



May 31, 2024

Dear Dr. Shannon LaFargue,

On behalf of the Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC), I would like to share our Special Education Advisory Council's report for the 2023-2024 school year. The SEAC met December 4th, January 29th, and March 25th in the Calcasieu Parish School Board meeting room located at 3310 Broad Street in Lake Charles. At the meetings, committee members, local agencies, Department of Special Services staff, and parents/guardians of Calcasieu Parish School Board students attended, discussed, and reviewed a multitude of topics.

At the three meetings, amendments were made to the SEAC By-laws and shared with all present as well as those who visit the Special Education Advisory Council's CPSB webpage. Mr. Mike Hill, former chairperson of the state Special Education Advisory Panel, provided the SEAC with state updates, including potential grants, Louisiana Accessible Educational Materials Assistive Technology changes, Louisiana Commission for the Deaf's proposed educational interpreter standards, and new senate and house bills that will impact our district. Department of Special Services director, supervisors, and coordinators shared information about upcoming events in the district, including Para University Training, free sign language classes, various Deaf/Hard of Hearing and Visually Impaired events, and the Special Services Carnival. Stakeholders attending the meetings were able to share comments and questions at each meeting. Minutes from each agenda is posted on the Special Education Advisory Council's CPSB website.

Should you have any questions about the Special Education Advisory Council or the content of the meetings, please contact me.

Thank you for your time,

Christa Foolkes
Chairperson
Special Education Advisory Council

Building Foundations for the Future