DOE Special Education Leadership Work Group**-GACEC staff attend these statewide meetings to monitor what is happening with special education in Delaware, as well as to provide input.
- **Dover Air Force Base Exceptional Families Resources Program**-GACEC staff has attended two information fairs held on Dover Air Force Base by their Exceptional Families Resources Program. Information about the GACEC and our mission was shared with members of the Exceptional Families Resources Program.
- **Transition Conference** -GACEC staff attended the Transition Conference held by DOE and the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) on March 31, 2014. Staff provided information on the GACEC and how Council seeks to provide advice and advocacy for persons with disabilities for their full lifespan in Delaware. Brochures and other information from the Delaware Coalition for Americans with Disabilities Act (DCADA) and Camp Lenape were shared. Executive Directory Wendy Strauss presented information about the State Transition website.
- **Inter-Agency Coordinating Council (ICC)**-The ICC focuses on early childhood issues. Wendy Strauss and other members of Council are members and attend meetings to provide information and keep up to date on new information regarding early childhood issues.
- **Access to General Education Curriculum (AGEC) Work Group**- This group focuses on assessment issues for students in special education. GACEC Office Manager Kathie Cherry attends these meetings to provide input from her perspective as a parent, as well as a representative of the Council.
- **Family Leadership Advisory Council (FLAC)** - This Council was established by Delaware Family Voices to address the unmet service needs of persons with disabilities and to provide guidance and resources to their families or caregivers. GACEC Executive Director Wendy Strauss regularly attends FLAC meetings to share and obtain information.
- **Transition and Post-Secondary Programs for Students with Intellectual Disabilities (TPSID)** - The University of Delaware Center for Disabilities Studies (CDS) has been awarded a \$2.3 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education to create comprehensive, inclusive and customized postsecondary education programs for students with intellectual disabilities. The Transitions and Postsecondary Programs for Students with Intellectual Disabilities (TPSID) demonstration grant provides funding over five years (2010-2015). . GACEC Executive Director Wendy Strauss regularly attends TPSID meetings to share and obtain information.

- **CDS Emergency Preparedness for Individuals with Disabilities (EPID)** - The EPID initiative focuses on expanding family-centered and inclusive emergency planning and preparedness in Delaware. The emphasis is on family involvement, preparedness of individuals with disabilities and training for emergency planners and responders. GACEC staff regularly attends meetings of the CDS Disaster Preparedness Committee to share and obtain information.
- **Heart 2 Heart Hugs-** This initiative of the GACEC began in the fall of 2011 as the Sleeping Bag Campaign. Soon the endeavor expanded with the goal of collecting new, warm, cuddly items for children who are homeless or in foster care in Delaware. At a reception held at Massey Station on February 19, 2014 the GACEC was proud to distribute thousands of “practical, portable, positive hugs” in the form of coats, blankets, scarves, cuddly animals, handmade quilts, afghans, pajamas, slippers and more to the assembled Hug Ambassadors. These Hug Ambassadors included social workers, school nurses, foster care coordinators and representatives from the Division of Services for Children, Youth and their Families (DSCYF). Representative Quinton Johnson provided the welcoming remarks.
- **Disability History and Awareness Month Activities-** 2013 marked the fourth year for the GACEC’s Disability History and Awareness Month efforts and activities.
 - **Disability History and Awareness Month Resource Manuals-**
The GACEC produced and distributed a resource manual for use at every school and charter school in Delaware. The manuals include information on the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) of 2004, the Help America Vote Act of 2002, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990. The manual also contains information regarding disability etiquette, examples of People First Language, activities to help promote disability awareness and inclusion in the classroom and a sample letter to notify parents of upcoming Disability History and Awareness activities. In an effort to conserve resources, a PDF file of the resource manual is available on the GACEC website.
 - **Disability History and Awareness Month Poster Contest-** The GACEC was pleased to coordinate their fourth annual Disability History and Awareness Month Poster Contest. A request was sent out to all school districts to have their students create posters about Disability Awareness. Entries poured in from throughout the state, culminating in three winners from each category: Elementary School, Middle School and High School.
 - **Disability History and Awareness Month Poster Contest Awards Luncheon-** On December 11, 2013, the winners of the GACEC’s Disability History and Awareness Month Poster Contest were honored at the third annual Awards Luncheon, which was held at Delaware Technical and Community College. The winning students were joined by their families, as well as Lieutenant Governor Matt Denn and other honored guests. The students, their teachers, principals and parents were treated to lunch with the dignitaries. Each student was also given an award certificate and a prize was awarded for each category.
- **Center for Disabilities Studies (CDS) Community Advisory Council (CAC)** - The Center for Disabilities Studies is supported with its work through the contribution of their Community Advisory Council (CAC). The CAC is composed of individuals with developmental and related disabilities; family members of individuals with developmental disabilities; representatives from disability-related training, service, and advocacy organizations; representatives from state agencies; and other disability advocates. Meetings of the CAC are held a four times a year. GACEC Executive Director Wendy Strauss is a CAC member.

- **Special Olympics Delaware (SODE)** - Special Olympics Delaware (SODE) is an organization that changes lives by promoting understanding, acceptance and inclusion between people with and without intellectual disabilities. Through year-round sports training, athletic competition and related programs conducted for more than 3,500 children and adults with intellectual disabilities, the organization creates a model community that celebrates people's diverse gifts. Special Olympics Delaware builds sports skills, confidence, strength, motivation and self-esteem - not just for athletes, but for everyone involved. The GACEC partnered with the SODE to distribute information on inclusion.



GACEC Infant and Early Childhood Committee 2013-2014

The Infant and Early Childhood Committee set the following goals for 2013-2014:

- To ensure compliance with Individuals with Disability Education Act (IDEA) and Race To The Top (RTTT) by monitoring and reporting on results of:
 - Annual Performance Report for Part C-Early Intervention and Part B-619;
 - State Professional Development Grant; and
 - Early Learning Challenge grant.
- To foster collaboration among agencies which provide special education in the state of Delaware, and review educational programs in the Department of Services for Children, Youth and their Families for compliance with FAPE (Free and Appropriate Public Education).
- To identify, review, and provide comments on memoranda of understanding, interagency agreements, legislation, and regulations; to facilitate completions of a report to policymakers with recommendations for development of a resource website for use by families of children with exceptionalities from birth to age 13 (HCR 31); to monitor and support the inclusion of students with disabilities in the Delaware Stars Quality Rating and Improvement System; and to advocate for and promote the expansion of the Disability Education and Awareness Program throughout all schools, child cares and community settings in Delaware.
- To increase partnerships with other agencies and councils in promoting rights and quality of life for individuals with disabilities.

In order to meet its goals, the committee met with representatives from the Department of Education Special Education 619 program and Birth to Three Early Intervention program. The committee also met with the Deputy Director of the Office of Early Learning, which has been charged with the implementation of the Early Learning Challenge grant.

In November, committee members met with Nancy Widdoes, Director of the Office of Early Learning. She reviewed the four goals of the Early Learning Challenge grant and discussed the various strategies being implemented to accomplish the four goals. An overview of the Goals and Strategies of the Early Learning Challenge grant was shared with members of the GACEC. Nancy discussed work in Delaware Stars to require inclusion for child care programs achieving a 5 star rating.

The committee also met with Verna Thompson, 619 Coordinator, DOE in November and again in January to review elements from the Annual Performance Report (APR), including Least Restrictive Environment (LRE), Child Outcomes and Transition. The committee discussed the tracking form for LRE that will provide data on placement of children served in 619 and the location of their special education services. Child outcomes data was reviewed and discussed, with continuing training and development occurring. The data supporting transition of children at age three with services initiated by children's third birthday revealed that this element was not met by several school districts this year. This area will be a focus of professional development and discussion this year.

In January, the committee met with Mary Moor from Project BEST and the Division of Prevention and Behavioral Health (DPBH) to discuss progress through Early Childhood Mental Health Consultants in supporting child care programs serving diverse young children. Though data kept by the project does not directly address the number of children expelled from child care, data have been kept on continued participation by children whose child cares centers participated in the program. This data reveals considerable success in continuing children's participation in their child care programs.

In March Wendy Strauss visited the committee to promote the current project to support disability awareness for children participating in child care programs. The committee discussed ways to support this project and offered to help identify child care centers that might be interested in participating in the pilot of the project.

Ann Phillips, from Family Voices, joined the committee by phone in April. Ann gave an update on the Parent 2 Parent Program started last year. Ann and another of her staff are training parents of children with special health care needs to support other parents experiencing similar issues in a statewide Parent to Parent program. A number of support parents have been trained at this time. There continues to be an issue in identifying families who are in need of support. Ann asked the committee's help in accessing families who could benefit from support of other families. This was shared with the entire GACEC with discussion about how best to support Family Voices in this project.

In May, the committee met with Rosanne Griff-Cabelli, past Birth to Three Early Intervention Coordinator, who is standing in for the new coordinator who is on Family Medical Leave. The committee reviewed the APR for Part C and discussed services in natural environments, focusing on the small percentage of services still provided outside of families' homes and child care centers. Issues related to child outcome data were discussed. The early intervention system continues to work to strengthen the validity and reliability of the data reported. Transition elements have been substantially met and strategies to accomplish this were discussed.

At each meeting of the Infant and Early Childhood committee, topics were discussed based on activities throughout the state during the preceding month. Committee members were active in a variety of related functions and brought information and concerns to the whole committee for discussion. The committee also worked to stay informed on the progress in implementation of the Early Learning Challenge grant and how to advocate for inclusion as an ongoing value of all the new and enhanced work initiated as part of it.

Overall, the Infant and Early Childhood committee did much to meet its goals and to provide support for programs and services for Delaware's youngest children with disabilities and their families.



GACEC Adult Transition Services Committee 2013-2014

The Adult Transition Services committee had a busy year continuing to monitor services for young adults with disabilities transitioning into adult services. Their goals and activities included the following:

- The committee planned to monitor Medicaid, DSCYF, and FAPE compliance, adult education in the prisons, transportation, and preparedness for students leaving school and review legislation and code that would affect adult transition services.
- Dale Matusевич, DOE reported to the committee about transition programming in schools in Delaware. He discussed several areas of transition in the schools:
 - Technical Assistance from the National Secondary Transition Technical Assistance Center (NSTTAC), National Dropout Prevention Center and the National Post School Outcome Center
 - Indicator-13 – Transition IEP compliance
 - Indicator-14- post-secondary outcomes
- Jane Gallivan of the Division of Developmental Disabilities Services (DDDS) spoke to the committee about the Family Support Waiver. Jane has been seeking community input through a series of meetings regarding what families of persons with disabilities would like the Family Support Waiver to contain. A report from DDDS on the Family Support Waiver is due to the legislature on April 1, 2014. Jane stated that she has completed 15 information-gathering sessions and has two more sessions planned. She has heard significant input from families regarding the need for respite care, Personal Care Assistants (PCA), behavioral and medical consults in home settings, home modifications and funding for assistive technology. Jane said that in the coming months, she will be working on consolidating the information that she has gathered into a comprehensive report. If the legislature approves the final report in April, work can begin on building the Family Support Waiver.
- Bonnie Hitch of DART Paratransit and the Delaware Transit Corporation (DTC) presented on the series of public comment meetings held by DART/DTC regarding the changes to public transit and Paratransit operations in Delaware. The deadline for public comment was Friday, November 22, 2013 with DART/DTC will be meeting on Monday, November 25, 2013 to discuss the data and feedback collected during the public comment meetings. Bonnie stated that she could not speak regarding any common issues voiced by attendees of the public hearings, since the data had not been fully reviewed. She reported that DART/DTC is implementing a new way of partnering with agencies and is currently attempting to replicate the processes which a particular agency implements when working with Paratransit. This agency was not specifically named. Bonnie also discussed the electronic bus tracking system which was mentioned to the Adult Transition Services Committee during a presentation last year. She reported that the process is almost complete in Kent and Sussex Counties and is still being introduced in New Castle County. Once implemented, Bonnie stated that she believes the electronic bus tracking system will greatly improve services and punctuality. Data on the effectiveness of the bus tracking system will not be available for several months.
- Robert Overmiller kept the committee up-to-date on various bills. Legislation Robert reported on included information on the following items. Senate Bill 20, the Prison Education Bill, passed the House unanimously. A House Resolution for social promotion, which will examine dropout rates and proposes solutions to the identified issues, was brought to the floor at the end of April. A Senate Bill regarding the removal of education requirements from the electrical journeyman license was discussed. Representative

Mulrooney introduced a bill related to Career and Technical Education (CTE) Advisory Boards. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB), several legislators and other key people, including school board members, are discussing the possibility of turning the soon to be former Dover High School facility into Polytech North. This would provide Kent County with another vocational school option. The Dover High Building is actually structurally sound and though there will be cost associated with renovations, there is money set aside for demolition of the Dover High building that could be applied to those expenses. If approved, it is possible that in the next three years there could be another Polytech campus.

- The committee heard a report from Maureen Whalen from DOE about the prison education system. Federal funding has ceased for college credits for individuals in the prison system. There is continued mentoring available. Maureen also discussed the GED program and the Groves Adult Education program that allows the obtainment of a high school diploma. Groves is open to individuals 16 and older. Students must test at the 9th grade level. They complete an assessment to see if remedial programming is necessary.
- The committee discussed the focus for next year to align the State Transition Task Force for Emerging Adults with Disabilities and Special Health Care Needs Plan, drafted by GACEC, with the committee's goals and to monitor progress. The committee will also visit a prison during the summer of 2014 to monitor the education programming.
- Committee chair Cathy Cowin was named co-chair of the Red Clay committee for inclusion for students in the Central School which is a separate setting for students with IEPs this committee is made up of parents as well as educational staff members. The first meeting was held and background information was given about the district's plan.



Children and Youth Committee 2013-2014

At the time of printing no report had been submitted by the Children and Youth Committee. The following is a brief highlight of their year using information gleaned from monthly committee reports.

- Dale Matusевич from DOE reported about the State's transition cadres. He gave the history, talked about the process and demonstrated the tools used to develop action plans.
- The committee met with Beth Mineo to discuss the current status of the SLP program at the University of Delaware. Fall 2016 is the potential start date.
- The Committee discussed the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) Flexibility Waiver and Restraints and Seclusion draft regulations. The Committee discussed the ESEA issue with the academic performance framework and the concern that it may cause discrimination for those working with children with disabilities.
- Linda Smith and Tracy Neugebauer, from DOE, presented an overview of Indicator 4 data on expulsion and suspension rates.

GACEC Policy and Law (P&L) Committee 2013-14

This year the Policy and Law Committee reviewed over 25 pieces of proposed legislation and more than 40 pieces of proposed regulations, along with several policy change drafts and interagency agreements. Please see the attached appendices for a full listing of responses and outcomes of regulations and legislation commented on by the GACEC after careful review by the Policy and Law Committee and full Council. Several key pieces of legislation are listed below.

House Bill No. 33: This Act requires each public school district to equip the schools within their respective jurisdictions with an adequate number of panic buttons that may be used to immediately alert local law enforcement authorities of a security threat at a school. Once activated, the required silent alarm system will immediately alert authorities without simultaneously activating an audible alarm within the school building. **This bill was tabled in committee.**

House Bill No. 167: The bill as amended would make it unlawful for “any public employer to inquire into or consider the criminal record, criminal history, or credit score of an applicant for employment during the initial application process, up to and including the first interview”. The committee recommended a strong endorsement subject to consideration of two amendments. **The amended bill was signed on May 8, 2014.**

House Bill No. 214: This bill requires that hospitals, physicians and other health professionals provide information about Down syndrome and Down syndrome resources and support groups to parents who have received a prenatal or post natal diagnosis of Down syndrome. The Department of Health and Social Services is tasked with collecting and distribution appropriate information to health care providers for distribution to parents. This bill will ensure that parents receiving a Down syndrome diagnosis are timely provided accurate and complete information about Down syndrome to help them in their planning process. **The amended bill was signed by the Governor on May 7, 2014.**

House Bill No. 228: The intent of this bill was to make adjustments to the existing Title 31 of the Delaware Code relating to the Child Placement Review Act in order to be consistent with current practices, clarify ambiguities and eliminate sections that no longer apply. **The amended bill was signed on July 1, 2014.**

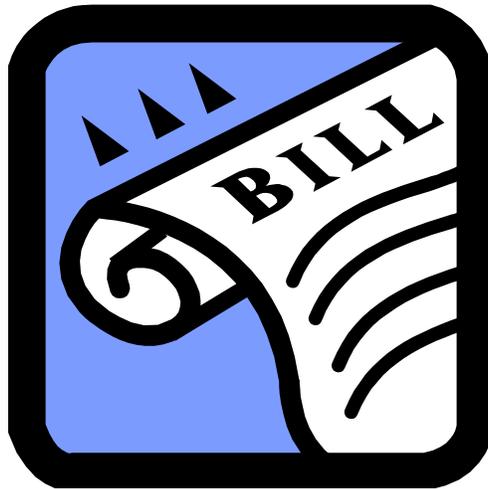
House Bill No.251: This bill rises from recommendations from the Office of the Child Advocate and Child Protection accountability commission. On September 27, 2013, the GACEC submitted comments to the authors of a draft version of the legislation with general revisions that are logical and are helpful in clarifying standards and procedures. The committee recommended that a “clear and convincing evidence” standard be adopted to justify both an initial removal of guardianship authority from a parent and to justify rejection of a parental petition seeking return/rescission of guardianship. Numerous other observations concurrent with this bill were also mentioned. The committee recommended sharing these observations with policymakers. **The bill was signed by the Governor on June 10, 2014**

House Bill No. 337: This bill promotes uniformity in the timing of the application process for school districts, charter schools, magnet schools, and career and technical education schools. **This bill was signed by the Governor on June 25, 2014**

Senate Bill No. 181: This bill effects many discrete amendments to the standards and procedures for inclusion on the Child Protection Registry. Council shared several concerns including that children and adult’s inclusion on the registry be subject to a more robust review. **This bill was signed by the Governor on July 15,**

Senate Bill No. 229: This bill allows for assessment Exemptions for Specific Students. Section 1 of the Act would permit the state’s most severely cognitively disabled students, with the consent of their parents, IEP teams, and school districts, to receive special exemptions from taking either of the state’s standardized assessments. The academic progress of those students would still be measured in order to ensure that they are being challenged and provided meaningful instruction. Sections 2 and 3 of the Act attempt to ensure that evidence-based interventions are provided for young students who have dyslexia and related disabilities, to ensure that they are receiving necessary assistance in learning to read. Council strongly endorsed this legislation. **This bill was signed by the Governor on July 15, 2014.**

House Bill No. 388: This bill allows peace officers who have completed a DHSS approved training course to receive, carry, and administer the drug naloxone. Naloxone is a prescription drug which, when administered to a person undergoing an opioid related overdose, can have the effect of counteracting the effects of the overdose. Immunity is provided to officers who administer naloxone in good faith.



Many of the GACEC’s comments were taken into consideration and changes were made to proposed bills and regulations.

GACEC members and staff are involved on a recurrent basis with the following organizations and committees. These groups assist the Council with interagency collaboration and coalition building.

- 31st Democratic Council Committee
- 321 Foundation
- Adoption Committee
- Alliance for Full Participation Committee
- American Association of University Women
- American Counseling Association
- ARC of Delaware
- Art Therapy Express
- Association for Supervision & Curriculum Development
- Autism Delaware
- Autism Work Group
- Camden-Wyoming Challenger Little League
- Camp Lenape/Camp Manito (UCP)
- Children & Adults w/Attention Deficit Disorder (CHADD)
- Collaborative Efforts to Reinforce Transition Success (CERTS)
- Correctional Education Association
- CPAC- Child Protection Accountability Commission
- DDC Data Analysis Ad-Hoc Committee
- DE & Natl. Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)
- DE Coalition for Americans w/Disabilities Act
- DE State Teachers Association
- Delaware Asperger's Support and Advocacy Group
- Delaware Association of School Administrators
- Delaware Care Plan Trust Board
- Delaware Counseling Association
- Delaware Early Childhood Council
- Delaware Education Support System (DESS) Advisory Council
- Delaware Families for Hands and Voices
- Delaware Family Support Coordinating Council
- Delaware Healthy Mothers & Infant Consortium (DHMIC)
- Delaware Parent Teacher Association (PTA)
- Delaware State Network of Educators
- Department of Education, Special Education Group

GACEC members and staff are involved on a recurrent basis with the following organizations and committees. These groups assist the Council with interagency collaboration and coalition building.

- Dept. of Labor Vocational Rehabilitation Advisory Committee
- Developmental Disabilities Council (DDC)
- DHSS Mortality Review Board
- DOE IEP Work Group
- DOE Teacher Retention and Recruitment Committee
- DOE Transition Council
- Domestic Violence Coordinating Council (DVCC)
- Dover Air Force Base Exceptional Families Resources Program
- Down Syndrome Association
- Division of Service to Aging and Adults with Physical Disabilities (DSAAPD)
- DVRC For Visually Impaired Council
- Employment First Initiative Oversight Commission
- Endless Possibilities in the Community (EPIC)
- Family SHADE
- Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Task Force
- Governor's Advisory Council for Aging and Disabled Persons (GACADP)
- Governor's Commission on Building Access to Community-Based Services (GCBACS)
- Governor's Commission on Employment of People w/Disabilities
- Health Care Commission Disability Health Equity Sub Committee
- Healthy Delawareans with Disabilities
- Hearing Loss Association of DE
- Help Me Grow Committee
- Indian River School Board
- Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) for Part C of IDEA
- Kent Inter-Agency Council
- LIFE Conference Design Team
- McKean High School Inclusion Workforce Committee
- Military Community Partners (MCP)
- National and DE Chapter of Hands and Voices
- Natl. Assoc. for the Education of Young Children
- Parent Information Center of Delaware (PIC)
- Protection & Advocacy of Individual Rights (PAIR)
- Respite Care Committee
- Restraints and Seclusion Committee
- State Council for Persons with Disabilities (SCPD)
- SCPD Brain Injury Committee (BIC)
- SCPD Policy and Law Committee

GACEC members and staff are involved on a recurrent basis with the following organizations and committees. These groups assist the Council with interagency collaboration and coalition building.

- SCPD Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Committee
- Sexual Assault Network of DE (SAND)
- Speech/Language Pathologist Task Force
- State Transition Task Force for Emerging Adults with Disabilities and Special Health Care Needs and associated Work and Discussion Groups (see bullets, below)
 - Education Work Group
 - Employment Work Group
 - Health Work Group
 - Housing/Transportation Work Group
 - Transition IEP Discussion Group
- Sussex Early Childhood Council
- Sussex Inter-Agency Council
- Super Stars of Education
- Trauma Informed Care Interest Group
- Universal Design Coalition
- University of Delaware Center for Disabilities Studies (CDS) Community Advisory Council (CAC)
- VTRF Disability Committee
- Workforce Investment Act Advisory Board
- Youth Advisory Committee



Thank You!

2013-2014 Presenters & Speakers

- **Sarah Celestin**, of the Delaware Department of Education (DOE), discussing disproportionality, Annual Performance Report (APR) monitoring and general supervision and DOE initiatives and assessments.
- **The Honorable Lieutenant Governor Matthew Denn**, presenting to the full council regarding the Smarter Balanced State Assessments accommodations.
- **Jane Gallivan**, presenting to Adult Transition Services Committee regarding the progress of the Family Support Waiver.
- **Leslie Hailey** presenting to ATS committee about the STAND Program.
- **Bonnie Hitch**, of the Delaware Transit Corporation, presenting to The Adult/Transition Services Committee on various DART Projects, including the shuttle program.
- **Dale Matusevich**, of the Delaware Department of Education (DOE) Transition Services, presenting on DOE Indicators 13 & 14 (Transition Compliance).
- **Barbara Mazza**, of the Delaware Department of Education (DOE), presenting on DOE initiatives and assessments.
- **Dorothe Mumford**, of the Division for the Visually Impaired
- **Tracy Neugebauer**, of the Delaware Department of Education (DOE) presenting Indicator 4.
- **Senator Nicole Poore**, presenting to the full council about the Smarter Balanced State Assessment's effectiveness for children with severe cognitive disabilities.
- **Al Rose (DDC)**, presenting to council on the findings of the Secondary Transition Needs Assessment Survey conducted by the Galaxy Group.
- **Linda Smith**, of the Delaware Department of Education (DOE) presenting on Indicator 4.
- **Beth Mineo**, of the Center for Disability Studies (CDS) presenting on the current status of the Speech Language Pathology (SLP) program at the University of Delaware.
- **Mary Moor**, of Delaware's B.E.S.T presenting on the impact of child mental health services on success in childcare programs.
- **Verna Thompson**, of the Delaware Department of Education (DOE), presenting on the DOE's Annual Performance Report (APR).
- **Alisha Raiford**, presenting to the ATS committee about the STAND Program.
- **Linda Smith**, of the Delaware Department of Education (DOE) presenting on the Delaware Positive Behavior Support (PBS) statistical data.
- **Shawn Rohe (321 Foundation)**, presenting to council about National Down Syndrome Day march 21, 2014.
- **Brian Touchette**, of the Delaware Department of Education (DOE), presenting on **assessments** and accountability.
- **Pamela Williams**, of DSAPD presenting on services provided by Adult Protective Services.
- **Ann Phillips**, Executive Director of Delaware Family Voices (DFV), presenting to the Infant/Early Childhood Committee regarding the development of the DFV Parent to Parent Network.
- **Maureen Whalen**, of the Delaware Department of Education (DOE), presenting on the Adult and Prison Education Program Update
- **Rosanne Griff-Cabelli**, of DHSS presenting on the Part C Annual Performance Review (APR)



The 2014 Life Conference community members speak with Self-Advocate Sonal Cecerna during a break in presentations.



GACEC Chair Terri Hancharick and Executive Director Wendy Strauss met with staff from Senator's Coons and Carpers office to discuss issues affecting the disability community.

GACEC MEMBERSHIP LIST 2013-2014

Marie-Anne Aghazadian
Nina Bunting
Jean Butler
Dafne Carnright
Carma Carpenter
Al Cavalier
Nancy Cordrey
Janet Cornwell
Cathy Cowin
Helene Diskau
A. Jane Donovan (loa)
Bill Doolittle
Karen Eller
Lisa Gonzon
Bernhard Greenfield
Terri A. Hancharick
Brian J. Hartman, Esq.
Dave Hosier
Danna Levy

Christopher McIntyre
Carrie Melchisky
Janet Milnamow
Beth Mineo
Janella Newman
William P. O'Neill
Robert Overmiller
Jennifer Pulcinella
Blake Roberts
Shawn Rohe
Dennis Rubino
Ronald Russo
John Ryan
Brenné Shepperson
Howard Shiber
Lavina Smith
Marshall Stevenson
Ray Verlinghieri

Thank you GACEC members

4



GACEC STAFF

Wendy S. Strauss

Executive Director

Kathie P. Cherry

Office Manager

Kristin E. Cosden

Administrative Coordinator

July 2013-December 2013

Sybil White

GACEC Disability Education and Awareness Program Coordinator



The dedicated life is worth living. You must give with your whole heart.
Annie Dillard

**Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens (GACEC)
Regulatory Commentary Activity- Fiscal Year 2014**

Regulation	Summary/Action	Letter Sent	Response/Update
17 DE Reg. 62 DFS Prop. Placing Agency Regulation	Synopsis: The Office of Child Care Licensing proposes to amend the Delaware Requirements for Child Placing Agencies to provide clarity, reflect changes in laws and treaties align with current best practices, and improve standards of care. Council Action: Letter Sent to Elizabeth Timm, Office of Childcare Licensing sharing council's observations.	July 2013	No Formal Response Received
17 DE Reg. 148 DOE Prop State Science Content Standards	Synopsis: The Secretary of Education seeks the consent of the State Board of Education to amend 14 DE Admin. Code 501 State Content Standards to adopt the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) as the content standards for science. Council Action: Letter sent to Susan Haberstroh, Regulation Review Department of Education, endorsing proposed regulation.	August 2013	No Formal Response Received
17 DE Reg. 150 DOE Prop K12 Health Education Program	Synopsis: The Secretary of Education seeks the consent of the State Board of Education to amend 14 DE Admin. Code 851 K to 12 Comprehensive Health Education Program to require cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) awareness and use of an automated external defibrillator (AED) and awareness of organ/tissue donating in high school. Council Action: Letter sent to Susan Haberstroh, Regulation Review Department of Education sharing council's observations regarding the proposed regulation	August 2013	No Formal Response Received
17 DE Reg. 152 DOE Prop Accelerated Academic Programs	Synopsis: The Secretary of Education seeks the consent of the State Board of Education to add a new regulation to be identified as 14 DE Admin. Code 917 Accelerated Academic Programs. Council Action: Letter sent to Susan Haberstroh, Regulation Review Department of Education endorsing the proposed regulation subject to revisions.	August 2013	No Formal Response Received
17 DE Reg. 156	Synopsis: The proposed provides notice to the public that Delaware Health	August 2013	No Formal Response Received

<p>DMMA/DDDS Prop. Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Waiver Amendments</p>	<p>and Social Services (DHSS)/Division of Medicaid and Medical Services (DMMA)/Division of Developmental Disabilities Services (DDDS) has submitted a 1915(c) Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Waiver amendment to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to add a new core service, Group Supported Employment. Council Action: Letter sent to Sharon L. Summers, Planning and Policy Development Unit, DMMA sharing council's observations.</p>		
<p>17 DE Reg. 186 DFS Prop. Residential Child Care Facility and Day Treatment Program Regulation</p>	<p>Synopsis: The Office of Child Care Licensing is again submitting the Delacare Requirements for Residential Child Care Facilities and Day Treatment Programs for public comment as a result of a change in the definition of "Child" and to incorporate public comments received from two organizations. Council Action: Letter sent to Elizabeth Timm, Office of Childcare Licensing sharing council's observations.</p>	<p>August 2013</p>	<p>No Formal Response Received</p>
<p>17 DE Reg. 275 DOE Prop Charter Schools</p>	<p>Synopsis: The Secretary of Education seeks the consent of the State Board of Education to amend 14 DE Admin. Code 275 Charter Schools. The amendments reflect revisions in the process for Performance Reviews, renewal and new application process, annual reports as well as other amendments to align with specific Delaware Code revised during the 147th General Assembly. Council Action: Letter sent to Susan Haberstroh, Regulation Review Department of Education, sharing council's observations of the proposed regulation.</p>	<p>September 2013</p>	<p>No Formal Response Received</p>
<p>17 DE Reg. 282 DMMA Prop Medicaid Provider Screening</p>	<p>Synopsis: Division of Medicaid and Medical Assistance (DMMA) intends to amend the Delaware Medical Assistance Program (DMAP) Manual specifically, the General Policy Provider Manual regarding <i>Medicaid</i> Provider Screening Requirements and Provider Enrollment Fee and Program Integrity. Council Action: Letter sent to Sharon L. Summers Planning & Policy Development Unit Division of Medicaid and Medical Assistance, sharing council concerns</p>	<p>September 2013</p>	<p>No Formal Response Received</p>
<p>17 DE Reg. 285 DMMA Prop Medicaid Drug Reimbursement Drug Rebate</p>	<p>Synopsis: The proposed provides notice to the public that the Division of Medicaid and Medical Assistance (DMMA) intends to amend the Delaware Medical Assistance Program (DMAP) Manual specifically, the General Policy Provider Manual regarding Medicaid Provider Screening requirements and Provider Enrollment Fee and Program Integrity.</p>	<p>September 2013</p>	<p>October 31, 2013 Letter received from Sharon L. Summers thanking Council for its endorsement.</p>

	Council Action: Letter sent to Sharon L. Summers Planning & Policy Development Unit Division of Medicaid and Medical Assistance Endorsing the proposed regulation.		
17 DE Reg. 288 DPH Prop Trauma System	Synopsis: The Division of Public Health proposes to adopt many discrete amendments to its 16-page set of regulations covering Delaware’s trauma system. Council Action: Letter sent to Deborah Harvey Division of Public Health, sharing councils observations of the proposed regulation	September 2013	No Formal Response Received
17 DE Reg. 289 DSS Proposed Child Care Subsidy Program “Relative” Definition Regulation	Synopsis: The Division of Social Services proposes to adopt a revised definition of “relative” for purposes of its Child Care Subsidy Program. Council Action: Letter sent to Susan Haberstroh, Ed. D. Department of Education, sharing council’s observations about the proposed regulation.	September 2013	No Formal Response Received
17 DE Reg. 361 DOE Emergency School Health TB Control Program	Synopsis: The Department of Education has published an emergency regulation. Therefore, the DOE is issuing revised standards which are intended to remain in effect for 120 days from September 16, 2013. Council Action: Letter sent to Ms. Susan K. Haberstroh, Ed.D. Department of Education, sharing councils observations about the proposed regulation	September 2013	No Formal Response Received
17 DE Reg. 367 DOE Prop Uniform Definitions Student Conduct	Synopsis: The Secretary of Education intends to amend Title 14 of the Administrative Code by adding a new regulation 614 Uniform Definitions for Student Conduct Which May Result in Alternative Placement or Expulsion. This regulation is required by House Bill 42 of the 146th General Assembly. Council Action: Letter sent to Susan K. Haberstroh, Ed.D. Department of Education, sharing councils observations regarding the proposed regulation	October 2013	March 7, 2014 Letter received from Susan Haberstroh responding to Councils observations.
17 DE Reg. 372 DOE Prop Issuance of Initial License	Synopsis: The Professional Standards Board proposes to adopt a revised regulation covering the initial license for educators. Council Action: Letter sent to Dr. Donna Mitchell, Executive Director Professional Standards Board, sharing council’s observations regarding the proposed regulation.	October 2013	January 13, 2014 Letter received from Dr. Donna Mitchell responding to Councils observations.

<p>17 DE Reg. 395 DMMA Prop Medicaid State Plan Rehabilitative Services</p>	<p>Synopsis: The Division of Medicaid and Medical Assistance (DMMA) hereby affords the public notice of its intention to amend the Title XIX Medicaid State Plan regarding its methods and standards for coverage and reimbursement of <i>Medicaid Rehabilitative Services</i>.</p> <p>Council Action: Letter sent to Sharon L. Summers Planning & Policy Development Unit Division of Medicaid and Medical Assistance, sharing councils observations of the proposed regulation.</p>	<p>October 2013</p>	<p>November 21, 2013 Letter received from Sharon Summers responding to Councils observations.</p>
<p>17 DE Reg. 397 DPH Prop Medical Facilities Performing Invasive Procedures</p>	<p>Synopsis: In 2012, legislation (H.B. No. 47) was enacted to require the Department of Health & Social Services to establish sanitation and safety standards in certain facilities performing invasive medical procedures. The Division of Public Health published an initial set of proposed regulations in April, 2013 which prompted several comments from the SCPD and GACEC. Rather than adopt an amended final regulation, the Division has now published a revised set of proposed regulations.</p> <p>Council Action: Letter sent to Deborah Harvey Division of Public Health, sharing councils observations of the proposed regulation</p>	<p>October 2013</p>	<p>No Formal Response Received</p>
<p>17 DE Reg. 405 DPH Prop Medical Marijuana Program</p>	<p>Synopsis: The Division of Public Health has now formally issued a proposed regulation to address the operation of “compassion centers” which would actually grow and distribute marijuana. There are many safeguards, including constant video surveillance, alarms, random inspections, personnel background checks, and audits. A facility could only cultivate a maximum of 150</p> <p>Council Action: Letter sent to</p>	<p>October 2013</p>	<p>No Formal Response Received</p>
<p>17 DE Reg. 406 DSS Prop TANF State Plan Amendment</p>	<p>Synopsis: The Division of Social Services proposes to adopt three (3) discrete amendments to its TANF State Plan.</p> <p>Council Action: Letter sent to Sharon L. Summers Planning & Policy Development Unit Division of Social Services, endorsing the proposed regulation.</p>	<p>October 2013</p>	<p>No Formal Response Received</p>

<p>17 DE Reg. 486 DSS Proposed Child Care Subsidy Program Education Regulation</p>	<p>Synopsis: As background, earlier this year the GACEC and State Council for Persons with Disabilities (SCPD) commented on a proposed Division of Social Services (DSS) regulation which addressed the types of post-secondary education that would qualify a student for enrollment in the child care subsidy program. DSS is now issuing a new proposed regulation. The standards are brief and clarify that a caregiver with a Bachelor’s degree or higher is not eligible.</p> <p>Council Action: Letter sent to Marleen Waples, Social Service Administrator, Division of Social Services sharing council observations.</p>	<p>November 2013</p>	<p>December 16, 2013 Letter received from Marleen Waples thanking Council for its observations.</p>
<p>17 DE Reg. 472 DOE Educator Mentoring Regulation</p>	<p>Synopsis: The Department of Education is revising its educator mentoring regulation which implements this statute.</p> <p>Council Action: Letter sent to Dr. Donna Mitchell, Executive Director Professional Standards Board, sharing council’s observations regarding the proposed regulation.</p>	<p>November 2013</p>	<p>January 13, 2014 Letter received from Dr. Donna Mitchell responding to Councils observations.</p>
<p>17 DE Reg. 469 DOE Proposed GED Test Credential Regulation</p>	<p>Synopsis: As background, a “for-profit” entity has acquired a joint ownership interest in the General Educational Development (GED) Testing Service which has historically been operated by the nonprofit American Council on Education. Effective January, 2014, the new test will be computer-based and cost \$120 in contrast to the current \$75. DOE has indicated that they are revising the regulation entitled “Delaware Requirements for Issuance of the GED Test Credential”.</p> <p>Council Action: Letter sent to Susan Haberstroh, Associate Secretary Education Supports and Innovative Practices sharing council’s observations.</p>	<p>November 2013</p>	<p>No Formal Response Received</p>
<p>DE Reg. 588 DOE Prop. Charter School Regulation</p>	<p>Synopsis: The Secretary of Education seeks the consent of the State Board of Education to amend 14 DE Admin. Code 275 Charter Schools. The amendments reflect revisions in the regulation regarding the administration of the new Performance Fund, as well as other amendments to align with specific Delaware Code revised during the 147th General Assembly.</p> <p>Council Action: Letter sent to Susan Haberstroh, Associate Secretary Education Supports and Innovative Practices sharing council’s</p>	<p>December 2013</p>	<p>No Formal Response Received</p>

	observations.		
DE Reg. 591 Professional Standards Board Prop. Para educator Permit Regulation	<p>Synopsis: The Professional Standards Board, acting in cooperation and collaboration with the Department of Education, seeks the consent of the State Board of Education to amend regulation 14 DE Admin. Code 1517 ParaEducator Permits. The regulation applies to the issuance of a Paraeducator Permit, pursuant to 14 Del.C. §1205. It is necessary to amend this regulation in order to update and clarify some of the definitions, requirements and to update the application procedures.</p> <p>Council Action: Letter sent to Donna Mitchell, Executive Director, Professional Standards Board, sharing council’s observations.</p>	December 2013	February 2014 Letter received from Donna Mitchell of the Professional Standards Board thanking Council for its comments and acknowledging changes made as a result of those comments.
DE Reg. 608 DFS Proposed Child Placing Agencies Regulation	<p>Synopsis: The Office of Child Care Licensing proposes to amend the Delaware Requirements for Child Placing Agencies to provide clarity, reflect changes in laws and treaties align with current best practices, and improve standards of care.</p> <p>Council Action: Letter sent to Elizabeth Timms, Office of Childcare Licensing, sharing council’s observations.</p>	December 2013	No Formal Response Received
17 DE Reg. 679 (January 1, 2014) DOE Proposed Curricula Alignment with State Content Regulation	<p>Synopsis: The Secretary of Education seeks to amend 14 DE Admin. Code 502 Alignment of Local School District Curricula to the State Content Standards. The amendments reflect process changes related to the demonstration of alignment of local school district curricula to the state content standards. This reduces the burden on the districts as well as the Department and also provides for flexibility based on the uniqueness of each district related to the development of local curricula.</p> <p>Council Action: Letter sent to Susan Haberstroh, Associate Secretary Education Supports and Innovative Practices sharing council’s comments and recommendations.</p>	January 2014	No Formal Response Received
17 DE Reg. 688 DMMA Proposed Pathways to Employment Medicaid Plan Amendment Regulation	<p>Synopsis: Division of Medicaid and Medical Assistance (DMMA) proposal to adopt a Medicaid State Plan amendment to establish a “Pathways to Employment” program.</p> <p>Council Action: Letter sent to Sharon Summers, Planning & Policy Development Unit DMMA sharing councils observations.</p>	January 2014	No Formal Response Received

<p>17 DE Reg. 683 Professional Standards Board Revised Proposed Para educator Permit Regulation</p>	<p>Synopsis: The Professional Standards Board, acting in cooperation and collaboration with the Department of Education, seeks the consent of the State Board of Education to amend regulation 14 DE Admin. Code 1517 Para Educator Permits. Council Action: Letter sent to Dr. Donna Mitchell, Executive Director Professional Standards Board sharing councils observations.</p>	<p>January 2014</p>	<p>February 17, 2014 Letter received from Donna Mitchell thanking Council for its observations.</p>
<p>17 DE Reg. 706 DFS Prop. Residential Care Facility and Day Treatment Program Regulation</p>	<p>Synopsis: The Office of Child Care Licensing proposes to amend the Delacare Requirements for Residential Child Care Facilities and Day Treatment Programs in response to public comments received after the publication of revised regulations in the June, 2013 and August, 2013 Council Action: Letter sent to Elizabeth Timm, Office of Childcare Licensing, sharing council’s observations of the latest revisions to the regulation.</p>	<p>January 2014</p>	<p>No Formal Response Received</p>
<p>17 DE Reg. 812 DMMA Proposed “Outlier” Hospital Medicaid Reimbursement Regulation</p>	<p>Synopsis: The proposed provides notice to the public that Delaware Health and Social Services (DHSS)/Division of Medicaid and Medical Services (DMMA) intends to submit a state plan amendment (SPA) to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) regarding Medicaid Inpatient Hospital Outlier Payments. Council Action: Letter sent to Sharon Summers, Planning & Policy Development Unit DMMA sharing councils observations</p>	<p>February 2014</p>	<p>No Formal Response Received</p>
<p>17 DE Reg. 833 DelDOT Proposed External Equal Opportunity Complaint Regulation</p>	<p>Synopsis: The Delaware Department of Transportation, ("DelDOT"), through its Division of Technology and Support Services, seeks to adopt amendments to its existing regulations regarding procedures for addressing, investigating and responding to complaints of discrimination on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin or disability with respect to its External EEO Programs. Council Action: Letter sent to John McNeal, ADA, Title II/Section 504 and Title VI Coordinator, Delaware Department of Transportation, sharing council’s observations and suggested changes.</p>	<p>February 2014</p>	<p>No Formal Response Received</p>
<p>17 DE Reg. 885 DMMA Prop. Preventive Services Regulation</p>	<p>Synopsis: The proposed provides notice to the public that Delaware Health and Social Services/Division of Medicaid and Medical Assistance (DHSS/DMMA) intends to submit a state plan amendment to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) regarding the <i>provision of</i></p>	<p>March 2014</p>	<p>No Formal Response Received</p>

	<p><i>preventive services described in section 4106 of the Affordable Care Act.</i></p> <p>Council Action: Letter sent to Sharon Summers, Planning & Policy Development Unit DMMA, endorsing the proposed regulation.</p>		
<p>17 DE Reg. 887 DMMA Proposed Adult Group Medicaid Claiming Methodology Regulation</p>	<p>Synopsis: The proposed provides notice to the public that Delaware Health and Social Services/Division of Medicaid and Medical Assistance (DHSS/DMMA) has submitted a state plan amendment to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) relating to the availability of increased Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) rates for certain adult populations under the Delaware Medicaid Program, specifically, <i>adult group FMAP claiming</i></p> <p>Council Action: Letter sent to Sharon Summers, Planning & Policy Development Unit DMMA endorsing the proposed regulation.</p>	<p>March 2014</p>	<p>April 22, 2014 Letter received from Sharon Summers Thanking Council for its endorsement.</p>
<p>17 DE Reg. 893 DMMA Proposed Medicaid Prescription Drug Reimbursement Regulation</p>	<p>Synopsis: The Division of Medicaid and Medical Assistance (DMMA) hereby affords the public notice of its intention to amend the Title XIX Medicaid State Plan regarding the drug pricing reimbursement methodology for pharmaceutical products, specifically, implementation of the pricing benchmark, <i>National Average Drug Acquisition Cost (NADAC)</i>.</p> <p>Council Action: Letter sent to Sharon Summers, Planning & Policy Development Unit DMMA sharing councils observations</p>	<p>March 2014</p>	<p>April 22, 2014 Letter received from Sharon Summers thanking Council for its observations.</p>
<p>17 DE Reg. 897 DSS Prop. Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF) Employment and Training Program Requirements Regulation</p>	<p>Synopsis: Delaware Health and Social Services (DHSS) / Division of Social Services is proposing to amend policies in the Division of Social Services Manual (DSSM) regarding Delaware Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Employment and Training Program requirements, specifically, <i>Sanctions and Curing Sanctions</i>.</p> <p>Council Action: Letter sent to Sharon L Summers, Planning & Policy Development Unit, Division of Social Services, Endorsing the proposed regulation, while sharing two observations.</p>	<p>March 2014</p>	<p>No Formal Response Received</p>
<p>17 DE Reg. 930 DMMA Proposed</p>	<p>Synopsis: Delaware Health and Social Services (DHSS) / Division of Medicaid and Medical Assistance (DMMA) intends to submit a state plan</p>	<p>March 2014</p>	<p>April 22, 2014 Letter received from Sharon</p>

Pathways to Employment Medicaid State Plan Amendment Regulation.	amendment to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) regarding <i>the provision of preventive services described in section 4106 of the Affordable Care Act.</i> Council Action: Letter sent to Sharon Summers, Planning & Policy Development Unit DMMA sharing councils observations.		Summers thanking Council for its observations.
17 DE Reg. 950 DMMA/DDDS Prop. Home and Community Based Services Waiver Renewal Regulation	Synopsis: The proposed provides notice to the public that Delaware Health and Social Services (DHSS)/Division of Medicaid and Medical Services (DMMA)/Division of Developmental Disabilities Services (DDDS) has submitted a 1915(c) Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Waiver renewal application to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Council Action: Letter sent to Sharon L. Summers, Planning & Policy Development Unit, DMMA, reiterating council's earlier observations and sharing additional comments.	April 2014	No Formal Response Received
17 DE Reg. 951 DMMA Prop. Medicaid Coverage of Prescribed Drugs Regulation	Synopsis: The proposed provides notice to the public that Delaware Health and Social Services/Division of Medicaid and Medical Assistance (DHSS/DMMA) intends to submit a state plan amendment to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) regarding prescribed drug coverage, specifically, changes to the coverage of barbiturates, benzodiazepines and agents used to promote smoking cessation. Council Action: Letter sent to Sharon Summers, Planning & Policy Development Unit DMMA endorsing the proposed amendment.	April 2014	No Formal Response Received
17 DE Reg. 955 DPH Prop. Cancer Treatment Program Regulation	Synopsis: Health Promotion & Disease Prevention, Division of Public Health, Department of Health and Social Services (Department), has proposed amendments to the 4203 State of Delaware Cancer Treatment Program regulation. The proposed regulation updates the technical, financial, and residency eligibility requirements for the Delaware Cancer Treatment program Council Action: Letter sent to Deborah Harvey, Division of Public Health, sharing council's observations	April 2014	No Formal Response Received
17 DE Reg. 961 DPH Prop Hospice Disposal of Medications	Synopsis: The Office of Health Facilities Licensing and Certification, Health Systems Protection Section, Division of Public Health, Department of Health and Social Services, has proposed amendments to the State of Delaware 4468 Delivery of Hospice Services regulation.	April 2014	No Formal Response Received

Regulation	Council Action: Letter sent to Deborah Harvey, Division of Public Health, sharing council's observations.		
17 DE Reg. 1018 DOE Prop. Specialist Appraisal Process Regulation	Synopsis: The Secretary of Education, with the consent of the State Board of Education, intends to amend 14 DE Admin. Code 107A Specialist Appraisal Process Delaware Performance Appraisal System (DPAS II) Revised Council Action: Letter sent to Susan Haberstroh, Regulation Review, Department of Education sharing council's observations.	May 2014	No Formal Response Received
17 DE Reg. 1021 DOE Prop. Administrator Appraisal Process Regulation	Synopsis: The Secretary of Education, with the consent of the State Board of Education, intends to amend 14 DE Admin. Code 108A Administrator Appraisal Process Delaware Performance Appraisal System (DPAS II) Revised. Council Action: Letter sent to Susan Haberstroh, Regulation Review, Department of Education sharing council's observations.	May 2014	No Formal Response Received
17 DE Reg. 1031 Professional Standards Board Prop. Initial license Regulation	Synopsis: The Professional Standards Board, acting in cooperation and collaboration with the Department of Education, seeks the consent of the State Board of Education to amend regulation 14 DE Admin. Code 1510 Issuance of Initial License. The regulation applies to the issuance of an Initial License for educators, pursuant to 14 Del.C. Council Action: Letter sent to Dr. Donna Mitchell, Executive Director, Professional Standards Board, sharing the council's observations.	May 2014	No Formal Response Received
17 DE Reg. 1032 Professional Standards Board Prop. Educational Technology Standards Regulation	Synopsis: The Professional Standards Board, acting in cooperation and collaboration with the Department of Education, seeks the consent of the State Board of Education to adopt regulation 14 DE Admin. Code 1599 Delaware Educational Technology Standards shall serve as the foundation for professional development, instructional practice or leadership for all Delaware Educators and as indicators that guide learning, teaching and leading with technology in education. The standards make explicit the skills and knowledge needed in an increasingly connected global and digital society. Council Action: Letter sent to Dr. Donna Mitchell, Executive Director, Professional Standards Board, sharing the council's observations.	May 2014	No Formal Response Received

<p>17DE Reg. 1035 DHSS Prop. Cancer Registry regulation amendment</p>	<p>Synopsis: The proposed regulation defines procedures to be used by health care providers to report cancer to Delaware Health and Social Service’s Cancer Registry. Currently, a paper-based method (form) is used by health care providers to report all cancer cases. Council Action: Letter sent to Deborah Harvey, Division of Public Health, endorsing the proposed regulation changes.</p>	<p>May 2014</p>	<p>No Formal Response Received</p>
<p>17 DE Reg. 1037 Skilled Home Health Agencies Licensure</p>	<p>Synopsis: The Office of Health Facilities Licensing and Certification, Health Systems Protection Section, Division of Public Health, Department of Health and Social Services, has proposed amendments to the State of Delaware 4410 Skilled Home Health Agencies (Licensure) regulation. Proposed amendments change the definition of “Director” in the 4410 Skilled Home Health Agencies (Licensure) regulation. Council Action: Letter sent to Deborah Harvey, Division of Public Health, endorsing the proposed regulation changes.</p>	<p>May 2014</p>	<p>No Formal Response Received</p>
<p>17 DE Reg. 1038 DSSM Prop. Childcare Subsidy Technical Eligibility for Child Care Assistance regulation.</p>	<p>Synopsis: Delaware Health and Social Services (DHSS) / Division of Social Services is proposing to amend policies in the Division of Social Services Manual (DSSM) regarding the Child Care Subsidy Program, specifically, <i>Determining Technical Eligibility for Child Care Assistance</i> Council Action: Letter sent to Sharon Summers, Planning & Policy Development Unit DMMA sharing council’s observations.</p>	<p>May 2014</p>	<p>No Formal Response Received</p>
<p>17 DE Reg. 1043 Prop. Requirement for Residential Child Care Facilities and Day Treatment Programs Regulation</p>	<p>Synopsis: The Office of Child Care Licensing (OCCL) proposes to amend the DELACARE: Requirements for Residential Child Care Facilities and Day Treatment Programs in response to public comments received after the publication of revised regulations in the June 2013, August 2013, and January 2014 <i>Register of Regulations</i> Council Action: Letter sent to Elizabeth Timm, Office of Childcare Licensing, sharing council’s observations.</p>	<p>May 2014</p>	<p>No Formal Response Received</p>
<p>17 DE Reg. 1127 DOE Prop. High School Graduation Requirements and Diplomas Regulation.</p>	<p>Synopsis: The Secretary of Education seeks the consent of the State Board of Education to amend 14 DE Admin. Code 505 High School Graduation Requirements and Diplomas. The amendments include, but not limited to: 1) requiring an advisement process to the student success planning; 2) modifications to definitions; 3) revising the date for which diplomas may be awarded to the previous graduating class; and 4) addressing students in the custody of the Department of Services for Children, Youth & Their Families (“DSCYF”). Council Action: Letter sent to Susan Haberstroh, Regulation Review, at the</p>	<p>June 2014</p>	<p>August 4, 2014 Letter received from DOE thanking Council for its Comments.</p>

	Department of Education sharing council's observations.		
17 DE Reg.1133 DOE Prop. Limitations on use of Seclusion and Restraints Regulation	Synopsis: The Secretary of Education intends to amend Title 14 of the Delaware Administrative Code by adding new regulation 14 DE Admin. Code 610 Limitations on Use of Seclusion and Restraint. This regulation is required by Senate Bill 100 of the 147th General Assembly Council Action: Letter sent to Susan Haberstroh, Regulation Review, at the Department of Education sharing council's observations.	June 2014	August 4, 2014 Letter received acknowledging Council comments and recognizing changes that resulted from those comments.
17 DE Reg. 1140 DSSM Prop. Eligibility and Income Verification System Food Supplement Program Regulation	Synopsis: The proposal described below amends policies in the Division of Social Services Manual (DSSM) regarding the Food Supplement Program, specifically, <i>Income Eligibility Verification System - Exclude Unearned Income Data from IRS</i> . Council Action: Letter sent to Sharon Summers, Planning & Policy Development Unit DMMA sharing council's observations.	June 2014	No Formal Response Received
17 DE Reg. 1145 DSSM Prop. Household Definition Food Supplement Program Regulation	Synopsis: The proposal described below amends policies in the Division of Social Services Manual (DSSM) regarding the Food Supplement Program, specifically, <i>Household Definition</i> . Council Action: Letter sent to Sharon Summers, Planning & Policy Development Unit DMMA sharing council's observations.	June 2014	No Formal Response Received
17 DE Reg. 1156 OCCL Prop. Early Care and Education and School-Age Centers Regulation	Synopsis: The Office of Child Care Licensing (OCCL) proposes to amend the DELACARE Rules for Early Care and Education and School-Age Centers. Council Action: Letter sent to Elizabeth Timm, Office of Childcare Licensing, sharing council's observations.	June 2014	No Formal Response Received
17 DE Reg. 1124 OCCL Prop. Emergency Regulation Task Force Establishment.	Synopsis: This emergency regulation is necessary to protect children in camps during the summer 2014 season. By Executive Order, Governor Markell established the Delaware Background Checks Task Force in January 2014 (Task Force). Council Action: Letter sent to Elizabeth Timm, Office of Childcare Licensing, sharing council's observations.	June 2014	No Formal Response Received

Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens (GACEC)

Legislative Commentary Activity- Fiscal Year 2014

Bill Number	Summary & Council Action	Letter Sent	Current Status
House Bill 154 Medication Diversion and Drug Abuse Training	Synopsis: This bill creates a new offense and imposes penalties for diverting prescription drugs from a patient of a facility. It also requires those who register to prescribe, sell, dispense or distribute controlled substances complete 2 continuing education credits in the area of awareness of the problems posed by the abuse of controlled substances. Council Action: : Letter sent to the Honorable Members of the 147 Delaware General Assembly	July 2013	Signed by the Governor on February 2, 2014
House Bill 33 Public School Alarm Systems	Synopsis: This Act requires each public school district to equip the schools within their respective jurisdictions with an adequate number of panic buttons that may be used to immediately alert local law enforcement authorities of a security threat at a school. Once activated, the required silent alarm system will immediately alert authorities without simultaneously activating an audible alarm within the school building Council Action: Letter sent to the Honorable Members of the 147 Delaware General Assembly endorsing the proposed legislation.	March 2014	Tabled in Committee on June 6, 2013
House Bill 214 Down Syndrome Information Dissemination	Synopsis: This bill requires that hospital, physicians and others health professionals provide information about Down Syndrome and Down Syndrome resources and support groups to parents who have received a prenatal or postnatal diagnosis of Down Syndrome. Council Action: Letter sent to the Honorable Members of the 147 Delaware General Assembly endorsing the proposed legislation.	February 2014	Signed by the Governor on May 7, 2014
HS 1 for HB 218 Prescription Pick Up	Synopsis: This bill requires written authorization from a patient for any person to pick up a prescription on patients behalf. Currently, a pharmacy is only required to obtain and keep on file valid photographic identification for the person picking up the prescription: there is no requirement that a pharmacy obtain written authorization from the patient before releasing the prescription to another on the patient's behalf. Council Action: Letter sent to the Honorable Members of the 147 Delaware General Assembly sharing council's observations.	February 2014	Substituted on January 29, 2014
House Bill 228 Child Placement Review Act	Synopsis: The intent of this bill is to make adjustments to the existing code to be consistent with current practices, clarify ambiguities, and eliminate sections that no longer apply Council Action: Letter sent to the Honorable Members of the 147 Delaware General Assembly sharing council's observations.	February 2014	Out of Committee on June 11, 2014
Senate Bill 161	Synopsis: This bill provides the option for Local Education Agencies	March 2014	Stricken on March 20, 2014

Educator Evaluation System Waiver	(LEAs) to develop alternative educator evaluation systems for all educators, including novice teachers and specialists, pursuant to the requirement in this section. Council Action: Letter sent to the Honorable Members of the 147 Delaware General Assembly opposing the proposed legislation.		
Senate Bill 162 Possession and Purchase of Deadly Weapons	Synopsis: This Bill expands the crime of possession and purchase of deadly weapons by persons prohibited to include perpetrators of violent crimes who have been found Not Guilty By Reason of Insanity, Guilty But Mentally Ill, or Mentally Incompetent to Stand Trial, including juveniles who fall into those categories. Council Action: Letter sent to the Honorable Members of the 147 Delaware General Assembly opposing the proposed legislation.	March 2014	Out of Committee on June 11, 2014
Senate Bill 163 Endangering the Welfare of a Child	Synopsis: Currently a person can commit the crime of endangering the welfare of a child by committing certain types of other crimes (often referred to as crimes of domestic violence) knowing that a child of the person's or victim's family has witnessed the crime(s). This Act would allow prosecution for endangering the welfare of a child if the person had reason to know that the child was witnessing the crime(s). Council Action: Letter sent to the Honorable Members of the 147 Delaware General Assembly sharing council's observations.	March 2014	Out of Committee on March 27, 2014
Senate Bill 181 Child Protection Registry	Synopsis: This bill makes several changes to the Child Protection Registry. First, it provides the requirement for a hearing for every child prior to placement on the registry and requires the appointment of counsel. The bill reorganizes the Court findings required for placement on the registry by creating a new Section, 925A. The bill sets out criteria to be considered by the Court for early removal from the registry and provides a mechanism for persons to be removed from the registry if they were placed on the registry as a child. The bill adds new child abuse crimes to the registry. The bill extends the timeline to file a Petition. Finally, the bill provides for a Limited Purpose Hearing for those who are placed on the registry as a result of a criminal conviction. Council Action: Letter sent to the Honorable Members of the 147 Delaware General Assembly sharing council's observations.	April 2014	Signed by the Governor July 15, 2014
House Bill 245 W HA1 Restroom Access	Synopsis: This bill would require retail establishments to allow access to an employee bathroom for customers with Crohn's disease, colitis, or other condition or device requiring immediate access to a restroom facility Council Action: Letter sent to the Honorable Members of the 147 Delaware General Assembly endorsing the proposed legislation.	April 2014	Tabled in Committee

<p>House Bill 251 Guardianship of a Child</p>	<p>Synopsis: This bill re-organizes and makes changes to Chapter 23 to be more reader-friendly and to clarify certain provisions regarding guardianship and permanent guardianship. It clarifies the circumstances under which a parent may not consent to guardianship, as well as the circumstances under which a guardianship may be rescinded interpreting the Delaware Supreme Court’s decision in <i>Tourison v. Pepper</i>, 51 A.3d 470 (Del. 2012). Council Action: Letter sent to the Honorable Members of the 147 Delaware General Assembly sharing council’s observations.</p>	<p>April 2014</p>	<p>Signed by the Governor June 10, 2014</p>
<p>House Bill 256 w-HA 1 Sexual Solicitation of a Child</p>	<p>Synopsis: This Act will make changes to Delaware’s law prohibiting Sexual Solicitation of a Child to ensure the safety of Delaware’s children from sexual predators, including the persons that promote sexual solicitation of a child and the persons that solicit children. Council Action: Letter sent to the Honorable Members of the 147 Delaware General Assembly sharing council’s observations.</p>	<p>April 2014</p>	<p>Signed by the Governor June 24, 2014</p>
<p>House Bill 293 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program</p>	<p>Synopsis: The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) also referred to as “the food stamp program,” assists eligible low-income individuals with the purchase of food. This Act, known as the Delaware Nutritional Improvement Act, seeks to bring the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program in line with other state programs and initiatives aimed at improving the health and welfare of Delawareans. Council Action: Letter sent to the Honorable Members of the 147 Delaware General Assembly opposing the proposed legislation.</p>	<p>May 2014</p>	<p>House Health & Human Development Committee on April 9, 2014</p>
<p>House Bill 298 Distracted Driving Civil Penalty</p>	<p>Synopsis: This Bill raises the fine for a first offense for using a hand-held cell phone or other electronic device while driving from \$50 to \$75. Council Action: Letter sent to the Honorable Members of the 147 Delaware General Assembly endorsing the proposed legislation.</p>	<p>May 2014</p>	<p>Out of Committee on April 30, 2014</p>
<p>House Bill 302 State Board of Elections</p>	<p>Synopsis: This bill establishes a more efficient structure for the administration of Delaware’s campaign finance laws, establishes a mechanism for citizens to report possible violations, and gives the State Election Commissioner the resources necessary to investigate potential violations. Council Action: Letter sent to the Honorable Members of the 147 Delaware General Assembly endorsing the proposed legislation.</p>	<p>May 2014</p>	<p>Substituted on June 10, 2014</p>
<p>House Bill 309 Clean Indoor Air Act and Electronic Cigarettes</p>	<p>Synopsis: This bill adds e-cigarettes to the Clean Indoor Air Act and would prohibit the operation of e-cigarettes in all public places where smoking is prohibited under current law Council Action: Letter sent to the Honorable Members of the 147</p>	<p>May 2014</p>	<p>Senate Executive Committee on June 10, 2014</p>

	Delaware General Assembly endorsing the proposed legislation.		
Senate Bill 219 Opioid Overdose Intervention	Synopsis: This Legislation will increase the amount of the life-saving drug Naloxone in the community and specifically in the hands of the people most likely to discover someone who has suffered an overdose and who will be able to administer a dose of the medication while waiting for first responders to arrive. Council Action: Letter sent to the Honorable Members of the 147 Delaware General Assembly endorsing the proposed legislation.	June 2014	Signed by the Governor June 25, 2014
Senate Bill 229 Assessment Exemptions for Specific Students	Synopsis: Section 1 of the Act would permit the state's most severely cognitively disabled students, with the consent of their parents, IEP teams, and school districts, to receive special exemptions from taking either of the state's standardized assessments. The academic progress of those students would still be measured in order to ensure that they are being challenged and provided meaningful instruction. Sections 2 and 3 of the Act attempt to ensure that evidence-based interventions are provided for young students who have dyslexia and related disabilities, to ensure that they are receiving necessary assistance in learning to read. Council Action: Letter sent to the Honorable Members of the 147 Delaware General Assembly endorsing the proposed legislation.	June 2014	Signed by the Governor July 15, 2014
House Resolution 20 Deaf Education Task Force	Synopsis: This resolution creates a task force to study and make recommendations regarding the Delaware School for the Deaf and Statewide Programs for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Deaf-Blind. Council Action: Letter sent to the Honorable Members of the 147 Delaware General Assembly requesting additional time to review and discuss the recommendations.	June 2014	Passed by the House on June 27, 2013
House Bill 337w-HA1 Public School Choice Program Enrollment	Synopsis: This bill promotes uniformity in the timing of the application process for school districts, charter schools, magnet schools, and career and technical education schools Council Action: Letter sent to the Honorable Members of the 147 Delaware General Assembly endorsing the proposed legislation.	June 2014	Signed by the Governor June 25, 2014
House Bill 344 w-HA1 Criminal Mental Health Code	Synopsis: With regard to those committed pursuant to a verdict of not guilty by reason of insanity, this bill will allow the patient or the Delaware Psychiatric Center (DPC) to petition for discharge at any time, eliminating the 1 year minimum requirement. It also streamlines the provisions for filing a petition since it is currently not clear whether they only apply to outpatient treatment request petitions or also to petitions for discharge. It allows a patient who has been discharged from DPC and who has been subject to Superior Court oversight for 2 years to petition to discontinue oversight.	June 2014	Passed by the Senate June 26, 2014

	<p>For those found incompetent to stand trial (11 Del. C. § 404) a new provision is inserted governing the specifics of competency evaluations. It mirrors the juvenile competency restoration recently added at 10 Del. C. § 1007A. The bill mandates that a competency evaluation be held before a person is confined to DPC to determine whether the person meets civil commitment criteria before admission. Finally, the changes will allow a termination of competency restoration efforts after 2 years if, upon motion by DPC, the Court determines that competency restoration is not likely to succeed</p> <p>Council Action: Letter sent to the Honorable Members of the 147 Delaware General Assembly endorsing the proposed legislation.</p>		
<p>House Bill 347w-HA1 School Safety Construction & Renovation Features</p>	<p>Synopsis: This bill requires all new school construction or major renovation to include the following features: an intruder alarm, bullet resistant whiteboards, bulletproof glass in entrance areas and interior doors and windows, and doors lockable with keys on both sides. Further, the bill would require all new school construction plans to be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget's Facilities Management Section for compliance with these requirements as well as with Crime Prevention through Environmental Design principles.</p> <p>Council Action: Letter sent to the Honorable Members of the 147 Delaware General Assembly endorsing the proposed legislation.</p>	<p>June 2014</p>	<p>Out of Committee on June 25, 2014</p>
<p>House Bill 388 wHA1 + SA1+HA2 An Act To Amend TITLE 16 of Delaware Code Relating to the Treatment of Drug Overdose</p>	<p>Synopsis: This bill would allow peace officers who have completed a DHSS approved training course to receive, carry, and administer the drug naloxone. Naloxone is a prescription drug which, when administered to a person undergoing an opioid related overdose, can have the effect of counteracting the effects of the overdose. Immunity is provided to officers who administer naloxone in good faith.</p> <p>Council Action: Letter sent to the Honorable Members of the 147 Delaware General Assembly endorsing the proposed legislation.</p>	<p>June 2014</p>	<p>Signed by the Governor on August 4, 2014</p>
<p>House Bill 400 DE Medical Orders for Scope of Treatment</p>	<p>Synopsis: Section 1 of this Bill adds a provision to the Health-Care Decisions statute authorizing a medical order which is transportable, standardized, and implements a patient's end-of-life care preferences. In order to implement that statute, adjustments are made in Section 2 to the existing advance-care directive statute and in Section 3 to the statute governing Emergency Medical Services. Section 3 also makes a technical name change within Chapter 97 that was overlooked in a 2003 change to Chapter 97 and adds reference to DMOST in Public Health's rule writing authority.</p> <p>Council Action: : Letter sent to the Honorable Members of the 147 Delaware General Assembly endorsing the proposed legislation</p>	<p>June 2014</p>	<p>Left on the Table June 30, 2014</p>