CA’s Special Education Advisory Council 22-23 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:
In order to solicit applications for the Council, the network released this notice and survey, which was posted on the website and disseminated by network leaders via network wide communication and school leaders. We ultimately received 33 applications for membership by the deadline of December 1, 2022.

Ten members were selected, as follows:
- Angel Augustine, GWC Director of Scholar Support
- Shannon Johnson, GWC Special Education Teacher
- Kelly Herman, ABA Therapist Collegiate Academies
- Scott Moerson, OA Job Coach
- Tiffany Sorrels, RCA Special Education Teacher
- Demetrius Rayford, RCA Family Member
- Pat Noel, LCA Family Member
- John Lacy, GWC & OA Family Member
- Donnis Osby, GWC Family Member

Angel Augustine was selected as the Chair of the Advisory Council.
*denotes returning council member

Proposed Meeting Dates/Times/Topics:
- **December 12, 2022 - 5:00-6:00 p.m. on Zoom**
- **February 6, 2023 - 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. on Zoom**
  - Proposed Agenda:
    - 5:5:10 Introductions
    - 5:10-5:25 Access Advocacy Coalition Proposal
    - 5:25-5:45 Increasing Supports for Students/Families Transitioning from OA/high school
    - 5:45-6:00 Next Steps/Next Meeting
- **April 24, 2023 - 5:00-6:00 p.m. on Zoom**
  - Proposed Agenda:
    - Students Transitioning to post-CA world!
    - SST REACH/ES Goals
Meetings Held:
The first meeting occurred on Monday, December 12th, from 5:00-6:00 pm on Zoom. The council discussed ways to increase effectiveness of Back to School and Progress Reports Nights and ways that schools can increase knowledge and skill building with families. The team also discussed the transition resources that families/care-takers need additional knowledge about or access to what is available in the community. The team discussed ways to increase how that information is shared with families throughout the student’s high school experience.

Council members present:
- Angel Augustine, GWC Director of Scholar Support
- Shannon Johnson, GWC Special Education Teacher
- Kelly Herman, ABA Therapist Collegiate Academies
- Scott Moerson, OA Job Coach
- Tiffany Sorrels, RCA Special Education Teacher
- Demetrius Rayford, RCA Family Member
- Pat Noel, LCA Family Member

Other attendees present:
- Francesca Antonucci, Senior Director of Student Support

Meetings Held:
The second meeting occurred on Monday, February 13th, from 5:00-6:00 pm on Zoom. The council learned about the work of the Access Advocacy Council and the strategic proposal that was shared with local politicians and community groups to help increase access in our community.

Council members present:
- Angel Augustine, GWC Director of Scholar Support
- Kelly Herman, ABA Therapist Collegiate Academies
- Scott Moerson, OA Job Coach

Other attendees present:
- Francesca Antonucci, Senior Director of Student Support
- Leah Krandel, Director of Student Support

Meetings Held:
The third meeting occurred on Monday, May 4th, from 5:00-6:00 pm on Zoom. The council discussed post-secondary planning
- Transition Planning for College and what supports should be folded into case management and transition services
- Best way to share transition planning information with families
- Feedback on REACH & ES programming alignment to mission and portrait of a graduate

Council members present:
  • Angel Augustine, GWC Director of Scholar Support
  • Kelly Herman, ABA Therapist Collegiate Academies
  • Scott Moerson, OA Job Coach

Other attendees present:
  • Francesca Antonucci, Senior Director of Student Support