



**Saint Paul Public Schools
Special Education
Advisory Council**

Sec. 8 Minnesota Statutes 2004, section 125A.24 (PACs)

In order to increase the involvement of parents of children with disabilities in district policymaking and decision-making, school districts must have a special education advisory council that is incorporated into the district's special education system plan.

Attendees: Amy Eelkema Baxter, Amy Johnson, Brenda Natala, Calton Sims, Jackie Kelly, Jessica Ramstad, Kimberly Adams, Jim Vue, Mayra Mariscal, Melissa Haley, Melissa Weeks, Michele Silvester, Nicole Warner, Oanh Nguyen, Rachael Sewell, RaShonda M, Sarah Zielinski, Tim Feyma, Christina Nicholas, Katie Horton

20 people: 9 of 11 members, 3 staff, 8 guests

Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) Minutes Unapproved

Date: 12-12-22

Time: 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Location: Hybrid meeting:

In-person: 360 Colborne St, Saint Paul, MN 55102 (Meeting room A, Childcare room D).

Virtual via Zoon: Link to join <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/9438313562>

SEAC December 2022 Agenda

5:30 p.m. Meal and Connecting - (in-person only)

6:00 p.m. Housekeeping, Welcome & Introductions

6:10 p.m. Melissa Weeks went over housekeeping items. Introductions/ Share/ Connect: Your name, if you are a member or guest, a little about your child, where your child attends school, what brings you to SEAC tonight?

6:20 p.m. Approve Nov minutes

6:15 p.m. Nicole Warner moved to approve SEAC meeting minutes, Jessica Ramstad seconded. Minutes were approved and passed.

What is SEAC:

SEAC is a group of parents, guardians, staff and community members that meet monthly to increase the involvement of parents of children with disabilities in decision making.

How does SEAC work:

At SEAC meetings members are informed and share input to improve programs and systems for students with disabilities and their families.

What are Parents Supposed to do at SEAC?

Learn something that will benefit your child, share what you learn with people in your community and ask questions and share input.

6:25 p.m. Check In- Jim Vue Board of Education Chair.

6:25 p.m. Jim Vue shared his experience on the day of the PAC (Parent Advisory Council) tour, with family groups, support from St. Paul Public School, checking in with everyone to see how

the school year is going, to hear everyone's concerns, and to hear how the school board can be better, especially the Family Engagement Department.

6:45 p.m. SpEd Update- Brenda Natala, Executive Director Specialized Services. Transitions.

6:49 p.m. Brenda Natala announced that she will retire at the end of the 2022-2023 school year. Amy Riley, Project Coordinator at OSS will be leaving the school district on January 6th, 2023. **Legislative Agenda:** Newly elected Minnesota legislators from St. Paul area visiting Como Elementary last week and this week with Superintendent Gothard to learn about special education and funding priorities.

Handout [Special Education Overview: Student Demographics, Staff Facts, Budget](#)

7:00 p.m. Charting the LifeCourse Training- Amy Eelkema and Jackie Kelly, Charting the LifeCourse Ambassadors.

Charting LifeCourse (CtLC) core belief: ALL people have the right to live, love work, play and pursue their life aspirations in their community.

CtLC is a collection of person and family-centered life planning materials created BY FAMILIES to:

- help individuals and families explore life possibilities,
- share ideas,
- hopes, and fears,
- set higher expectations,
- navigate future,
- advocate for vision,
- problem-solve and plan.

Family engagement is important to

- raise expectations,
- help families to create a vision,
- have meaningful conversations,
- address barriers and overcome fears,
- help teams to think about common experiences, concerns and questions about the future.

CtLC considers the Life Domains; the different areas across a person's day or week

- Daily Life and Employment,
- Community Living,
- Social and Spirituality,
- Healthy Living,
- Safety and Security,
- Advocacy and Engagement

Handouts: [Trajectory](#) [SEAC CtLC Training Presentation](#)

Action item: members and guests complete Trajectory: What do I want SEAC to accomplish this school year (September - June 2023), What don't I want. Complete and bring back to January SEAC meeting.

7:40 p.m. SEAC Forum/Meeting Reflection- Opportunity for hearing parent voice, sharing stories from the disability community, giving feedback for future agenda items. Creating process for Nomination Special Education Teachers. Possibility of connecting to “We Are SPPS” Campaign.

7:50 p.m. Announcements: Events/Resources/Agenda requests

8:00 p.m. Adjourn

8:05 p.m. SEAC Executive

Next SEAC meeting: Monday, January 9, 2023 6-8 p.m.