



Pointe Coupee Parish School Board

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**Pointe Coupee Parish School Board's
Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) Minutes
Monday, January 27, 2026
1:30 p.m. - Pointe Coupee Parish School Board Office**

The Pointe Coupee Parish Special Education Advisory Committee met on Monday, January 27, 2026.

The meeting was called to order by Exceptional Student Supervisor, Dawn Albert at 1:36 p.m. Members present were Exceptional Student Services Supervisor and Chairperson, Dawn Albert, Behavior Specialist, Jennifer Babin, Recorder, Kristin Ramsey, Principal and Parent, Sara Taylor and Community Member Pastor Jeff Vincent. Members absent from this meeting are Parent, Christy Savoie.

I. Welcome and Introduction of New Committee Members – Dawn Albert

- a. Chairperson and ESS Supervisor Mrs. Dawn Albert introduced our newest committee members. Pastor Jeff Vincent of First Baptist Church of New Roads and Christy Savoie, Parent and Employee of PCPSB.

II. Purpose & Ethics – Dawn Albert

- a. Mrs. Albert reviewed and read the purpose of the SEAC to the committee members and asked each member to read the ethics and expectations and what is expected of each committee member.

III. Review & Approval of Minutes

- a. The minutes for the meeting held on Monday, September 29, 2025, were reviewed by committee members that were present. The meeting minutes were approved as written. The motion to accept these minutes was Sara Taylor and seconded by Jennifer Babin.

IV. Special Education Funding for FY 2025-2026 – Dawn Albert

- a. ESS Supervisor Mrs. Dawn Albert stated that there are two allocations that are given by the LDOE, which are IDEA Part B and IDEA Preschool. These funds help provide support and services to our students with disabilities. The original allocation for IDEA Part B was given in the amount of \$587,372.00 with a carryover from the FY 2024-2025 of \$197,524.00. For IDEA Preschool, the allocation that was given for the FY 2025-2026 was \$21,623.00 with a carryover from FY 2024-2025 in the amount of \$13,046.00. Mrs. Albert also explained that within both IDEA budgets the non-public schools, False River Academy and Catholic of Pointe Coupee get a proportionate share of our IDEA funding to support students with disabilities. IDEA Part B proportionate share received \$192,294.00 and IDEA Preschool

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received \$9,730.00. These funds provide a full-time special education teacher at both schools and one Speech Pathologist that the two campuses share. Any funds that are available past the salaries and benefits, can be used for materials and supplies. Mrs. Albert also stated that having carryover funds is extremely important for the next school year and that we can continue to provide adequate services. Our district also received another fund called IDEA 611 Set-aside. This allocation was given in the amount of \$30,000.00. These funds can only be used for professional development provided to the teachers. This year we allocated these funds to contract with Mr. Phil Brocato, ABA School Consultants, out of Alexandria, Louisiana. Mr. Brocato and his team will help assist our teachers inside the classroom with behaviors and students with Autism.

- b. Mrs. Albert also stated that our population of students with Autism this year has increased. One of the schools that has seen an increase in this exceptionality is Valverde Elementary. Mrs. Albert stated that Mrs. Sara Taylor, Principal of Valverde has implemented a sensory room for her students. Mrs. Albert would like to see other schools in our district provide the same resource for their students. She asked Pastor Jeff that if he had any resources that could help us in setting up a sensory room at another campus, it would be greatly appreciated. Pastor Jeff explained that he has two children with Autism. He also stated that they have created a sensory room within their children's ministry to help children when they come to visit his church. Our ESS Team is excited to partner with Pastor Jeff and First Baptist Church to help our students with disabilities.

V. Academic Growth – Dawn Albert

- a. Mrs. Albert shared was excited to share the 2024-2025 report card for Special Education for Pointe Coupee. She was pleased to announce that over the past 3 years our score has gone from 69.2 to 91.9. The LEA Determination has been moved from needs improvement to meet requirements. She also shared that our Highschool students are now graduating on time with their cohorts along with graduating with a certification of trade. The district is working with the guidance counselors to make sure our students with disabilities are enrolled in a pathway for the certification after graduation.

VI. Seclusion and Restraint Policy – Dawn Albert

- a. As part of the Legislative Session, they asked the districts to make revisions on the Seclusion and Restrain Policy. In Pointe Coupee Parish we use Seclusion and Restraint as a last resort option for any student that needs to be restrained. This is to protect the student and others from harm. We have partnered with Crisis Prevention Intervention to get all Special Education teachers in our district trained in CPI including at least one Paraprofessional that is also trained in each ESS Classroom. We have also included general education teachers to be trained. In the event that a deescalation is needed, there is at least one teacher and one paraprofessional trained on every campus in Pointe Coupee. If there is a student that needs to be restrained, the student should not be restrained for more than three minutes in an hour period. If restraint is needed, it should be documented on the Restraint and Seclusion form. The student should also be seen by the school nurse and parent to be called on the day of the restraint. Updated copies of the Seclusion and Restraint Policy were given to all committee members. Committee member, Mrs. Jennifer Babin,

asked if this policy was strictly for students with disabilities. Mrs. Dawn responded and said that this policy that is in place is for Students with Disabilities.

VII. Community Outreach Activities Update – Kristin Ramsey

a. Mrs. Ramsey stated that the Resource Fair would not take place this school year. Our students at LHS and STEM will participate at Zachary Highschool along with West Feliciana Highschool in their Transition Fair that will be held on February 5, 2026. A copy of the Transition Fair was given to committee members.

b. Families Helping Families Autism Walk will be held on April 25, 2026, in Baton Rouge.

c. Mrs. Sara Taylor stated that on April 25, 2026, Pointe Coupee Autism Community Advocate will be hosting their Autism walk at the False River Park.

d. Mrs. Albert also stated that the Pointe Coupee Parish School District will be hosting its first Special Olympics that will be held on March 20, 2026.

VIII. Updates from Families Helping Families of Greater Baton Rouge – Cynthia Chesterfield.

a. Chairperson, Mrs. Dawn Albert stated that Ms. Chesterfield was unable to make our meeting due to scheduling conflicts but will try to attend the next meeting.

IX. Questions or concerns from Committee

a. Mrs. Albert asked if anyone had any questions or concerns and asked if there would be anyone that would be willing to join our committee. Please ask them to fill out an application. Pastor Jeff announced that the Children's Ministry Coordinator at his church would probably be willing to join our next meeting.

X. Announcements

a. The next SEAC Meeting will be held on May 18, 2026, at 1:30 pm at the Central Office.

XI. Adjournment

Mrs. Albert thanked everyone for their participation in this meeting. With no further questions, concerns or discussion, this meeting was adjourned at 2:09 p.m.