

**East Baton Rouge Parish School System  
2023-2024 Annual Special Education Advisory  
Council (SEAC) Report**



**May 30, 2024**

## East Baton Rouge Parish School System

### 2023-2024 Annual Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) Report

#### *Purpose of the Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC)*

R.S. 17:1944 Requires local public school systems to create a Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) to provide advice and feedback regarding special education policies, procedures, and resources. The SEAC 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.

#### *SEAC Members and Roles*

<b>SEAC Member</b>	<b>Role</b>
Angela Harmon	Parent
April Hampton	Parent
Tia Edwards	Parent
Adrian Deschamps	Parent
Anitra Walker/Ashlyn Harrison	Principal, Teacher or Paraprofessional
Zane Kimbrell	High School Student with a Disability
Cynthia Chesterfield, Families Helping Families	Entity That Serves Students with Disabilities
Janet Armelin Harris, PhD., NCED	SEAC Chairperson

#### *2023-2024 Meetings/Agendas/Minutes*

<b>SEAC Meeting Date/Time</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Link to SEAC Agenda/Meeting Minutes</b>
January 26, 2023	Southdowns Center	<a href="https://ebrschools.org/seac-meeting-archives/">https://ebrschools.org/seac-meeting-archives/</a>
April 27, 2023	Southdowns Center	<a href="https://ebrschools.org/seac-meeting-archives/">https://ebrschools.org/seac-meeting-archives/</a>
October 26, 2023	Progress Elementary School	<a href="https://ebrschools.org/seac-meeting-archives/">https://ebrschools.org/seac-meeting-archives/</a>
April 24, 2024	Broadmoor Elementary School	<a href="https://ebrschools.org/seac-meeting-archives/">https://ebrschools.org/seac-meeting-archives/</a>

### ***2023-2024 SEAC Meeting Details***

The 2023-2024 SEAC Meetings were advertised on the district's website at [www.ebrschools.org](http://www.ebrschools.org) and flyers were sent to schools for posting on their respective campuses. Each SEAC Meeting listed above documents in the minutes that a quorum was met. Participation was encouraged through sending messages to parents via the district's JCampus System.

### **Executive Summary**

This section of the SEAC Annual Report will detail the activities undertaken by the Council for the 2023-2024 school year inclusive of additional informal SEAC Planning Meetings. This discussion will demonstrate the district's SEAC intent to organize and develop programs for the inclusion of students with disabilities and proposed recommendations to the Superintendent.

### ***Overview of Special Education in the East Baton Rouge Parish School System (EBRPSS)***

Subgroup data relative to students with disabilities in the EBRPSS for the 2022-2023 school year revealed that these students' academic performance showed a 5.2% increase. The district attributes this increase to the "push" by the Department of Exceptional Student Services (ESS) for the use of more inclusive practices in curriculum and instruction. The LEA Determinations for the 2022-2023 school year revealed a decrease in the Interests and Opportunities Index for high school students. A more comprehensive analysis of the academic data for our students can be accessed at <https://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/school-system-attributes> .

### ***Highlights and Accomplishments of the Council***

The district's SEAC coordinated a series of informal planning meetings consisting of Council members where discussions relative to recommended programs and agendas were held. These planning meetings resulted in the following recommended actions:

- Secondary Transition Discussion Panel of Experts – Panel was provided virtually for parents of students with disabilities on or around March 2023 where information was received from district personnel and community stakeholders on planning for students' post school outcomes.

- Summer Camps for Students with Disabilities – Recommendation by SEAC for students with disabilities to have camps inclusive of physical activities where they can participate.
- Spring Dance for Students with Disabilities
- Summer Enrichment Camps for Students with Disabilities – Academic and physical activities are to be provided to middle school students on or around June 2024 to enhance skills.

### *Areas of Improvement/Next Steps/Timeline of Upcoming Activities*

Areas of improvement are noted in the Council identifying expanded areas of services and activities that can be provided to enrich and/or remediate academic, communication, motor areas for students with disabilities. Next steps would entail that the Council conduct a “deep dive” into the academic data of students with disabilities and develop a comprehensive set of recommendations. Upcoming activities will focus on mental health activities and advocating for accessible and cost-effective programs for students with disabilities.

### *Parent Engagement*

The district provides Parent University for all parents of students within the East Baton Rouge Parish School System (EBRPSS). The district implemented a Superintendent’s Parent Advisor Council which met monthly at the Central Office and provided a forum for parents to express their concerns. The Exceptional Student Services Department seeks to involve parents of students with disabilities through participation in district-sponsored and community events where Child Search efforts are paramount.

### *How to Become a Member of the SEAC*

Persons interested in becoming a member of the EBRPSS Special Education Advisory Council can access this [link](#) to the application and to retrieve information on the district’s application process.