



INDIANA

**R.I.S.E. to the Challenge:
Resolve. Innovate. Support. Engage.**

Mrs. Lesa Paddack

Mr. Andrew Manna

Dr. Angie Balsley

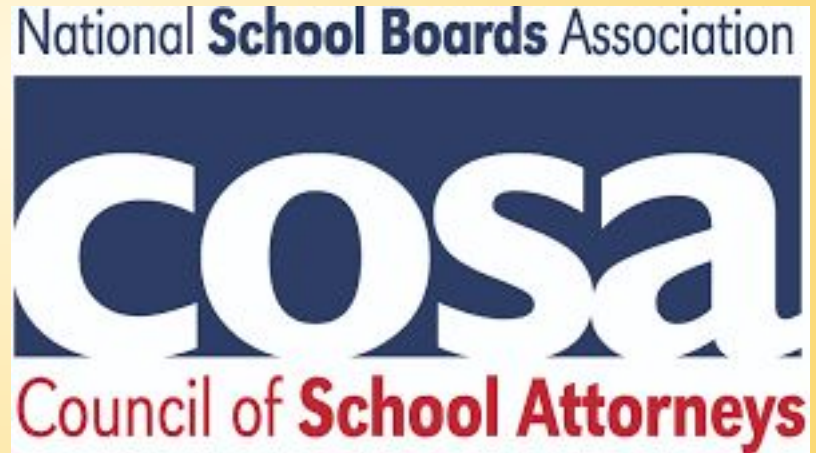


**Mrs. Lesa Paddack, IN*SOURCE
IDOE Liaison and Assistant
Director**





**Mr. Andrew Manna, ICOSA Special
Education Committee Chair and
COSA IDEA Reauthorization
Co-Chair**





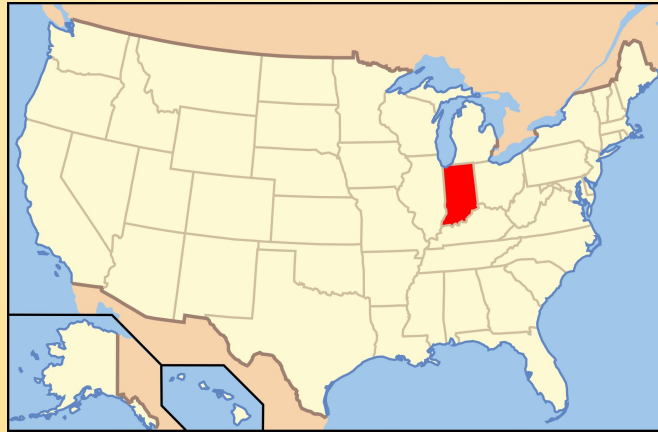
Dr. Angie Balsley, ICASE President



**INDIANA COUNCIL
of ADMINISTRATORS
of SPECIAL EDUCATION**



“Hoosiers”





Session Objectives

- Discuss how CASE state units, parent resource centers, and attorneys can collaborate to support families
- Describe ways to support parent & school engagement via technology
- Define at least one positive change in practice that resulted from the pandemic
- Compare your own state's collaborative responses during the pandemic in contrast with practices in Indiana
- List at least two days special education leaders can proactively prevent disputes

The background features a large, faint, yellow outline of the Indiana State Seal. The seal depicts a central torch with a flame, surrounded by a circular arrangement of stars. The word "INDIANA" is arched above the torch. The entire seal is centered on a light blue background.

Indiana Dispute Resolution Data



Indiana Complaints

Filed Complaints

Month	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
July	4	5	6	3	5
August	14	15	7	6	11
September	4	9	12	17	12
October	12	10	19	15	14
November	16	13	11	9	8
December	7	10	9	11	13
January	13	7	16	17	17
February	11	14	10	21	7
March	10	9	16	5	6
April	14	25	17	1	12
May	14	19	17	8	13
June	5	3	7	6	3
Total	124	139	147	119	121

(as of 6/30/2021)



Complaint Issues

Complaint Issue Citation	Brief Description	Issue Count	Violation Count
511 IAC 7-42-8	IEPs; implementation; termination due to revocation of consent	44	17
511 IAC 7-42-6	Developing an IEP; components and parent copy	24	2
511 IAC 7-42-2	Notice of CCC meetings	12	3
511 IAC 7-42-10	LRE and delivery of special education and related services	10	1
511 IAC 7-42-3	CCC participants	9	4
511 IAC 7-42-7	Written notice by the public agency and parental consent	9	2
511 IAC 7-38-1	Access to and disclosure of educational records	7	1
511 IAC 7-40-8	Reevaluation	6	0
511 IAC 7-40-4	Initial educational evaluation; public agency written notice and parental consent	6	4
511 IAC 7-33-2	Public schools' special education programs; organizational and administrative structures	5	0



Mediation Requests

Mediation Requests

Month	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
July	0	3	4	4	1
August	6	1	2	1	5
September	3	6	4	11	6
October	5	9	12	5	7
November	4	6	3	7	8
December	1	4	3	9	6
January	6	4	6	9	8
February	8	2	9	4	5
March	3	12	10	4	6
April	10	16	4	4	3
May	8	6	6	3	9
June	5	5	3	2	5
Total	59	74	66	63	69

(as of 6/30/2021)




Due Process Hearing Requests

Due Process Hearings Filed

Month	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
July	2	5	4	6	4
August	6	9	9	8	10
September	2	6	4	7	7
October	4	9	10	13	5
November	5	5	8	9	7
December	6	12	4	6	1
January	6	4	6	13	7
February	15	9	6	12	6
March	8	9	7	5	11
April	8	14	10	2	8
May	8	12	11	3	13
June	4	12	5	3	7
Total	74	106	84	87	86

(as of 6/30/2021)

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**Our organizations
responded &
collaborated**



IN*SOURCE during COVID

Created a COVID information page on our website

Linked the DOE COVID informational page to our website

Conducted two webinars with our state director of special education

Produced information dealing with current needed topics such as attendance, continuous learning plans and mask wearing information

Sent out emails to parents with pertinent COVID information

Saw a significant increase in families served



ICOSA & COSA during COVID

- **Good faith effort**
- **+**
- **Documentation**



ICASE & CASE during COVID

Four Priorities for Special Education:

- 1** Focus on the safety, health, and welfare of students and staff members in your community.
- 2** Provide FAPE - Deliver services to as many students as you reasonably can in the best way you know how.
- 3** Document your efforts; make sure documentation is focused, consistent, detailed and demonstrates a good faith effort to provide good services.
- 4** Compliance during the pandemic - IDEA wasn't built for this.



Working **TOGETHER**

- IN*SOURCE & ICASE weekly leadership meetings
- CCHA legal updates

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Positive Changes in Practice



**Dispute
Resolution:
Improving
Practice In
Indiana**



Newsletter Articles

- Empowering Parent Engagement
- The Difficult Parent
- Parents' Emotions
- Shared Empathy
- Foster Connection





Cover Sheet with Procedural Safeguards

Greetings Parents & Guardians,

Your child is important to us. **Name of Local School Corporation** is committed to working in partnership with you. The attached booklet is your copy of Indiana's Procedural Safeguards which outline our responsibilities to you and your child. An additional helpful resource, titled *Navigating the Course*, is a companion guide. It is available at this link <https://www.earlywood.org/domain/142> or a printed copy will be provided upon request.

If you have questions, concerns, or ideas about your child's educational program, we want to hear from you. Below is the contact information of people that can assist you. Please contact us so we can work together with you.

Your child's special education teacher of record

Teacher Name
teacher@email.k12.in.us
317-999-9999

Your child's building principal

Name
principal@email.k12.in.us
317-999-9999

District Director, Director of Special Education

Name
director@email.k12.in.us
317-999-9999



Executive Director of **Earlywood** Educational Services

Dr. Angela Balsley
abalsley@earlywood.org
317-736-8495

We also encourage you to check out these resources:
[Corporation's web address]



<http://www.earlywood.org>



<https://www.facebook.com/ssjcsschools>



<https://twitter.com/ssjcss>



<https://www.pinterest.com/ssjcss/>



<https://www.youtube.com/user/pdssjcss>



Indiana Department of Education

- IEP Facilitators free to schools and parents
- Due Process Team to Dispute Resolution Team
- Special Ed Law Conference





Hidden Challenges in Resolving Special Education Disputes

Co-Presented by: Special Ed Director, Superintendent, School Attorney

Attended by: Superintendents & School Board Members in Fall 2019

The WHY

- There is work occurring in Indiana & US to make the process of resolving disagreements in special education between families and schools more collaborative and less expensive
- We need you to have context of the current situation and be aware of the work
- **Collective energy** to change the process for better outcomes for families and schools

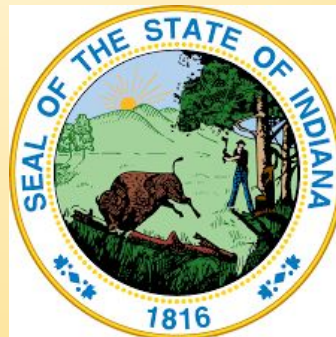




What we shared.....

- Brief legal history
- Legal Issues: Procedural & Substantive
- Legal options for resolving special education disputes
- Issues with the current system
- Costs associated with due process hearing requests
- Current and future work to improve the system and reduce the cost

Education Dispute Resolution Work Group





EDR Recommendations

- 1) Any recommendations from the EDR not be derived from funds already dedicated special education
- 2) Enhanced mediator and IHO training
- 3) Continue supporting Facilitated IEP meetings
- 4) Sub-committee to develop a survey to collect data
- 5) Clearinghouse of resources & continued/or increased funding for IN*SOURCE (parent info center)
- 6) State funding for Indiana Disability Rights
- 7) Sub-committee to study an administrative review (two-tiered) process
- 8) Committee to study the appropriateness of nondisclosure agreements
- 9) EDR workgroup can meet again if needed



Parting Thought...

**How do we come together to
make national change???**



Contact Information

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@INSOURCE2014



Lesa Paddack · 1st

Assistant Director at IN*SOURCE

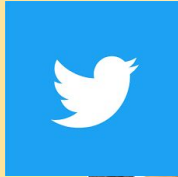
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Executive Director, Earlywood Educational Services