



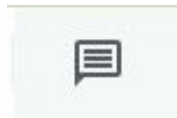
# Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC)

March, 02, 2022

# Housekeeping

Before the start of the meeting please:

- Mute microphone if not sharing
- Sign in to the meeting using Chat
- Submit questions or comments using the Chat feature
- Let us know if you need support using Zoom features



Click on to open comments



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

# Welcome & Introductions



# Agenda

**6:10 p.m. Approve February minutes**

**6:15 p.m. Special Education, Brenda Natala, Director Specialized Services**

- **SEAC Report Response Follow Up**
- **ARP Update**
- **Suspension and Dismissal data and process**

**7:15 p.m. SEAC Forum**

**7:45 p.m. Meeting Wrap Up**

**8:00 p.m. Adjourn**

6:10 - 6:15 pm

# Approve February minutes



6:15 - 7:15 pm

# Specialized Services Update



# Office of Specialized Services (OSS)

## **Marcy Doud, Deputy Chief of Schools**

Supervises Schools under Division of Schools

Oversight of Special Education, Wellness, Third Party Billing

Legal, Finance, Dispute Resolution



## **Brenda Natala, Executive Director of Specialized Services**

Supervise daily operations of Special Education Birth-21



[OSS Organization Link](#) - schools and supervisors



# OSS Supervisors



Jennifer Krueger  
Supervisor,  
Due Process



Larry Wren  
Supervisor  
K-12 Schools



Sarah Zielinski  
Supervisor,  
ECSE

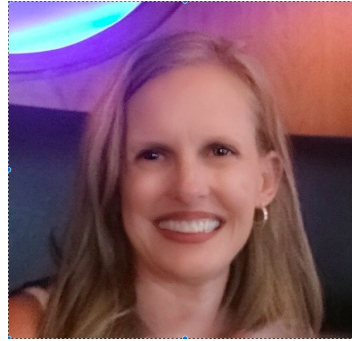




# OSS Supervisors



Chong Thor  
Supervisor  
K-12 Schools



Amy Johnson  
Supervisor  
K-12 Schools



Hai Yen Vo  
Supervisor  
K-12 Schools



# Special Education Updates

Marcy Doud

Deputy Chief of Schools in SPPS through June 30, 2022

Superintendent of ISD 287 starting July 1, 2022

Brenda Natala

Appointed Executive Director of Specialized Services 1/31/2022



# United Hmong with Disabilities

United Hmong with Disabilities National Conference -  
January 22, 2022

United Hmong with Disabilities: [Website](#)



# Possible SPFE Strike

**If a settlement is reached after 9:00 p.m. tonight**, there will be no school tomorrow (Tuesday) for a reset day. School would resume as normal on Wednesday.

# Potential Strike Updates

## KidSpace - Child Care for ages Pre-K to Grade 5

- Breakfast and Lunch provided
- Non striking staff provide child care
  - Community Education, Teaching Assistants, Administrators, SPFE members who chose to report to work
- Special Education services not provided
- Special Education transportation not provided

# COVID Updates

## [SPPS COVID-19 Website](#)

Contract Tracing ended March 4, 2022

Assigned seating not required

Absence due to fear of getting COVID (parent choice) no longer excused (3/7)

# COVID Updates

## What continues?

- Current isolation guidance remains the same for those testing positive:
  - 5 days isolation for staff
  - 10 days isolation for students
- Current household quarantine guidance remains the same for unvaccinated staff/students living with a person who tests positive
  - Quarantine for 10 days
  - Day 0 is the day symptoms began or the date of testing for the positive person, whichever is earlier
  - Cannot test out of quarantine
  - Return date subject to change (if symptoms develop or positive test)

# Masking **Proposal** for Committee of the SPPS School Board on 3/8/22

## If approved:

- Masks would no longer be required during times of **low to medium** community case rates in Ramsey County
- Masks would be required during times of **high** community case rates in Ramsey County
- Both a cloth mask and a medical/surgical grade mask would be required for staff delivering direct student support services during times of **high** community case rates in Ramsey County
- Staff and students will be supported in decision to wear or not wear a mask.

## [School Board Contact](#)



# American Rescue Plan (ARP) - Request For Proposal (RFP)

## DEADLINE EXTENDED to March 16: Saint Paul Public Schools Seeks Community Partners to Provide Student & Family Services

*District investing \$7 million from American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds through RFP process*

**February 14, 2021 (Saint Paul, Minn.)**--Saint Paul Public Schools (SPPS) is seeking community partners to provide targeted services to Saint Paul students and families, with a focus on those most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The district has allocated \$7 million of its American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds to this effort to serve students and their family members through partnerships with community organizations and independent providers.

SPPS is prioritizing four categories of student and family services for these funds:

- In-school mental health services and social emotional learning support for students
- After-school enrichment opportunities for middle school students through the [Flipside](#) program
- Support for families most impacted by the pandemic, either in or outside of school
- In-school academic support for students most impacted by the pandemic

We also welcome applications from community-based OST programs that are not aligned with the above SPPS programs, but primarily serve SPPS students.

# What community partners and organizations do you believe can provide targeted services to Saint Paul students and families with a focus on students receiving special education services?

- **In-school mental health services and social emotional learning support** for students
- **After-school enrichment opportunities** for middle school students through the [Flipside](#) program
- **Support for families most impacted by the pandemic, either in or outside of school**
- **In-school academic support for students most impacted by the pandemic**

\*We also welcome applications from community-based OST programs that are not aligned with the above SPPS programs, but primarily serve SPPS students.

**DEADLINE EXTENDED to March 16**

# American Rescue Plan (ARP): Early Childhood

Three ECSE strategies were allocated ARP funding:

**Assessment and Service** - Additional staff to evaluate and support the projected increase in students needing ECSE services -- **Evaluation staff hired Feb 2022. Additional classroom will be added at Early Learning Hub - West Fall 2023.**

**Infant Mental Health** - Training for ECSE educators and support for families in building healthy relationships and managing stress - **Reflective practice groups for ECSE classroom teachers and ECFE teachers in process. More training in summer.**

**Early Childhood Autism Support** - Training for ECSE teachers to support students with characteristics of autism - **Training in Summer**

# ARP - Special Education

**Special Education Recovery Services** - Staff to provide recovery services, instructional materials, assistive technology.

Currently students getting are receiving recovery services outside of school day, learning materials at home, planning for summer recovery services.

**Check and Connect** - expanding mentoring program at secondary schools to improve attendance, persistence, school engagement. To be implemented next school year.

**Additional strategies impact special education**

# March 2020 - SEAC Final Report

Eight recommendations for improving transition services from work completed by SEAC in 2018-2019.



# Input on IEP Meetings

What's your vision for a good IEP meeting?



# Suspensions and Dismissals Impact

- Students
- Families
- Communities
- School Staff

SPPS data shows significant disproportionality by race for students with special education services.



# Disproportionality Data

MDE reviews disproportionality based on these indicators:

- **Indicator 4** measures disproportionate rates of suspension/expulsion for children with IEPs.
- **Indicator 9** measures disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups identified as needing special education services.
- **Indicator 10** measures disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic group as identified as needing special education services in specific disability categories.





# Suspensions & Dismissals

## SPPS Rights and Responsibilities Handbook

- Outlines how SPPS is building positive school culture
- Includes guidelines & regulations regarding behavior
- Fulfills Board of Education policies 506.00, 506.02, 506.03 & MN Statute § 121A.55(a)
  - [SPPS Website: Rights & Responsibilities](#)
  - [Rights & Responsibilities Handbook 2021-22 \(Full Handbook\)](#)

# Special Education and Discipline

- Students with IEPs have additional due process rights related to discipline (suspensions and dismissals)
- Students with disabilities have limitations for how many days they can be removed before certain actions are required (10 days)
- The required actions (IEP team meeting, Functional Behavior Assessment) focus on reducing the likelihood that the behavior will occur again

# Manifestation Determination

- A manifestation determination meeting must be held upon the 11th cumulative day of suspension & for special circumstance behaviors (serious discipline incident)
  - IEP team determines
    - if behavior was directly related to disability
    - if the IEP was being implemented appropriately by the District.
- Result of manifestation determination meeting determines next steps (see next slide)

# Not Manifestation of Disability?

- Child with IEP can be disciplined in the same way that a general education student is disciplined

# Manifestation of Disability?

- District may not expel student for a misbehavior that is a manifestation of the student's disability
- Student stays in current educational setting (exception for special circumstance behavior- drugs, weapons, serious bodily injury)



# Other Requirements

- IEP team meeting
  - Suspension for 6 consecutive days or more
  - Suspension for 11 cumulative days or more
  - Removal due to special circumstance behavior (serious discipline incident)
- Functional Behavior Assessment (or review current FBA)
  - Suspension for 11 cumulative days or more
  - Removal due to special circumstance behavior (serious discipline incident)

# Problem Prevention/Problem Solving

Who is on your team?

- Principal and/or Assistant Principal
- Classroom teachers
- Your child's IEP Manager
- Special Education Supervisor - contact supervisor if needing assistance
- Special Education Director

7:35 - 7:45 pm

# SEAC Forum- Discussion & Information Sharing

**For the expression of concerns and recommendations** pertaining to the education of students with disabilities in SPPS.

SEAC members strive to **discuss & advise on issues of broad importance** to SPPS as a whole.

**Personal stories & reflection** can be used to inform the group's understanding of broad issues.

**Perspectives and confidentiality** will be respected.

Members are encouraged to **bring forth concerns & recommendations** without fear of reprisal.

**\*We ask that names of people are not used.**



7:45 - 8:00 pm

# Meeting Wrap Up

- Announcements, events or resources to share
- Tip to share on SEAC Facebook Group?





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

**Next SEAC meeting  
Monday, April 11, 2022**



Saint Paul  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS