

Special Ed Advisory Council (SEAC)

Wednesday, September 17th, 2025/ 6:00 PM/ [Google Meet](#)

AGENDA

1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTION OF SEAC MEMBERS

- a. **Members present:** Angie Young, Chelsie Vaala, Chelsie Bothun, Karin Falness, Amanda Lowry, Ashley Weber, Sara Hubbard, Londa Swenson

2. REVIEW PURPOSE & ROLE OF SEAC **Reviewed**

a. Purpose

- i. Serve as bridge between families, educators, administrators, and community
- ii. Provide input and feedback on policies, procedures, and programming related to special education
- iii. Promote awareness and advocacy for students with disabilities
- iv. Help guide continuous improvement efforts by reflecting the concerns and needs of families

b. Advisory vs. Decision-Making Role

- i. SEAC is advisory, not a governing body
- ii. Members provide recommendations, share experiences, identify unmet needs, and propose solutions
- iii. Special Education Director and district administration utilizes information from SEAC to help shape services, policies, and professional development opportunities

c. Responsibilities of SEAC Members

- i. Attend meetings regularly and actively participate
- ii. Represent the diverse experiences and voices of families in districts
- iii. Share information with other families and school communities
- iv. Maintain a respectful, solution-oriented, and collaborative tone
- v. Support inclusive practices and equitable outcomes for students with disabilities

3. IDENTIFY PRIORITIES FOR 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR

- a. Select 2 Focus Areas for the school year
 - i. *Discussed having an option to attend an "open house" at the beginning of the school year at a different time than the regular scheduled open house for students for students who may benefit from a quieter environment, less chaos, and opportunity to meet with all teachers and services providers before the start of the year*
 - ii. Group decided to focus on organizing two Family Nights for our region.
 - 1. LqPV/Dawson members will plan Fall night
 - 2. YME/RCW/Lakeview members will plan Spring night
 - 3. Could include an educational component for parents, opportunities for peer interactions for students, fun group activities, etc.
 - 4. Angie will look into any potential funding options
 - 5. Will meet again on October 8th at 6:00 PM to discuss Family Night events
 - iii. Training for extracurricular activities staff re: working with students with special needs outside of the school setting
 - 1. Discussed having this be part of Back-to-School Training for districts (e.g. coaches, daycare providers, etc.)
 - 2. Angie will share this with district admin teams
- b. Identify specific needs for each focus area and potential barriers
- c. Discuss how group would like progress/information regarding focus areas to be shared throughout the year
 - i. Email, shared Google Folder

4. SHARING OUT RESOURCES

- a. Discuss ways that parent info, training opportunities, etc. could be shared out best with parents, caregivers, students, etc.
 - i. Flyers, Social Media, District Websites, etc.
 - 1. Members are open to having information shared via email to pass on to other parents/caregivers/staff in the community

5. MVCC WEBSITE

- a. Will hopefully be launching late September-early October

b. SEAC Subpage

i. What would the group like to see included on this page?

1. Angie shared about the MVCC website and encouraged members to email any thoughts or ideas on how to ensure the SEAC subpage is useful

6. QUESTIONS & OPEN FORUM

- a. Member comments or concerns- none
- b. Public comment (3 minute limit)- none

7. NEXT STEPS & MEETING WRAP UP

- a. Confirm spring meeting date: *April 29th, 2026*
- b. Assign follow-up tasks (if needed)
 - i. District groups will begin discussions on Family Night planning
 - ii. Angie will send out calendar invite for October 8th meeting and email district groups re: Family Night

8. Adjourn