

**GEO Academies
2025-2026 School Year
Special Education Advisory Council Report**



GEO Academies Regional Network of School in Louisiana

GEO Prep of Greater Baton Rouge

GEO Prep Mid-City

GEO Next Generation High School

GEO Baker

May 15, 2026

GEO Academies
2025-2026 School Year
Special Education Advisory Council Report

I. The Purpose of the Special Education Advisory Council

R.S. 17:1944 Requires local public-school systems to create a Special Education Advisory Council to provide advice and feedback regarding special education policies, procedures, and resources. The council shall also engage in outreach activities to the community at large to increase the level of knowledge, support, and collaboration with respect to special education.

II. Special Education Advisory Council Members and Roles (2025/2026)

SEAC Members	Role
Pamela White	SEAC Chair
Vacancy	Parent (GEO Prep Academy)
Vacancy	Parent (GEO Prep Mid-City)
Monica Banks	Parent (GEO Next Generation High School)
Vacancy	Parent (GEO Prep Baker)
Jaylyn Savoy	Principal, Teacher, or Paraprofessional (Geo Prep Academy of Greater Baton Rouge)
Andrea McQuarter	Principal, Teacher, or Paraprofessional (GEO Prep Mid-City)
LaTasha Jones	Principal, Teacher or Paraprofessional (GEO Next Generation High School)
Ethel Green	Principal, Teacher or Paraprofessional (GEO Prep Baker)
Felipie Lee-Ruffin Teens are Everything	Rep from Entity That Serves Students with Disabilities
Vacancy	Special Education Stake Holder (non-parent/school staff)

March 2, 2026 (Meeting 1)

Agenda Items: Review of SEAC application and member appointment

Meeting Notes: During the first meeting held on March 2, 2026, council members reviewed Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) applications submitted during the 2025–2026 school year to appoint additional members. A total of eight applications were received, including six applicants interested in serving as parent representatives. During the review process, it was determined that four of the parent applicants did not currently have students with active Individualized Education Programs (IEPs). Members

discussed the continued need for parent representation across three campuses, and it was agreed that the application process would remain open to allow for additional recruitment and participation opportunities.

April 16, 2026 (Meeting 2)

Agenda Items: SEAC Purpose and Overview, Member Introductions, Member Expectations and Responsibilities, Meeting Schedule Review, ESS Structure and Services Overview, Regional Areas of Improvement Discussion, Question-and-Answer Session, Meeting Closure.

Meeting Notes: The second Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) meeting was held on April 16, 2026. Meeting participants were welcomed, and the agenda for the meeting was reviewed. Members in attendance included Pamela White, Latasha Jones, Felipe Lee-Ruffin, and Ethel Green.

Each participant introduced themselves and shared a little about their role in supporting students with disabilities. Members were provided with an overview of the purpose of the SEAC and the important role the council serves in providing feedback, recommendations, and stakeholder input related to services and support for students with disabilities. Member expectations, responsibilities, participation requirements, and the annual meeting schedule were also reviewed and discussed.

Pamela White provided an overview of the GEO Academies organizational structure and explained that the organization consists of four schools operating across six locations. Members were informed that although each campus operates as its own Local Education Agency (LEA), the schools function under a regional leadership structure. It was also explained that the regional SEAC model was intentionally established to ensure representation and input from each school community across the network.

Members participated in discussion regarding potential regional areas of improvement within Exceptional Student Services (ESS). Conversations included communication with families, consistency of support and services across campuses, and continued opportunities to strengthen outcomes and overall support for students with disabilities. The meeting concluded with a question-and-answer session and closing remarks.

May 15, 2026 (Meeting 3)

Agenda Items: Review of Previous Meeting Notes, ESS Updates and Regional Priorities, Discussion of Family and Community Engagement, Review of Student Support Needs Across Campuses, Discussion of Areas for Program Improvement, Questions and Feedback from Members, Next Steps and Meeting Closure.

Meeting Notes: The third Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) meeting began as scheduled. Pamela White was present for the meeting and reviewed notes and key information from the previous SEAC meeting. Time was also used to begin planning and

organizing ideas for family engagement opportunities for the upcoming school year. Planning efforts focused on identifying ways to strengthen family involvement, increase communication and participation opportunities, and continue building strong partnerships between families and schools in support of students with disabilities. Initial ideas for future family events, informational sessions, and outreach opportunities were documented for continued development as part of ongoing planning efforts for the 2026–2027 school year.

IV. Executive Summary

During the 2025–2026 school year, the Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) focused on reestablishing and strengthening the council structure while supporting the continued growth of Exceptional Student Services (ESS) across the region. Meetings centered on defining the purpose and expectations of the council, identifying stakeholder representation needs, reviewing council membership applications, and establishing a foundation for future collaboration and stakeholder engagement.

Throughout the year, the council reviewed the regional structure of GEO Academies and discussed the importance of maintaining representation across all schools and campuses within the network. Conversations also focused on strengthening communication, increasing family engagement opportunities, and identifying areas where consistency of support and services could continue to improve across campuses. Initial planning efforts were also conducted to support future family engagement activities and outreach opportunities for families of students with disabilities.

The work completed during the 2025–2026 school year established a strong foundation for continued growth and development of the SEAC. Efforts during this initial year supported the development of a more structured and representative advisory council focused on collaboration, stakeholder voice, and continuous improvement in services and support for students with disabilities.

V. Highlights and Accomplishments

The district's SEAC conducted a series of planning and organizational meetings during the 2025–2026 school year focused on establishing council operations, strengthening stakeholder representation, and supporting continuous improvement efforts within Exceptional Student Services (ESS). Key highlights and accomplishments included:

- Established and reintroduced the regional SEAC structure to support representation across all GEO Academies campuses and locations.
- Reviewed SEAC membership applications and identified continued parent representation needs across multiple campuses.
- Provided council members with training and information regarding the purpose of the SEAC, member expectations, responsibilities, and advisory roles.

- Reviewed the GEO Academies organizational structure and discussed how regional leadership supports consistency across schools operating as individual LEAs.
- Identified family engagement, communication, and consistency of supports and services as ongoing areas of focus for future council work.
- Began preliminary planning for future family engagement activities, informational sessions, and outreach opportunities for families of students with disabilities.
- Established a foundation for continued collaboration between families, stakeholders, and Exceptional Student Services leadership.

VI. Areas of Improvement / Next Steps / Timeline of Upcoming Activities

An area identified for continued improvement is parent and family engagement. While efforts are ongoing to support families across the region, the council recognizes the importance of increasing opportunities for parents and guardians to better understand special education processes, available supports, and ways to actively engage with schools and services. Continued focus will be placed on strengthening communication, increasing accessibility of information, and creating meaningful opportunities for family participation and collaboration.

The council also identified the continued need to strengthen stakeholder representation across all campuses to ensure the SEAC reflects the voices and perspectives of families and community members throughout the region. Recruitment efforts will continue during the upcoming school year to support balanced representation and active participation.

Upcoming activities and next steps for the 2026–2027 school year include:

- Continued recruitment of SEAC members, including parent representatives from campuses with current vacancies.
- Public sharing of SEAC membership information and application opportunities during Summer and Fall 2026.
- Development of family engagement activities and informational sessions for families of students with disabilities.
- Continued review of regional ESS supports, communication practices, and stakeholder feedback to identify areas for ongoing improvement.
- Ongoing SEAC meetings during the 2026–2027 school year to support collaboration, stakeholder input, and continuous improvement efforts related to services for students with disabilities.

VII. How to Become a Member of the Special Education Advisor Council

Persons interested in becoming a member of the GEO Academies Special Education Advisory Council should complete an online membership application. Any interested person without internet access can obtain a paper application from the school office.

When term limits expire or a vacancy becomes available, a public notice along with a link to the application will be provided on social media and the announcement page of GEO Academies website and schools website. Application link:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeucFzKxNLI4uUyInx0tSI0tyvGW1RovGMVD1oOZCSZ6Pf4vw/viewform?usp=header>