

**Claiborne Parish School Board  
Special Education Advisory Council  
End of the Year Report  
May 3/2023**

The Claiborne Parish Special Education Advisory Council (CPSEAC) is made up of eight members that include four parents of students with disabilities, school personnel, a representative from Families Helping Families, and a representative from a local advocacy group.

The first meeting of the CPSEAC was held on January 10, 2023, with three members present. A presentation was given by the Chairperson Supervisor of Special Education, Mary Prior. The presentation provided an overview of the purposes of the CPSEAC as well as basic information regarding students with disabilities within the district and the personnel who work with students.

The Council discussed a few suggestions for future meetings and the first step was to encourage all members to attend the next meeting. The Council also talked about developing ways to inform parents about various programs and resources available and to increase public awareness of the various challenges faced by students with disabilities.

The second meeting of the CPSEAC was held on April 18, 2023, with six members in attendance. Mary Prior spent a few minutes reviewing the presentation that was given at the January meeting in order to make sure everyone was aware of their roles and responsibilities. The team then discussed next steps as to what we would like to accomplish as a short term goal. The team came up with several ideas to be considered but finally agreed upon having a Back to School Bash for students with disabilities and their families. This would entail having various agencies and the special education department set up booths to share information and resources that would be helpful for the students and their families. Food, games, and possibly school supplies would be provided. The Back to School Bash would be held in late July before school begins.

The Council also discussed ways to increase parent involvement, community awareness and resources available to students with disabilities that can be publicized through social media.

Parents with older children would like more information about graduation pathways and transition services. A suggestion was also made to provide more information to young parents regarding what to expect in the whole IEP process. The Council plans to address these suggestions as well as make plans for the Back to School Bash when it meets again in June of 2023.

Mary Prior, Chairperson  
Supervisor of Special Education  
Claiborne Parish School Board