



**Saint Paul Public Schools  
Special Education  
Advisory Council**

### **Sec. 8 Minnesota Statutes 2004, section 125A.24 (PACs)**

**In order to increase the involvement of parents of children with disabilities in district policymaking and decision-making, school districts must have a special education advisory council that is incorporated into the district's special education system plan.**

**Attendees:** Amy Eelkema, Amy Johnson, Brenda Natala, Hai-Yen Vo, Jackie Kelly, Jennifer Voelker, Kathleen Morrison, Leah Corey, Larry Wren, Leslie Hitchens, Marcy Doud, Marva Lynn Shellenberger, Mayra Mariscal, Melissa Haley, Melissa Weeks, Michele Silvester, Rachael Sevlie, Roxanne King, Tara Ellis, Tim Feyma.

**20 people: 6 members, 9 staff, 5 guests**

## **Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) Minutes Approved**

**Date:** 06-02-21

**Time:** 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

**Location:** Virtual meeting via Google Meet

### **Google Meet joining info**

**Video call link:** <https://meet.google.com/fjj-ganb-ntz>

**Or dial: (US) +1 361-589-8415 PIN: 334 188 599#**

### **6:00 p.m. Housekeeping, Welcome & Introductions**

Introductions/ Share/ Connect: Share your name, if you're a member or guest, a little about your child, your child's school and why you chose to attend SEAC tonight in the chat.

6:04 p.m. Melissa Weeks went over some housekeeping items. Reviewed what SEAC is and how SEAC works. Guest introductions via chat.

"New to SEAC?"- join the next SEAC meeting at 5:50 pm to have questions answered.

Melissa Weeks answered the question "What are parents supposed to be doing at SEAC meetings?":

-Learn something that will benefit your child.

-Share what you learn with people in your community (neighbor, friend, child's teacher....)

-Ask questions and share input.

-Connect with others.

### **6:05 p.m. Approve [SEAC May minutes](#)**

6:10 p.m. Tara Ellis moved to approve SEAC meeting minutes, Rachael Sevlie seconded. Minutes were approved and passed.

**6:10 p.m. Career Pathway Guide Review & Feedback,** Leah Corey, Program Manager College and Career Readiness.

**Objectives:**

- SEAC members will provide feedback on the Career Pathway Guide

6:12 p.m. Leah Corey provided an overview of the Career Pathway Guide, that includes three versions of the Career Pathway Guide. The 8th and 11th grade samples are examples of what would go to families of students in Federal Setting 1 or 2 programs. The 12th grade sample would go to families of students in Federal Setting 3 and 4 programs. The Career Pathway Guide will be shared with students and families via Campus and sent through the mail. SEAC members and guests had the opportunity to discuss the following questions:

- What are your initial questions do you have about what is included in the Career Pathway Guide?
- What are your initial reactions to the Career Pathway Guide?
- In its current format, would the Career Pathway Guide help you see the possibilities for your child's future?
- What is missing from the Career Pathway Guide?
- How could the Career Pathway Guide be strengthened to be sure it is meaningful for all students and families?

What you can expect from here on out.

- OCCR will adjust CPG.
- Fall 2021 OCCR will return to share adjustments based on feedback.

**7:10 p.m. Update**, Larry Wren. Supervisor Specialized Services

7:12 p.m. Larry Wren went over the announcements:

- Extended School Year (ESY) starts on Monday June 21st
- Spec. Ed. Testing will continue through the summer June 21st - Aug. 6th Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday at Washington Tech.

**7:45 p.m. Meeting Reflections/Announcements/Events/Resources**

7:17 p.m.

- Your take-aways from this meeting?
- What will you use with your family or share with your community?

Larry Wren thanks Jackie Kelly for all her support, thanks to the parents and SEAC members.

**8:00 p.m. Adjourn**

7:25 p.m. Meeting adjourned

**8:05 p.m. SEAC Executive**

**Next SEAC meeting:** Monday, September 13, 6-8 p.m.

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**Meeting follow up:**

[Career Pathway Guide Video and sample CPGs](#)

[Summer Resources](#)

[Transition Planning Guide Postsecondary and College Readiness](#)

## SEAC Member Feedback on Career Pathway Guide:

- Members wished more career tables were listed because two might feel limiting. They felt like the information included is powerful (particularly the financial information).
- Members noticed that the career page was missing for students in Fed Setting 3 – consider adding this as many students in these programs will go onto pursue a career (keep the transition resources page as well)
- Clarifying questions around:
  - Delivery via digital format vs. hard copy and how to access it
  - whether case managers will be able to access the tool
  - how the tool will be used
- Members noted that this tool could support fall/spring conferences, IEP meetings or APTT
- Member commented that the documents are helpful but, we need to provide early training on how to read the tool and other resources available (i.e. Xello, Voc Rehab). Would be helpful to know what services students can access as a 9th/10th grader.
- One member shared that their child applied to a few colleges, was turned down and it was hard. The member appreciated the maps page that indicates the likelihood of admission as this information is realistic.
- Member raised the issue of 8th grade students being placed in courses that do not count toward graduation or college credit. They suggested ensuring that the guide is very explicit about what does/doesn't count.
- Member encouraged us to connect with students with Learning Disabilities and 504s because college services look different.
- Consider hyperlinking to additional resources pertaining to specialized services post-HS (possibly include the document with questions to ask yourself to determine if you are prepared for college)
- Member appreciated that we are discussing Graduation Pathways in the timeline
- Member suggested including 6th graders because the transition from ES to MS is so important
- Members suggested ways to support parents/caregivers in understanding how to read and interpret the tool. They suggested partnering with CBOs to make sure they understand it, offering seminars during conferences, and getting out into the community to explain it. They also noted the video was helpful
- Members felt like it is going in the right direction and it is "lightyears" ahead of the word document. They noted that while it looks overwhelming, there is no "fluff." They will be eager to hear back about feedback from the pilot