

**East Baton Rouge Parish School System**  
**2024-2025 Annual Special Education Advisory**  
**Council (SEAC) Report**



**May 30, 2025**

## East Baton Rouge Parish School System

### 2024-2025 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*

SEAC Member	Role
Adrian Deschamps	Parent
April Hampton	Parent
Jasmine Payne	Parent
Danyale Davis	Parent
Angela Harmon	Parent
Zane Kimbrell	Student (High School Student with Disabilities)
Alecia Williams	Staff
Vickey Silas	Administrator
Pamela White	ESS Program Facilitator for Autism
Valentina Rideaux	ESS Instructional Support Specialist
Cynthia Chesterfield, Families Helping Families	Entity That Serves Students with Disabilities
Carmen Overton	Reporter
Natalie Tillman-London, ESS Supervisor	SEAC Chairperson

#### *2024-2025 Meetings/Agendas/Minutes*

SEAC Meeting Date/Time	Location	Link to SEAC Agenda/Meeting Minutes
April 24, 2024	Broadmoor Elementary School	<a href="https://ebrschools.org/seac-meeting-archives/">https://ebrschools.org/seac-meeting-archives/</a>
October 8, 2024	Goodwood Administrative Center	<a href="https://ebrschools.org/seac-meeting-archives/">https://ebrschools.org/seac-meeting-archives/</a>
March 20, 2025	Instructional Resource Center	<a href="https://ebrschools.org/seac-meeting-archives/">https://ebrschools.org/seac-meeting-archives/</a>

## ***2024-2025 SEAC Meeting Details***

The 2024-2025 SEAC Meetings were advertised on the district's website at [www.ebrschools.org](http://www.ebrschools.org) and communications via telephone were sent to Exceptional Student Services families. 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 2024-2025 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 2024-2025 school year revealed that these students' overall growth targets. Out of 13 targets 11 were met. The overall percentage was 91.2%. 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. Dr. Rodney Coates, Director of Exceptional Student Services, contributes this success, "for our students to have access to tier one curriculum". Dr. Robert Garcia, ESS Supervisor shared a video that has been helpful to the success of this initiative. [Successful Strategies for Inclusive Education](#).

### ***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:

- Yearly Focus on Mental Health.
- Self-Defense for students in transition and for parents with student's w/disabilities.
- Understanding the changes that shape you. (Puberty)
- Inaugural SEAC Autism Walk during April (Autism Awareness Month)
- Summer Expo: Focusing on Mental Health, Internet Safety, Transition from school to independency.
- Sensory: Providing a safe sensory haven at local events and after school activities.

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

The Council has identified several areas for improvement, including the expansion of services and activities aimed at enhancing academic performance in Math and ELA. These efforts will also promote public awareness, self-advocacy, and independence for students with disabilities.

The next steps involve the Council reviewing the academic data of students with disabilities, formulating a comprehensive set of recommendations, and bridging the gap between students and community. Upcoming initiatives will concentrate on mental health self-advocacy and creating a safe, accommodating environment for students with sensory sensitivities at events (such as football and basketball games). Additionally, there will be quarterly events focusing on safety, understanding the physical changes that your body will go through, transitioning from school to independence, and raising awareness about autism.

### *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.

In addition, the Office of Parental Engagement was established Summer of 2024. The office of Parental Engagement partners with families from diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds to promote meaningful participation in their child's education. The office seeks to empower parents as advocates, collaborators, and decision-makers through open communication, culturally responsive support, and community -building efforts.

Parent Liaisons play a vital role in this mission by:

- Providing clear explanations of special education services and delivery models within the least restrictive environment (LRE).
- Offering individualized guidance to help families navigate the special education process, including IEP meetings and transition planning.
- Supporting families in making informed and developmentally appropriate curricular choices that align with their child's unique strengths and needs.

- Serving as a bridge between home and school, fostering trust, mutual respect, and shared responsibility.
- Promoting equity and inclusion by ensuring that all parents, regardless of background, can access the information and resources they need to support their child's success.

By working together, we create a supportive educational environment where every child has the opportunity to thrive.