

SEAC Meeting Minutes - August 27, 2025 Ascension Special Education Advisory Council

August 27, 2025

12 p.m.

In-Person Meeting (with virtual option)

LeBlanc Special Services Center

Call to Order

(12:00 pm) by Dr. Adrina Million, co-chair

Roll Call - (12:03 pm) Quorum Met:

Marvin Reed - Present

Jasmine Gray- Not Present

Shelton Williams- Present

Lorene Phillips-Present

Jeremy Tarver- Not Present

Lynette White-Pierce-Present

Ashleigh Seneca-Present

Sanora Cole- Not Present

Sadie Wilks-Present

Sandy Hanna-Not Present

Marlene Dominique-Not Present

Kimberly Ammons-Present

Chairpersons - Dr. Million and Jodi Rollins (both present)

Old Business

1.a Approval of minutes from June 25, 2025 SEAC meeting - (Action Required)

Motion to approve minutes - Lorene Phillips

2nd motion - Kimberly Ammons

No opposition. Motion is approved.

SEAC members introduced themselves

1. Marvin Reed=EAHS
2. A. Seneca=SLP
3. S. Green=BRP
4. M. Phillips =Lake
5. Pierce=DTH, PVH
6. J. Rollins=BRP, DTH
7. K. Ammons=PVP Principal

New Business

2.a. Recommendations to Superintendent Walker to create district special education guidance to accompany LDOE Rights & Responsibilities Booklet (Action Required)

1st motion-Ammons, 2nd motion-Pierce

J. Rollins - We looked at other states' guidance. Other states have pages from IDEA. LDOE added additional pages with errors. LDOE will look into it. A whole separate book on IEP. Not on LDOE. Looking for information, not all parents will have information. I've asked LDOE. Our current head of diverse learning is leaving. It may take long. I propose Ascension wait. I'm a COPA member as well as Pierce. SEAC could help Dr. Walker come up with guidance. It's a lot of information. Other states are very well done. Alabama is doing it well. Can we look and come up with our own?

Pierce - I agree. New Jersey and other states have it broken down. Eases stress digitally and printed. LDOE takes long. Went to summit in July, ongoing. Don't want to wait.

Dr. Million - favor in recommendation of creating guidelines.

(Clarification question, what are we voting for?)

Dr. Million - voting to recommend that we create. Reed-amend motion that SEAC will create guidance.

J. Rollins - would be guidance not policy.

Reed-1st motion, Wilks-2nd motion, all in favor, no oppose. Motion is approved.

2.b. Recommendations to Superintendent Walker to review special education policies (Action Required)

1st motion=Wilks, 2nd motion=Philips Wilks

- any specific policy?

Pierce - policy is dense. SEAC will have to come up with what part. Maybe the most effective changes. Create a system to prioritize.

Wilks - Do we have to have permission?

Dr. Million - No, public record.

Wilks - clarified

Dr. Million - discussion around specific policy.

J. Rollins - I found 3 incorrect policies. It took a year and a half. The attorney general agreed. If she approves 1st agenda item we will be busy. The one that was incorrect was catastrophic, dealt with mandatory reporting. Personally, I am not an attorney. If we have someone on staff they should look at it. Even if we review, we have no authority.

Reed - prioritize. When we know issues, fix them.

J. Rollins - mine is seclusion/restraint. We can wait if yall want to read.

Pierce - get the ok to do it, then come together, shouldn't feel pressure.

Rollins - attorneys should find these problems. The district should look at all policies. They are built into board policies. Not as many as you think.

Reed - the way motion reads, it's broad.

Dr. Million - We can amend motion. I'm hearing different things.

J. Rollins - recommend attorneys review. Let us know when they review.

Reed - I amend motion to include what J. Rollins said.

Wilks - we need more specific cuts to chase.

J. Rollins - want attorneys to look at it. I don't feel qualified to read it all. Wilks - If we know there is a problem, then we include.

Million - there have been changes with seclusion and restraint. We expect those changes by early Spring.

Rollins - My concern was regarding time out, I already brought this. Discussed legal definition. Implications. I've asked for them to be removed. That policy wasn't written by our district. Ties to seclusion, but it's not. Only one I haven't gotten fixed, are there others?

Reed - amend APSB attorney review policies to ensure alignment to state law.

J. Rollins - and they let us know

Reed - line by line

J. Rollins - Can we add sped attorneys?

Dr. Million - all policies?

Reed - all

J. Rollins - all sped

Reed - If due diligence they have to go line by line Rollins

- I want to know if they disagree.

Reed - Superintendent Walker should have APSB sped attorneys review policies to ensure they aligned with state and federal law

Reed - any member can write Dr. Walker for specific policy. This ensures alignment. J.

Rollins -They were misleading and LDOE guidance is vague.

J. Williams - not many sped policies. What about adding policies? Can attorney add? Sped bus situation, laws? Tie in additional policies. How can public, how SEAC?

1st motion - Marvin Reed -2nd motion - Williams No

opposition, Motion is approved.

Dr. Million -2a addresses rights and responsibilities. We are considering adding Ascension.

Doesn't count policy.

2.c. Motion for Sped Parent Taskforce discussion

1st motion- Phillips 2nd motion-Seneca

J. Rollins - Last year we attempted committees. Same people. Need parents' grievances and new policies. If we have a task force people can bring issues. This would give us another way to meet. Doesn't have to be only SEAC stakeholders.

Dr. Million - important to define what this would look like, when, how, open meeting? If separate from SEAC, need more information.

J. Rollins - Easier for it to be closed. LDOE does all the time, but they cherry pick members.

Dr. Walker could turn to task force to get opinion, etc. Only chance parents get to talk to other parents. Some problems are systemic. Hoping to get conversation. Need more than SEAC.

Wilks - written proposal. Not comfortable with recommendation that big. What about application process? Scope?

Reed - Read purpose of SEAC. Isn't that what we're supposed to be doing?

J. Rollins - We haven't done that. Reed - We may need to change.

J. Rollins - I'm the only one who does

Wilks - Motion to table. Reed - 2nd

motion No opposition.

Reed - something presented by next week. Questions?

J. Rollins - different item. If we change how we run SEAC good. Maybe 2 meetings for parents to get feedback rather than another task force.

Pierce - restructuring. Let's meet and follow up. Review mission, prioritizing, drive change.

Google spreadsheet? More focused. Need to be more vocal.

Dr. Million - Have meetings between SEAC meetings?

Reed - meet with Dr. Walker once a year. J.

Rollins - She may need answers too.

Pierce - seeing what other councils are doing, communication lines open.

J. Rollins - TAC, PAC, SAC (advisory councils)

Dr. Million - Phillips was on PAC Districtwide

Pierce - benefit with other councils. Collaborate.

Dr. Million - will have this in notes.

2.d. Sensory Friendly Prep Day

Reed - 1st Motion Wilks - 2nd Motion

J. Rollins - DTHS is huge and overwhelming. Dr. Walker should issue a directive to administration. There shall be a Sensory Friendly Prep Day: An offered accommodation where parents can choose.

Wilks - Do schools offer? Can we describe?

Dr. Million - glad not limited. Is it in addition to current prep days?

J. Rollins - Depends. I would defer to principals. Primary and Middle not a whole different day

Ammons - Some teachers individualize. Absolutely needs to happen. My concern is to make sure we are not excluding. What does this look like? Not singling out.

Dr. Grimes - Just wanted to interject. It sounds like 3 different things were said-Sensory Friendly Prep Day, SF times, or a different night?

J. Rollins - In high school may not be possible. DTHS did a separate day because of logistics. If principals are directed, give option. I trust our principals, they can choose.

Ammons - Primary Pre Day is doable. It is an option. I need to know specifics about what it should look like.

J. Rollins - once we make request to Dr. Walker, she would bring to principals.

Dr. Million - Does that answer question, Ms. Wiltz?

Wiltz - I am about specifics. Provide list of recs, they can choose what's best for theirs. J.

Rollins - I was thinking time frame, principal could use discretion.

Dr. Million - As a council, is it reasonable that we provide items?

J. Rollins - We will lean heavily on Ammons

Pierce - great opportunity to ask parents. Cover all bases.

J. Rollins - How to get to parents

Ammons - Survey in spring to all parents J.

Rollins - Are we allowed to do surveys?

Ammons - yes

J. Rollins - I've never gotten surveys.

Dr. Million - Maybe your campus can pilot?

Ammons - Can survey now and get feedback

Pierce - Coffee talks, Smaller opportunities for feedback. Donuts, parents will share. Just in addition to survey.

Reed - table motion for further research

Wiltz - 2nd

No opposition, motion is approved.

2.e. APS Special Education Parent Newsletter - SEAC Corner (Action required)

Motion to discuss: 1st - Wiltz, 2nd - Ammons

Dr. Million - 2 of our initiatives for this schoolyear are an Admin and Staff newsletter from Sped about priority areas and a parent newsletter. Last week I shared information about things included i.e.: events, information parents need to know, maybe IEPs, transitions, etc. Parent facilitators are putting newsletters together. Will be in everyday language. Mrs. Rollins has asked about a SEAC corner.

Rollins - How will you prioritize information? Who decides? Will we get to see it? I've never gotten language from Department.

Dr. Million - It will be from Sped Department. Parent facilitators are meeting with parents. This will not be a bulletin. The intention is to give information to parents. Will not go into detail, more like 'tips'. More general; not bulletins or policies.

S. Recile (parent facilitator) gave an overview of newsletter. The first edition will be a Welcome Back to this schoolyear - explains what the newsletter is, what will be included, Director message, upcoming events - specially made for sped families.

Pierce - Maybe we can add QR codes to Families Helping Families.

Wiltz - Maybe we can confer with staff members, can SEAC have an editorial calendar of items. Can connect to parents with this recommendation of an editorial calendar. How can SEAC compliment your newsletter? Reed - Bring cohesiveness

Pierce - Has it been done?

Dr. Million - September will be first one

Rollins - We need a SEAC email

Dr. Million - It won't be a district email Rollins
- Can put our email on SEAC corner Dr.

Million - Can come back to it and revisit.

2.f. APS Special Education email address (No Action Required)

Dr. Million - In an effort to streamline to one email and to keep them from getting jumbled, we are rolling out a new email address specialeducation@apsb.org. If a parent or community member has questions, not specific to their child, they can send an email to that address. J. Rollins - Who will be monitoring it?

Dr. Million - Dr. Jamekco Lewis.

Dr. Million closed the meeting by announcing that the next meeting will be 10/30/25 at 5:00pm.

Reed - motion to adjourn the meeting

Wiltz - 2nd

No opposition. Motion is approved.