



Ascension Special Education Advisory Council
October 21, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.
AGENDA

IN-PERSON Meeting: ITTC, 14101 Roddy Rd., Gonzales, LA 70737

VIRTUAL Option:

<https://apsb.zoom.us/j/82768249527?pwd=TuDqp8SEk60Z9rx6Hnb509oqXE9baT.1>

Public Participation and Comment Procedures: The meeting is open to the public, and public comment will be permitted before any vote on an agenda item, subject to reasonable Council rules. Individuals wishing to speak are encouraged to complete a Public Comment Card and submit it at the sign-in table before the agenda item they wish to address. Each speaker will be allowed up to three (3) minutes to provide comments. Speakers will be recognized by the Chair and are asked to keep comments respectful, relevant to the agenda item, and free of personal remarks. Completion of a comment card is requested for organizational purposes but is not required as a condition of public participation. Public comments should address Council matters rather than individual student concerns.

Council Purpose: Ascension SEAC advises and provides feedback regarding special education policies, procedures, and resources and engages in community outreach to increase knowledge, support, and collaboration regarding special education. Membership and operations are governed by La. R.S. 17:1944.1, Louisiana Open Meetings Law, Council rules, and applicable district procedures.

Agenda Notice: Each action item is separately identified below. Before action is taken, the presiding officer or designee will read the agenda-item description aloud and provide an opportunity for public comment. Votes will be taken verbally and recorded in the meeting minutes. Matters not listed on this agenda may be considered only as permitted by Louisiana law.

APS SEAC Members for 2026-27:

- Ashleigh Seneca (SPL)
- Sanora Cole (GAP)
- Sadie Wilks (BRP)
- Sandy Hanna (SAP)
- Jodi Rollins(DTH)
- Marlene Domingue (Outside Agency)
- Kimberly Ammons (Educator)
- Jade Brignac (DTH)
- Amber Bergeron (DUP)
- Edda Dupaquier (PVHS)
- Dr. Cynthia Buggage
- Dr. Seiji Bentley

Chair: Dr. Jennifer Vicknair, Director of Special Education

I. Opening Procedures

- A. Call to Order and Establishment of Quorum
- B. Roll Call; Introduction of Members and Guests
- C. Adoption of the October 21, 2026 Agenda

Public Comment: Opportunity for public comment will be provided before any vote on this item.

Action: Motion and vote to adopt the agenda.

II. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- A. Approval of August 19, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Discussion: Review and consider approval of the draft minutes from the August 19, 2026 meeting.

Public Comment: Opportunity for public comment will be provided before any vote on this item.

Action: Motion and vote to approve the minutes as presented or as corrected.

III. Unfinished Business

A. Special Education Parent Calendar

Discussion: Provide an update regarding the Special Education Parent Calendar and the recommendation made to the Superintendent following the August SEAC meeting, including the addition of early dismissal dates and the status of distribution to families.

Action: No action scheduled. Informational update and Council discussion.

B. SEAC Subcommittee – Family Engagement and Communication

Discussion: Present and discuss the proposed action plan for establishing the Family Engagement and Communication Subcommittee, which will address various special education topics based on identified family needs and Council priorities.

The proposed action plan will include:

- Structure and Implementation: Meeting schedule, roles and responsibilities, Council and LSSC points of contact, and reporting procedures.
- Proposed Focus Areas:
 - Early Childhood/Child Find – family outreach and awareness
 - Students with Significant Disabilities – sensory-friendly activities and opportunities
 - Postsecondary Transition – family resources and agency connections
 - Additional topics identified by the Council
- Expected Outcomes: Parent informational meetings, FAQs, resource guides, community outreach, and other family engagement opportunities.

Public Comment: Opportunity for public comment will be provided before the vote on this item.

Action: Motion and vote to approve, amend, or otherwise act upon the proposed Family Engagement and Communication Subcommittee Action Plan, including its structure, implementation process, and initial focus areas.

IV. New Business – SEAC Agenda Items

A. Helping Hand

Discussion: Present and discuss **Helping Hand**, including its purpose and potential opportunities to support students with disabilities and their families.

Action: Discussion and possible action.

B. Special Education Teacher Shortages

Discussion: Discuss the challenges associated with special education teacher shortages, including recruitment, retention, staffing needs, and potential impacts on the delivery of special education services. Explore district efforts to address staffing challenges and opportunities to support teachers while ensuring students receive appropriate services.

Action: Discussion only. No action scheduled.

V. District Agenda Items and Updates

A. ABA Provider Clearance Process

Discussion: Provide an update on the clearance process for outside ABA providers serving students on school campuses. The district team is actively working to expedite and improve the clearance process in preparation for the 2027–2028 school year. A revised clearance plan and proposed process will be presented to the Council at the December 2026 SEAC meeting.

Action: No action scheduled. Informational update only.

B. Special Education Resource Fair

Discussion: Provide an update regarding planning for the Special Education Resource Fair, including the proposed date and next steps.

Action: No action scheduled.

VI. Adjournment

A. Adjournment

Action: The Chair may declare the meeting adjourned when business is complete. If a motion and vote to adjourn are used, an opportunity for public comment will be provided before the vote.