



**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, Ashley Ward, Brenda Natala, Calton Sims, Chamie Link, Cruz, David Herrera Santacruz, Jackie Kelly, Jennifer Krueger, Jonathan Rose, Maria Sarabia, Mayra Mariscal, Melissa Haley, Melissa Weeks, Michele Davis, Michele Silvester, Nicole Warner, Oanh Nguyen, Rachael Sewell, RaShonda Muhammad, Rosalie Eisenreich, Roxanne King, Sarah Zielinski.

23 people: 8 of 10 members, 5 staff, 10 guests

Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) Minutes Approved

Date: 02-02-22

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

Location: Virtual meeting via Zoom

Link to [February Presentation](#)

5:30 p.m. Optional Pre Meeting Chatter. Join us if you can for an informal check in.

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

6:05 p.m. Melissa Weeks went over some housekeeping items. Introductions/ Share/ Connect: Your name, your child, why you are here, introductions via chat.

6:10 p.m. Approve [January minutes](#)

6:10 p.m. Calton Sims moved to approve SEAC meeting minutes, Amy Eelkema Baxter seconded. Minutes were approved and passed.

6:15 p.m. Inclusion Activity, Brenda Natala.

6:24 p.m. Brenda Natala asked SEAC members and guests the following questions using the Charting the Life Course Trajectory framework.

- What's your vision for a good day?
- What you don't want?

6:35 p.m. Transition Process Map, Ramsey County Disability Supports and Services. Jonathan Rose, Jackie Kelly & Amy Eelkema.

6:48 p.m. The purpose of creating a Transition Map is to provide a one-page document that helps families identify: Key life planning events, responsible parties & roles, outcome/expectations, and access to resources to enable effective and meaningful transitioning at each stage of life into adulthood.

7:05 p.m. Early Childhood Special Education Update, Sarah Zielinski- American Rescue Plan (ARP)

Three ECSE strategies were allocated ARP funding:

- **Assessment and Service** - Additional staff to evaluate and support the projected increase in students needing ECSE services.
- **Infant Mental Health** - Training for ECSE educators and support for families in building healthy relationships and managing stress.
- **Early Childhood Autism Support** - Training for ECSE teachers to support students with characteristics of autism

HUB (East & West)

In planning stages with Pre-K and ECFE to collaborate for a successful opening fall 2022.

ARP money used to fund the opening of one new ESCE classroom at Early Learning HUB West.

7:35 p.m. SEAC Forum-

The forum allows 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 stories of what is working well, concerns, and or recommendations for discussion within the group.

7:45 p.m. Meeting Wrap Up -

- Announcement, Event or Resource to share

[Join us on February 22 for our virtual Disability Advocacy Day!](#)

The event will be online again this year. But even though we can't go to the Capitol, it is still critical for disability advocates to show that we are better together by fighting for equity, access, and belonging in community.

Please join us, we will show that we are better together by fighting for equity, access, and belonging in community. #Better2Gether.

Schedule

A virtual poster gallery—10:00 am - 11:00 am.

The virtual rally—11:00 am - 11:45 am.

In-depth policy "Lunch & Learn"—12:00 pm - 1:30 pm.

- **ACTION Requested.** Tip to share on SEAC Facebook Group: Thanks for sharing your recommendations for choosing a new school or program.
- [Transition Planning Tools](#) recommended by Ramsey County Developmental Supports and Services.

8:00 p.m. Adjourn

8:10 p.m. Meeting adjourned

8:20 p.m. SEAC Executive

Next SEAC meeting: Monday, March 7, 2022 6-8 p.m.