



Special Education Advisory Committee PTA/PTO Talking Points
LCPS Administrative Building, 21000 Education Court, Ashburn, Virginia 20148
Business Meeting 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Wednesday, November 1, 2023 - [Livestream](#)

Welcome: Liz Crotty, SEAC Chair

Business Meeting

1) Department of Student Services Presentation - Ms. Tedra Richardson

[Link to Slide Deck](#) which includes link to Google form where you can provide feedback on the “All in VA” Plan that is under consideration. Please watch the meeting to hear Ms. Richardson’s overview and questions that she answered for the community.

“All in VA” Plan- will consider launching a chronic absenteeism taskforce; accelerating the expansion of The Virginia Literacy Act through 8th Grade (focus on 3rd to 8th grade); and investing in statewide tutoring initiatives to restore student learning to pre-pandemic levels

New Business

2) Policy and Compliance Subcommittee presented review of 4 policies.

- Policy 6360, Emergency and Weather-Related Operations
- Policy 5125, Alternative Paths to Obtaining Standard Units of Credit
- Policy 8630, Inspection and Review of Education Records
- Policy 6330, Distribution of Information/Materials and Posting Within Schools, On School Grounds, Or During School-Sponsored Events

3) SEAC Concerns and Recommendations for 2023-2024 LCPS Board Budget

a) Concerns

- i) Concern 1: Current recruitment efforts for special education teachers and related service providers are not able to fill vacancies.
- ii) Concern 2: Retention of Special Education and related service providers is a

significant problem.

- iii) Concern 3: There is continued growth of administrative staff that removes teachers from the classroom to fill the administrative positions. Student outcomes have not improved with the increase of administrative staff.
- iv) Concern 4: Having multiple departments that serve students with disabilities makes it challenging for parents to navigate and misaligns incentives for ensuring best practices and compliance for our students with disabilities.
- v) Concern 5: Transition services is an area that has been flagged as needing improvement by LCPS parents for years in SEAC annual survey results.

b) SEAC Budget Recommendations

- i) Recommendation 1: SEAC does not support increasing procedural support positions. Eliminate procedural support positions and replace them with a new model, focused on compliance, under the Director of Special Education.
- ii) Recommendation 2: Remove eligibility coordinators as an additional layer of administrators and restructure so that Section 504 falls under the Department of Special Education.
- iii) Recommendation 3: Develop and implement a standardized build-out for Independent Living Labs strategically located around the county to allow access for all students with disabilities who require them.
- iv) Recommendation 4: SEAC supports the Office of Special Education's \$80,000 budget request to provide transportation for Project SEARCH.

Following community discussion, concerns and recommendations will be brought back to the Policy and Compliance subcommittee for further review and discussion.

Insufficient Quorum to Review SEAC Meeting Minutes from April 12, 2023, May 3, 2023 and October 6, 2023

4) SEAC Chair Report

- a) Current Membership Numbers: 18 voting members, 3 open memberships.
 - i) Membership application and SEAC bylaws are on the LCPS website on the SEAC page.
 - ii) 72 Schools with PTA/PTO Representatives (24 schools with no representative)
- b) Upcoming Subcommittee meetings (**open to the public**):
 - i) **Specialized Programs Literacy & Math**, Co-Chairs Alicia McFadden and Erin Roselle-Poe, Interested in attending? Let us know you are coming here!
(<http://bit.ly/sdi-SEAC>)
 - (1) Quarter 2, December 4, 9:00-10:00AM
 - (2) Quarter 3, March 18, 9:00-10:00AM
 - (3) Quarter 4, May 13, 9:00-10:00AM

5) Upcoming Parent Resource Workshops -Leanne Kidwell Leanne.Kidwell@lcps.org

- a) **November 14, 2023, Preschool Child Find Chat:** Understanding & Improving Your Preschool Child's Behavior
- b) **Mental Health & Wellness Parent Series, December 11, 2023,** Social Media & Cyberbullying: What Parents Need to Know

6) School Board Liaison- Tiffany Polifko

LCPS has now met the target specified in Policy 6320, Playgrounds, by having at least one inclusive playground in each LCPS Planning District. The fifteen inclusive playgrounds in place by the end of this summer cover every LCPS Planning District, as well as eight high school clusters.

7) Office of Special Education - Dr. Paige Carter

Update on vacant SPED positions by level as of 10/30/23

Special Education Teachers 94% filled

TA's and BA's 97.5% filled

10/30/23	Elementary	Secondary
Teachers, 56	18	38
Teacher Assistants, 25	11	14

9/30/23	Elementary	Secondary
Teachers, 66		
Teacher Assistants, 49		

OSE is using hiring agencies to find Special Education teachers. These numbers are moving targets. The Virginia Family's Guide to Special Education is now available [here](#). Complete the Indicator 8 Parent Survey.

Monitoring for 2023-2024

- LCPS Staffing Audit
- VDOE Fiscal Monitoring
- Federal Cyclical Monitoring
- External Audit of Special Education services & supports

This monitoring montage will come together to inform our (OSE) practices, policies, and procedures.

- 8) Next SEAC Meeting will be **Wednesday, December 6, 2023**, beginning @ 6:00pm with a Presentation on '**Your Transition Journey**' by LCPS Transition team

SEAC Leadership:

SEAC Chair	Liz Crotty	SEACChair@lcps.org
SEAC Vice Chair Planning	Jennifer DiDonato	SEACViceChairPlanning@lcps.org
SEAC Vice Chair Membership	Carla Sola	SEACViceChairMembership@lcps.org
SEAC Vice Chair Communications	Shehnaz Khan	SEACViceChairCommunications@lcps.org
SEAC Secretary	Kathryn	SEACSecretary@lcps.org
SEAC Past Chair	Rosenbrook	SEACPastChair@lcps.org
	Sharon Tropf	

SEAC Liaisons:

LCPS Staff Liaison, Director of Special Education	Paige Carter	Paige.Carter@lcps.org
School Board Liaison	Tiffany Polifko	Tiffany.Polifko@lcps.org
School Board Liaison, Alternate	Erika Ogedegbe	Erika.Ogedegbe@lcps.org

Stay Connected: Facebook:
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Twitter: @loudounseac

WWW: www.loudounseac.org

Anyone needing accommodation for a disability to attend or take part in this activity should call (571) 252-1011. Calls should be made five days prior to the activity when possible so that proper arrangements can be made.

If schools close for weather or other reasons, there will be no SEAC meeting.

SEAC is an advisory committee to the LCPS School Board