

**STATE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (SEC)  
FOR CHILDREN’S SERVICES  
1604 Santa Rosa Road  
Richmond/Henrico Rooms  
Richmond, VA  
Thursday, September 9, 2021**

**SEC Members Present:**

The Honorable Daniel Carey, M.D., Secretary of Health and Human Resources  
Lesley Abashian, Chair, State and Local Advisory Team (SLAT)  
Sophia Booker, Service Recipient Representative  
Valerie Boykin, Director, Department of Juvenile Justice  
Eric Campbell, City Manager, City of Harrisonburg  
The Honorable Willie Greene, Mayor, City of Galax  
The Honorable Elizabeth Guzman, Member, Virginia House of Delegates  
Samantha Hollins, Ed.D. for James Lane, Ed.D. Superintendent of Public Instruction, Virginia Department of Education  
Sandra Karison for Karl Hade, Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia  
Karen Kimsey, Director, Department of Medical Assistance Services  
Alison Land, Commissioner, Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services  
*(by telephone)*  
The Honorable T. Montgomery “Monty” Mason, Member, Senate of Virginia  
Andelicia Neville, Parent Representative  
The Honorable Frank Somerville, Presiding Judge, 16<sup>th</sup> Judicial District, Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court *(by telephone)*  
Ron Spears, CEO, Elk Hill  
Amanda Stanley, President and CEO, DePaul Community Resources *(by telephone)*  
Jessica Stern, Parent Representative *(by telephone)*  
Elizabeth Lee for Duke Storen, Commissioner, Virginia Department of Social Services

**SEC Members Absent:**

The Honorable Margaret Angela Franklin, Member, Prince William County Board of Supervisors  
Parham Jaber, M.D., for M. Norman Oliver, M.D., Commissioner, Virginia Department of Health  
Michelle Johnson, County Administrator, Charles City County

**Other Staff Present:**

Marsha Mucha, Administrative Staff Assistant, OCS  
Scott Reiner, Executive Director, OCS  
Susan Whyte, Assistant Attorney General

**Call to Order/Opening Remarks**

Secretary Carey, called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. and welcomed everyone. He reported that several SEC members (Alison Land, Frank Somerville, Amanda Stanley and Jessica Stern) asked to join today’s meeting by telephone because of COVID exposure (Somerville, Stanley), a sick child (Stern) and a meeting downtown directly after the SEC meeting (Land). A motion

allowing these SEC members to participate by telephone in accordance with SEC Policy 2.1.3. and the Freedom of Information Act was made by Monty Mason, seconded by Sam Hollins and carried.

Secretary Carey acknowledged the reappointment to the SEC of private provider representatives Ron Spears and Amanda Stanley and local government representatives Michelle Johnson, Margaret Angela Franklin, Willie Greene and Eric Campbell. They will serve a three year term ending June 30, 2024.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the June 10, 2021 meeting were approved on a motion by Eric Campbell, seconded by Karen Kimsey and carried.

### **Public Comment 1**

There was no public comment.

### **Proposed Policy Actions**

Mr. Reiner reported that both the *draft Family Engagement (Policy 3.3) and draft FAPT and Alternate Multi-disciplinary Teams (Policy 3.2)* were reviewed as part of the Policy and Oversight goal, two-year metric, to review and revise CSA policies with an additional focus on the use of equity and trauma-informed lenses. These draft policies are part of the ongoing policy review undertaken by the SEC Policy Review Workgroup. Mr. Reiner further reported that Notices of Intent to Develop Policy (for both policies) were presented and approved by the SEC at its June 10 meeting. The Notices of Intent were disseminated for a 45-day public comment period. He noted that no public comments were received.

Mr. Reiner further reported that both draft policies were being presented today for the SEC's consideration and approval to disseminate them for a 60-day public comment period. Based on public comments received during the 60-day comment period, both draft policies could be presented to the SEC for final adoption at the December 9, 2021 meeting.

After additional review and discussion of the draft policies, proposed policy 3.3, Family Engagement was approved for a 60-day public comment period on a motion by Monty Mason, seconded by Valerie Boykin and carried. Proposed policy 3.2, FAPT and Alternative Multidisciplinary Teams was approved for a 60-day public comment period on a motion by Lesley Abashian, seconded by Elizabeth Guzman and carried.

### **State and Local Advisory Team Report**

Lesley Abashian, SLAT Chair reported on the following items:

- She has been elected to serve a second term as SLAT Chair. Rebecca Vinroot the local DSS representative from James City County will serve as Vice-Chair.
- SLAT has finished work on two assignments from the SEC's Strategic Plan - development of core leadership competencies for local CSA leaders, CPMTs and FAPTs and development of a guide for youth and families to build understanding about access to needed services (in final draft stage).

- SLAT is developing an orientation manual for new SLAT members to include the role of SLAT, SLAT member responsibilities and examples of specific SLAT projects.
- SLAT is engaging the CSA Coordinators Network in new ways by gathering feedback and coordinating information and guidance on issues (i.e., lessons learned in the pandemic and guidance on use of virtual FAPTs, etc.).

### **Executive Director’s Report**

Mr. Reiner reported on the following activities:

- *Activities Related to HB2212* – Requires OCS to provide for the effective implementation of CSA in all localities by regularly monitoring local performance measures and child and family outcomes and providing technical assistance to and working with local programs that are consistently underperforming to develop a corrective action plan.

Funding for 1 FTE was included in the legislation. That position has been filled and will begin work later this month. A workgroup has been convened to assist OCS with developing a methodology for the corrective action plan and defining terms such as “underperforming.” A report is due to the General Assembly in November 2021.

- *CSA/DOE Work group* – A work group has been convened to plan for the transfer of private special education funding from CSA to DOE. The work group has met twice. A preliminary report is due in November 2021, with a final report due in November 2022.
- *OCS Staff* - Mr. Reiner introduced OCS Program Consultant, Mary Bell, who joined OCS this spring.
- *CSA Annual Conference* - The 10th annual CSA Conference will be held virtually on October 28 and 29, 2021. Additional information will be emailed to SEC members.

### **Discussion of Updates/Revisions to the SEC Strategic Plan**

Mr. Reiner presented a draft synopsis of major accomplishments related to the Goals and Objectives for the FY2020-FY2021 Strategic Plan that was approved by the SEC in December 2019. Each member also received a draft of the updated Strategic Plan, which incorporates the work-to-date and future plans. The major accomplishments will be incorporated into the biennial Progress Report on the Children’s Services Act due to the General Assembly in December 2021.

After a brief discussion, Mr. Reiner asked that members review the major accomplishments document and the updates/revisions to the SEC Strategic Plan and send comments and/or feedback to him.

### **Public Comment II**

There was no additional public comment.

### **Other Business**

Mr. Greene suggested inviting Eric Reynolds, the new Children’s Ombudsman to a future meeting.

Sophia Booker reported that Project Life (UMFS) would be having their virtual Fall Conference, November 2 – 4, 2021. She will send conference information to OCS for distribution to the SEC.

**Closing Remarks and Adjournment**

In closing, Secretary Carey thanked everyone for their commitment to serving youth and families and for today's discussions. He also noted that he had the opportunity to see first-hand the tremendous teamwork being done at Dulles Airport with arriving refugees from Afghanistan. He noted that approximately 50% of them are children.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.