

The Pennsylvania Advisory Committee on Education of Students Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired (PACES - BVI)

Vision

The mission of the Pennsylvania Committee on Education of Students Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired (PACES - BVI) envisions that all students who are blind or visually impaired will have access to the resources necessary to achieve their full potential.

Mission

The mission of the Pennsylvania Advisory Committee on Education of Students Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired (PACES - BVI) is to promote excellence in the provision of educational programs and services to Pennsylvania students who are blind, visually impaired, deaf-blind, and blind or visually impaired with additional disabilities.

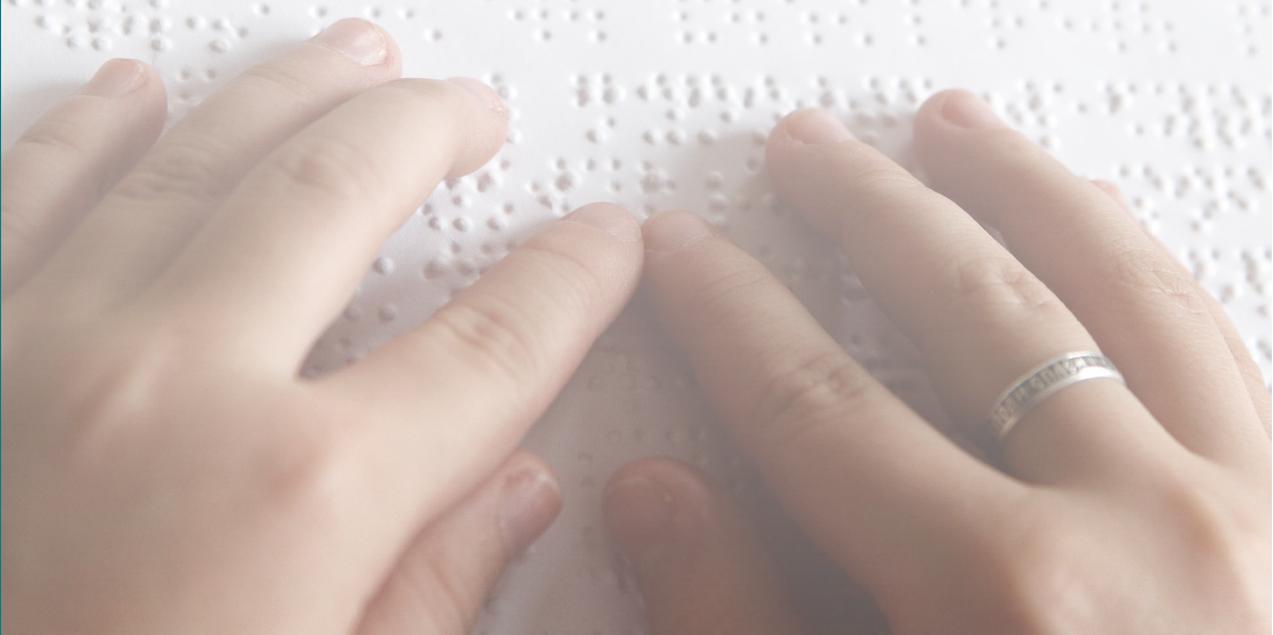
Membership

PACES - BVI is a committee of individuals connected to the field of advocacy, education or rehabilitation for the blind and visually impaired. Each member is appointed by the Director of the Bureau of Special Education.

Members include:

- Parents
- Teachers of the Visually Impaired
- Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialist
- Bureau of Blindness and Visual Services
- LEAs and IU supervisors
- Specialized Schools for the Blind
- Professional Organizations
- Young Adults and Professionals Who are Blind or Visually Impaired
- Institutes of Higher Education/Personnel Preparation
- Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL)
- Agency Service Providers
- Consumer Groups
- Professional Organizations

continued . . .



Responsibilities

- Advise the Bureau of Special Education (BSE) on current issues and preferred practices related to the unique educational needs of students who are blind, visually impaired, deaf-blind, and visually and multiply impaired.
- Respond to requests from the BSE for information and advice pertaining to the unique educational needs of students who are blind, visually impaired, deaf-blind, and visually and multiply impaired.
- Promote preferred practices and the provision of specialized services by appropriately credentialed professionals in the field of visual impairment and deaf-blindness.
- Work collaboratively with stakeholders, agencies and other organizations to promote preferred practices in the provision of quality services for students who are blind, visually impaired, deaf-blind, and visually and multiply impaired.

Expanded Core Curriculum

PACES-BVI in conjunction with Bureau of Special Education emphasizes the Expanded Core Curriculum (ECC) for students who are blind or visually impaired, deaf-blind, and blind or visually impaired with additional disabilities.

The ECC includes:

- Compensatory Access Skills such as braille and functional academics
- Orientation and Mobility
- Social Interaction Skills
- Independent Living Skills
- Recreation and Leisure Skills
- Career Education
- Assistive Technology/Technology
- Sensory Efficiency
- Self-Determination

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Tom Wolf, Governor

