

St. James Parish Public Schools

St. James Special Education Advisory Council Agenda
Meeting #2
Wednesday, January 7, 2026
5:00 PM

→ Call to Order- Chair at 5:06 PM

→ Prayer-Alisa Dunklin

→ Pledge- Jennifer Schrichten

ROLL CALL by Sadie Becnel

SEAC MEMBER	TITLE	PRESENT	ABSENT
Senecca Boudreaux	Council Chairperson	X	
Lynesia Raymond	Principal	X	
Lashana Jackson	Parent	X	
Ashley Harrell	Parent	X	
Jennifer Schrichten	Parent	X	
Tina Farah	Parent		X
Kyrallyn Shepherd	Student		X
Alisa Dunklin	Representative from St. James ARC/ Outside Agency	X	

(Meeting Quorum met)

→ Welcome- Chair

1. Read the public comment procedures - Chair
2. Read the SEAC purpose & process - Chair

OLD Business -

None

NEW Business –

3. District Agenda Items

- a. A review of December 2025 Special Education Quarterly Newsletter

Chair shared new name of newsletter, how/when the newsletter is disseminated, and confirmed receipt from council and meeting attendees.

- b. A review of SJPPS Crisis Intervention Guidelines and Seclusion and Restraint Techniques Specific to Students with Medical Conditions preventing Seclusion/Restraints

Chair showed the council and meeting attendees how to access the SJPPS Guidelines for Crisis Intervention and Seclusion/Restraint Techniques via the district's website. Chair also explained and shared the written notification in the guidelines that states the following: *The principal or his designee shall notify each parent or legal guardian of a student enrolled at the school with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) of the prohibition of the use of seclusion and restraint if the student has a condition that precludes such action, as certified by a licensed pediatrician, neurologist, or mental health provider in a written statement provided to the school in which the student is enrolled.*

Council member Alisa Dunklin asked a question specific to training on CPI restraints. Chair provided information specific to training such as Nonviolent Crisis Interventions.

- c. SJPPS Risk Assessment – Jarvis Shanklin, Director of Child Welfare & Attendance

Child Welfare and Attendance Director reviewed the district's new Risk Assessment, shared the process, discussed the requirements for parents of students in grades K through 3rd to be present when students are interviewed, and provided examples of when Risk Assessments would be conducted.

4. Council Agenda Items

- a. Presentation – Alanna Benoit, LPC, Clinical Coordinator - Magnolia Family Services, LLC

Alanna provided an overview of who Magnolia Family Services are and what they do. All of the services provided by Magnolia Family Services were shared with the council and meeting attendees. The process/steps for seeking services, being evaluated and diagnosed were shared by Alanna; insurance accepted by Magnolia and agency contact information were shared

- b. Council Dialogue – Emotional/behavioral disorders impact on education and school safety

Dialogue from the council yielded dialogue on consistent training for staff, training on understanding IEPs/behavior and building relationships with families; medication management, new teacher orientation focusing on ways to address challenging behaviors. Mental Health Days for teachers and staff dealing with students with emotional/behavioral disorders were recommended; the impacts of uncertified teachers and staff shortages

5. Public Comments- None

6. Closing Remarks

Council Members shared how informative the meeting was; gave recommendations for celebrating National Developmental Disorders Month in March, provided information specific to the 2026 Special Olympics, talked about students with disabilities participating in the A Night to Shine hosted by Tim Tebow, talked about hosting a dance in April in recognition of Autism Awareness Month, identified local barber who specializes in cutting hair for students with Autism, and inviting the St. James Parish Sheriff's Office to the meeting to educate deputies on students with disabilities

7. Meeting Adjourned – Chair; motioned by Alisa and second by Lashana