

**Grant Parish Special Education Advisory Council
Annual Report for School Year 2022-2023**

Grant SEAC Members for 2022-23:

Kaitlyn Brunson – parent
Elaine Futrell – parent
Shermela Givens – parent
Kassandra Hooter - parent
High School Student
Jason Graves - Special Education Student
Justin Sims, AT Specialist
Bailey Lott, Educational Diagnostician
Chair: Denise Young

General Committee Information

Handbook Link

<https://www.gpsb.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Grant-Parish-School-District-SEAC-Handbook.pdf>

Application Link

<https://www.gpsb.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Grant-Parish-School-District-SEAC-Application.pdf>

After the change in the law, much of the fall semester was focused on updating the handbook and procedures and obtaining school board approval for the new policy. The new policy was posted on the district website in December, 2022. After several months without applicants, staff members reached out to parents to fill the committee and remain in compliance with the law.

May 19, 2023 Meeting Highlights: (conducted virtually)

SEAC Members present: Kaitlyn Brunson, Jason Graves, Elaine Futrell, Bailey Lott, Shermela Givens, Denise Young

Unable to attend: student (absent from school), Justin Sims, Kassandra Hooter

Each committee member introduced him or herself. Denise Young explained the purpose of the committee and read the duties and responsibilities from the district SEAC handbook. The next meeting date and time was set for Friday, May 26, 2023 at 11 am at the Pupil Appraisal building. A virtual link will be sent to those who need to attend virtually. Committee members were given instructions on submitting topics for discussion.

May 26, 2023 Meeting Highlights:

SEAC Members present: Kaitlyn Brunson, Cassandra Hooter, Elaine Futrell, Bailey Lott, Shermela Givens, Denise Young

Unable to attend: student, Justin Sims, Jason Graves

Minutes from May 19th meeting approved. District SEAC Handbook distributed.

Discussions:

District SEAC Handbooks were distributed for members to review. Questions were asked and answered about the purpose of the committee. Extended School Year Services were discussed along with IEPs. Parents expressed concerns about the level of understanding of ESYS and various parts of the IEP. It was suggested that the district conduct or partner with Families Helping Families to conduct parent education around IEPs, services, and ESYS. The committee chair will reach out to Families Helping Families to see if a representative can attend the next meeting. Another topic discussed was methods of communication. Parents suggested utilizing Facebook posts to share information to parents about upcoming events. JText was also mentioned as a preferred method of communication, even more preferred than notes sent home. The committee chair discussed how IDEA funds are budgeted and explained some of the restrictions that exist relative to federal funds. Parents were asked for feedback on budgeting. The next meeting was scheduled for June 20, 2023 at 8:30 am.

Final Meeting of 2022-2023: June 20, 2023 at 8:30 am. This report will be updated after that meeting.

SEAC members will set the schedule for the upcoming school year at this meeting.

Positive outcomes from 2022-2023 Grant SEAC committee members:

- Recommended resources for parents to be given to all parents of students in special education
- Recommendation for a parent education meetings
- Recommendation to increase advertising for SEAC meetings