

## **SEAC Approved: February 19, 2025**

### **SEAC Meeting Minutes - December 11, 2024 Ascension Special Education Advisory Council**

December 11, 2024

12:00pm

In-Person Meeting (with virtual option)

LeBlanc Special Services Center

#### **Call to Order**

(12:00pm) by Director Adrina Million, Co-chair

Explained Robert's Rules of Order. Explained procedures for public comment, SEAC origin, and updates for Ascension Parish, purposes and responsibilities.

#### **Roll Call - (12:03 pm)**

Quorum Met:

1. Kheri Monks - virtual
2. Natalia Dickson - Not Present
3. Adrienne Kelly - Present
4. Raven LaBiche - virtual
5. Jacqueline Page - Present
6. Marvin Reed - Present
7. Jasmine Gray - Not Present
8. Shelton Williams - Present
9. Lorene Phillips - Present
10. Jeremy Tarver - Not Present
11. Lynette White-Pierce - Present
12. Melissa Rollins - Not Present

Chairpersons -

Dr. Adrina Million - Present

Jodi Rollins - Not Present

#### **Old Business**

##### **1.a. Approval of minutes from October 23, 2024 SEAC meeting**

Motion to approve minutes - A. Kelly

Second - L. Phillips

Approved

Dr. Million introduced a new Supervisor of Special Education, Shannon Arceneaux, who will join Dr. Nicole Grimes. She has served our district as a Special Education Coordinator, a Special Education Teacher, along with other roles.

## **New Business**

### **2. District Agenda Items**

#### **2.a. Presentation from LASARD (Louisiana Autism Spectrum and Related Disabilities Project)**

##### **Topic: Essential Supports for Home (visual schedules, cues, transitions cues, priming)**

Constance Alphonse and Tara Lark presented.

C.A. described LASARD as part of a nationwide network across developmental disabilities lifespan. Lasard is housed in LSU Health Center in New Orleans and supports teachers, administrators, etc.

Audience Member: Do you have a business card/a way to reach out to you directly.

C.A. - We don't work directly with parents, but with organizations, teachers, administrators. You can visit us at [www.lasard.org](http://www.lasard.org). We have Lunch & Learns and other training on our website.

T.L. focused on Priming which is exposure to information or actions before they occur. Tip: Use a Change Alert signal or sign. A team of people can be a source of priming for your child including OT, PT, early interventionist, etc. T.L. shared priming strategies and materials like visual schedules and supports.

Audience member (through an interpreter) - Have you had any experience with deaf parents of a hearing child with autism? Me (the child's Mom) and Dad, and my Mother are all deaf. He's in his own world because there is such a difference in his daily life than ours. It's two worlds for him.

C.A. - I have not personally worked with a student who is autistic and deaf. I can contact you with someone in our department. Her name is Nikki and she has a wealth of knowledge.

T.L. - Visual support really helps.

C.A. - I will give you a contact/resource. Visual support can be the link. (C.A. then shared how to access website, QR code, monthly newsletter)

M. Reed - Where can the presentation be accessed?

C.A. - I will send information to Dr. Grimes.

White-Pierce - My son is a freshman in high school. We have tried visuals, he struggles with retention/memory. Will they always need the visuals?

C.A. - Find the one that works best for him, the ones that are age-appropriate. Sometimes it's a work in progress.

Dr. Million thanks Constance and Tara for the shared information and the presentation.

#### **2.b. Updated information on this year Special Education Resource Fair**

Ginger Delatte (Special Education Coordinator) and Sara Recile (Parent Facilitator) presented updates. The 2nd Annual Resource Fair will be held Thursday, March 13th from 5:00-7:00 pm at the Gonzales Civic Center. A meeting with the SEAC members will be held on Wednesday, December 18th from 1:30-3:00pm at LeBlanc Special Service Center to plan for and discuss the Special Education Resource Fair.

#### **2.c. Special Education Consultant**

Dr. Million - We are internally doing some restructuring and are seeking the support of a SPED consultant who will be working with our district in reviewing IEPs, evaluations, and classroom

walkthroughs. This is the beginning stage in bringing attention to issues that have been brought forth.

M. Reed - Will this be a third party consultant?

Dr. Million - Yes

### **2.d. LDOE - Alternate Assessment Participation Waiver for Public Comment**

Under the Every Student Succeed Act (ESSA): Louisiana must limit the total number of students who are alternately assessed statewide to 1% of the total number of students. In order to exceed this 1% the LDOE will have to seek a waiver. Dr. Million stated that LDOE intends to seek a Waiver for the 24-25 school year. Public comments to LDOE must be submitted by 12/13. The purpose is to provide the public with an opportunity to comment on the full waiver request.

### **3. Parent Agenda Item**

#### **Committee Updates for Focus Areas for 2024-2025**

Dr. Million - There are some committee members out but can someone speak on each focus group?

1. Special Needs Parent Group:

L. Pierce - Purpose is to make sure we are connecting with parents in an accessible way. Things can get lost in translation. This special needs parent group is working to have our first meeting between December and the beginning of January next year. We want to come together, introduce ourselves, establish a rapport with the parents and the community and give parents opportunities to get feedback. We want to be intentional about getting information and needs met. We talked about: sped playdates, school sped liaisons, and providing information to parents. Next, we want to start the process of getting feedback from parents. Different methods of communication - how can we track, brainstorm, data collection - so many platforms to do surveys, etc. Can we put things in actionable steps? We want to be sure we are prioritizing our parents and getting a better structure for parent groups.

2. Parent Training Sessions:

Dr. Million - J. Rollins and M. Rollins are not available today. Our department is also working on different parent training sessions, possibly on IEPs.

3. Volunteer Opportunities for General Ed. Students:

A.Kelly - I agreed to take the lead on this. I'm currently trying to coordinate how to communicate and how we're going to get the feedback out. I'm active at PVHS, but if anyone else has suggestions I'm open for ideas. I can share my email address, I know other high schools have ideas too.

Dr. Million - Thank you. Our next meeting will be February 19th at 5pm back at ITTC. Have a blessed and Merry Christmas.

Motion to adjourn - M. Reed.

2nd - A. Kelly