

Nominee: **Sara Leggett**

Running for: **Secretary**



Nomination Statement:

Dear Members,

I am submitting my nomination for the position of Secretary on the Michigan Division for Early Childhood's (MiDEC) Executive Board for 2022. I strongly believe in supporting early childhood professionals, growing capacity in the membership, and facilitating access to policy and evidenced-based practice in the early intervention world.

My role in the professional learning committee with MiDEC has allowed me to strengthen my ability to work collaboratively. It has also fueled my desire to contribute to the organization what critical thinking and ideas that I can. The position of Secretary would further my understanding of how the board functions and establish my role within the professional community for the long-term. Learning from other board members and supporting them in documenting discussions is something I am very interested in.

Contributing to the field and larger system-wide efforts is important to me professionally, but also personally. Making connections with other early childhood educators is critical to implementing and sustaining equitable access to high quality early childhood programs, services, and practices. Through networks of professionals, we can ensure all service areas in the state are able to share ideas, strengthen programs, and connect to nation-wide efforts in a shared vision of positive outcomes for all learners and families. It also must be noted how happy it makes me to work with colleagues in the early childhood field who share a passion for this work! It is truly a joy, and I find it incredibly recharging.

By practicing as a Director of ECSE in my area, I have grown my collaborative skills greatly since my school psychologist days, but also developed my ability to make decisions when plans need to be made. Staying organized, and keeping track of department work is important in ensuring a history is documented which can be used to inform future practices. Furthermore, my involvement in state-wide referent groups, in-county coaching programs, early childhood networks, work groups on inclusive practices, Great Start Collaborative strategic planning, have all contributed to my ability to thread together organizational partnerships and work in a unified direction.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sara Leggett, Ed.S, NCSP

Livingston Educational Service Agency