



Collegiate Academies

CA's Special Education Advisory Council 21-22 Report

In accordance with Act 274 (SB 158) of the 2019 session, Collegiate Academies created a Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) starting in the 19-20 school year. The purpose of the SEAC is to improve the educational opportunities for students with disabilities working as partners in a collaborative relationship. To provide a forum for parents and staff to share ideas, identify concerns, and advise the network in order to improve services for children with disabilities.

Formation:

Several members of the 19-20 Special Education Advisory Council opted into returning as council members for the 21-22 school year. Additional family and staff members were solicited to join the advisory council to fill vacant seats.

Twelve members were selected, as follows:

Angel Augustine, GWC Director of Scholar Support
Chrissy Ragin, GWC Special Education Teacher
Shannon Johnson, GWC Special Education Teacher
Anthony King, LCA Special Education Teacher
Aisha Johnson, Executive Director of Families Helping Families NOLA*
Aqua Stovall, President of the Special Education Leader Fellowship*
Sarah Barnes, Director of Youth Services at Lighthouse Louisiana*
Maya Edwards, LCA Parent*
Gail Surtain, LCA Parent*
Valeta Francis Bethune, OA Parent
Dawn Hall, OA Parent
Charline Varnado, GWC Parent
Lalanie Matthews, GWC Parent

Angel Augutsine was selected as the Chair of the Advisory Council.

*denotes returning council member

Proposed Meeting Dates/Times/Topics:

- **May 11, 2022 - 6:00-6:45 on Zoom**
 - *Proposed Topic:* Extended School Year Programming,
- **May 31, 2022 - 6:00- 6:45 on Zoom**
 - *Proposed Topic:* Extended School Year Programming; Access Advocacy Coalition Feedback/Ideas
- The Council was unable to hold a third meeting in the 21-22 School Year

Meetings Held:

The first meeting occurred on Wednesday, May 11, 2021, from 6:00-6:45pm on Zoom. The topic was *Extended School Year Planning and feedback*. Council Members were able to give feedback on the proposed ESY programming. Francesca Antonucci asked the group to provide input on an idea to provide families of students with IEPs with information sessions on specific topics during family nights. The council gave input on potential topics for those sessions. In addition, additional topics were solicited but none were recommended.

The second meeting occurred on Tuesday, May 31, 2021, from 6:00-6:45pm on Zoom. The council was updated by Shannon Johnson on ESY Programming and the implementation of their feedback. In addition, Francesca Antonucci shared updates on the work the Access Advocacy Coalition had started and asked for council member input and feedback on the current topics the coalition was proposing as part of their Strategic Plan.