

**Albemarle Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)**  
**Monthly Meeting - County Office Building, Room 320**  
**Tuesday, November 11, 2025, 6:30 pm**

**Agenda**

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Agenda - approved
3. Attendance/Introductions:
  - a. SEAC Members
    - Amanda Vogel - Baker Butler Elementary
    - Joel Strauss - Broadus Wood Elementary
    - Jessica Allen - Ivy Elementary
    - Tracy Magee - Ivy Elementary
    - Caitlin Foley - Mountain View Elementary
    - Tammy Gouldsmith - Murray Elementary
    - Dee Curry - Scottsville Elementary
    - Grace Steljes - Stony Point Elementary
    - Jessica Willard - Stone-Robinson Elementary
    - Sam Peacoe - Burley Middle School
    - Chris Seaman - Henley Middle School
    - Jenni Wolf - Henley Middle School
    - Libby Moore - Journey Middle School
    - Kate Gariepy - Albemarle High School
    - Nicole Group - Western Albemarle High School
    - Teller Stalfort - Ace Academy
    - Tanya Evans - Community Representative
    - Betsey Soulsby - Community Representative
  - b. ACPS Administration and Staff
    - Dr. Chandra Hayes, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction
    - Dr. Daphne Kesier, Assistant Superintendent of School Community Engagement
    - Ashley Struzik, Director of Special Education
    - Leslie Glover, Assistant Director of Special Education
  - c. Piedmont Regional Education Program
    - Stephanie Hicks, Parent Resource Center
    - Maureen Straullo, Parent Resource Center
  - d. Guests:
    - Megan Washburn, Grow the Game Grant presenter
4. Approval of Minutes of October 7 meeting - approved
5. Update from SEAC Leadership Team
  - SEAC leadership received and reviewed Oct. 31 letter from ACPS to General Assembly per HB2278 about accessibility barriers in ACPS schools, shared this letter with all SEAC members in meeting materials

- SEAC leadership recently met with the Community Solution Clinic at UVA Law regarding ongoing work on disproportionate discipline for SPED students; Zoom meeting will follow.
  - SEAC leadership expressed concern about the national government climate and changes at U.S. Department of Education affecting enforcement of federal civil rights laws for students with disabilities; keeping an eye on this.
  - SEAC leadership thanked people attending tonight – “We are Better Together”; the more we are working together, with central office and each other, the more we accomplish
6. Update from SEAC representatives on other ACPS committees
- Cell Phone Device Committee - meeting again following week, let Betsey Soulsby know if interested; committee representatives are considering “Lightspeed” device locking software.
  - Family Council - presentation last month about literacy; data not good; socioeconomic impact is clear; gap only gets bigger.
  - New reading curriculum (HMH Into Reading) is promising; some concern from teachers; professionalism, building relationships to get to know kids, but this program has a script so it can lose greater intervention in upper elementary and middle school is going to be challenging. Questions about how we can build more fluency; across the country there is less time on text; students using screens and audio instead. We will see negative impacts to fluency from this.
  - Scottsville Elementary is doing a Color Run; 1 miler for kids, adults 5k, plus a fire truck on Nov. 22.
  - Talent Committee not meeting until January, but plan approved by School Board
7. Update from ACPS Special Education Leadership
- Thank you for coming and feedback
  - Making connections last Tuesday @ Monticello
  - Spotlight > Megan Washburn, Equity Coordinator. Pickleball being used to connect people; see flyer (Megan Washburn brief presentation - “[Grow the Game](#)” Grant to ACPS); Cville Smash
8. Discussion and Vote on SEAC Annual Report (link forthcoming)
- Adding narrative comments from survey respondents to the report is a nice addition; suggest personal comment for all key data.
  - 1 comment is from a person who pulled their kid out of ACPS – is there an un-enrollment date for this child – probably not available. Data of a child who moved to private school is usually only known if school records are requested, and likely wouldn’t be known if IEP was the cause of leaving.
  - Additional ask for ABase > Significant Learning Disability students questions from Amanda
  - Inclusion - SPED staffing shortages, when is collaborative teaching not working due to more SPED students vs general ed students in classroom > Ashley looking into an approximate numbers

- Question to Ashley regarding school psychologists - Henley does not have a full time psychologist but has a temporary person; 2nd year for this vacancy. Also currently school psychologist vacancies at Broadus Wood ES and Albemarle HS. ACPS has a psych intern who is scheduled to help, working hard with HR to help fill the postings.
- Procedural asks are present, as well as monetary asks
- Eligibility discussion with Family Council
- Logistics for SEAC presentation at School Board meeting
  - Traditionally gather for School Board meeting before starts
  - Asking for people to show up for presentation 12/11
  - Letter needs to be sent by end of week
- SEAC voted to approve Annual Report to School Board

#### 9. New Business

- SEAC voted to cancel December 9th meeting since presenting School Board Meeting on Thursday, December 11th
- Discussion of potential future meeting topics:
  - Ashley asked for February meeting to include a presentation PEATC (Parent Education Advisory Training Center)
  - Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) on transitions to workforce (Wilson Workforce Resource Center)
  - Discussion on information presentation @ IEPs, several different thoughts on what would be more effective
  - SRO/school safety update
  - Math Intervention > new math curriculum but not math intervention; up to Principal how things are allocated
  - Follow up on accessibility issues identified in Oct. 31 letter.

#### 10. Public comment (in person and by email at [spedhelp@k12albemarle.org](mailto:spedhelp@k12albemarle.org))

- None.

#### 11. Adjournment @ 8:02pm