



Update on Related Service Shortage Workgroup
Report for OAPSA's May 3, 2019 Business Meeting

The Related Service Shortage Workgroup has been in existence since January 2018 and has met 8 times at ODE with the most recent meeting occurring on February 13, 2019. Our work is now focused on finalizing long term fixes for Ohio's future.

For review, this workgroup was charged by our legislators with

- Identifying and evaluating causes and solutions for the shortage of related service personnel in the school setting, including evaluating long term sustainability of potential solutions
- Establishing short-term, medium-term and long-term goals to address the shortage of related services personnel in the state and monitor progress on those goals
- Report as needed on the work and findings of the workgroup

For this group the related service personnel we are concentrating on include Educational Audiologists, SLP's, OT's, PT's, School Nurses, and School Psychologists
Our work aligns with Ohio's Strategic Plan for Education.

At our most recent meeting on February 13, 2019 we heard updates on the January Steering Committee meeting to improve Educational Experiences and Outcomes for Students with Disabilities.

We had a discussion about licensure including: emergency licensure, Credential Review Board, and discussed barriers in current system and what would we want credential review board to look for in the various areas?

We reviewed data from our recent surveys.

We reviewed final version of video and clips (these would be added to ODE's Related Service Page on website – Search Related Services in search box on home page at ODE website.)

Reviewed our fiscal recommendation document developed by our Fiscal Subgroup.

Reviewed our group's draft report and recommendations which had been drafted by Wendy Stoica. We provided feedback and pointed out corrections to be made.

Finally, we decided we would continue to meet twice per year to ensure that our recommendations are implemented.

The following products were developed by this group since January 2018

- Related Service Survey – to identify recruitment and retention strategies and recommendations to increase likelihood related service personnel would want to be employed and/or stay employed in school settings
- Related Service Video and video clips – to provide specific and targeted information on each related service personnel area to inform and educate school administrators and staff as well as parents/students and potential candidates for those positions on the required and unique roles that related service providers serve to meet needs of student with disabilities.
- Total of 6 one page Informational and Educational Briefs that provide specific and targeted information on each group of related service providers including roles and responsibilities with targeted audience same as for videos
- ODE School Psychologist Shortage Memo – guidance from ODE to address shortages of school psychologists (includes secretarial support, educator on special assignment of ODE Pupil Personnel Licensed Staff Member to assist with delegated school psychological services
- Related Service Webpage at ODE site – to inform and share resources we developed as well as workgroup recommendations
- Final Report and Recommendations (still in draft format at time of February meeting)

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Stelzer

Executive Director of OAPSA