Ouachita Parish School System

Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC)

Meeting Minutes
Date: December 18, 2025
Time: 12:00pm - 1:00pm
Location: Student Support Services

The meeting opened with a roll call for attendance. Those present: Jennifer L. Brinson, Angela Westerburg, Misty McMullen, Jacey MeLoy, Christina Hemphill, Cari Duprey, and Hope Miller. A review of SEAC Policy, Procedures, and Responsibilities were discussed.

Key Points Discussed:

- **End-of-Year SEAC Report:**
  Reviewed status of the Preschool screener brochure and distribution plan.

- **Year-in-Review:**
  The team reviewed the year's accomplishments and their collective tenure, noting two major milestones: the installation of cameras in every special education classroom and the establishment of sensory rooms or designated sensory areas in every school.

- **Parental Feedback:**
  Transition Support for Students with Disabilities (SWD)

  Parents highlighted that the transition between school levels (Elementary to Middle; Middle to High) remains an "overwhelming" experience for both students and families.

  - **Proposed Initiatives:**
    - **Transition Days:** Implementation of dedicated "**School Preview Day**" tours prior to the start of the new school year.
    - **Introductions:** Opportunity for parents to meet Special Education teachers in advance to discuss specific student needs and establish a collaborative plan.

- **Information Gap:** A continued need for improved communication and awareness regarding resources available to families during these transition periods.

Professional Development & Training

Significant concerns were raised regarding the consistency of training for both instructional and support staff.

- **Paraprofessional Training:** Parents requested more robust and frequent training for paraprofessionals to ensure they are equipped to support students effectively.
- **Behavioral Support & Triggers:**
  - Increased training for teachers on identifying and managing student-specific triggers.
  - Clearer protocols on the appropriate and timely use of sensory rooms.
- **Inclusive Practices:**
  - Requirement for **all staff** (General Education and Special Education) to receive training on supporting diverse learners.
  - Focus areas: Implementing accommodations and responding to behavioral needs with evidence-based strategies.

- **SEAC Membership:**
  This was the first meeting for the current SEAC group for the 2025-2026 term.
- **Adjournment and Next Meeting:**
  Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, Feb 19, 2026 12:00-1:00
  The meeting was adjourned.
  - **Update:** Meeting moved to Thursday, Feb 26, 2026 12:00-1:00 due to weather-related audit delays and child count prioritization.