



**LaSalle Parish School Board
Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP)
2021-2022 Annual Report**

Submitted July 30, 2022

Preface

The LaSalle Parish Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP) respectfully submits the 2021-2022 annual report to the LaSalle Parish Superintendent and School Board. This annual report is a summary of the committee's activities and recommendations during the reporting period. The SEAP provides a broad base of input regarding policies, practices, and issues related to the education of students with disabilities ages 3 through 21.

This report fulfills the requirements set forth by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and ACT 274 of the 2019 Louisiana Legislature.

2021-2022 SEAP Members

Member	Representative Role	Term
Crista Holland	Parent of child with disability	November 2019 -May 2022
Barby Jackson	Parent of child with disability	November 2019 -May 2022
Erin Masters	Educator	November 2019 -May 2022
Jenene Bignar	Special Education Stakeholder	November 2019 -May 2022

* Term extended one year due to COVID.

Recording Secretaries:
Sharon McKay and Heather Whatley

Vision

All learners, including students with disabilities, are respected and provided equitable opportunities to meet challenging educational expectations.

Statement of Purpose

To provide advice and feedback regarding special education policies, procedures, and resources and engage in outreach to the community at large to increase the level of knowledge, support, and collaboration with respect to special education. The intent of the SEAP is to provide thoughtful insight in support of students with disabilities.

SEAP Duties

The SEAP operates in compliance with state and federal requirements under the IDEA and ACT 274 of the 2019 Louisiana Legislature. The purpose of the SEAP is to identify emerging issues, and facilitate the provision of special education and related services to meet the unique needs of the eligible students in the following manner:

- Advise and provide feedback on special education topics and goals at the district level, including the needs and priorities of students with disabilities
- Advise and provide feedback on development and implementation of educational programs
- Serve as a source of information between the school district and families
- Provide a forum for the sharing of parent and staff ideas
- Inform members of proposed initiatives affecting special education
- Participate in annual report to the Superintendent
- Engage the community at large by promoting increased knowledge, awareness, and collaboration regarding special education.

SEAP Commitments

- We will review and analyze issues regarding students with disabilities and provide workable solutions based on research and evidence-based practices while taking into account the various needs of each of our schools.
- We will collaborate with stakeholders throughout our schools and communities and build partnerships across agencies and organizations to ensure the processes within the educational system supports the needs of the whole child.

Acknowledgement

The SEAP wishes to express our appreciation for the collaborative and effective relationship we have with the LaSalle Special Education Department. This relationship provides the SEAP with the information and opportunity to maintain a strong and open line of communication regarding the issues that are critical to the needs of students with disabilities who receive special education services in LaSalle Parish.

Additionally, the SEAP recognizes the tireless work of all LaSalle Parish School staff and especially the LPSB Special Education team. We appreciate the time spent with us sharing relevant data, ongoing work, and perspectives.

2021 - 2022 Priorities

The SEAP priorities in 2021-22 included:

- Review current data to determine degree of learning loss for students with disabilities.
- Explore opportunities for addressing learning loss in students with disabilities.
- Increase knowledge and awareness of issues impacting our students with disabilities, schools, and communities.

Recommendations for 2022 - 2023

The SEAP values our responsibility to make recommendations to the LaSalle Parish Superintendent on all matters related to special education and the needs of students with disabilities within LaSalle Parish.

In reviewing our priorities and reflecting on input we have received over this past year of work, we have identified the following actionable recommendations:

Recommendation 1:

Addressing Learning Loss and Loss of Learning for Students with Disabilities

The SEAP recognizes the actions that LaSalle Parish Schools have taken to address the learning loss and loss of learning for all students, including students with disabilities and commends the district with their plan of action. The SEAP recommends that the district continue to explore opportunities to provide additional learning opportunities for students with disabilities, specifically for Jr High and High School students.

Recommendation 2:

In-service Educator Training

In order to prepare school staff sufficiently, the SEAP recommends the continued commitment to provide targeted professional development based on the needs of our students and staff to ensure rigor and support the goal of building a well-equipped and diverse teacher workforce prepared to meet the needs of our learners.

With the effects of COVID on the social-emotional well-being of students and staff, the SEAP recommends that in-service professional development emphasize methods that focus on proactive intervention and trauma-informed practice specifically in regards to students with disabilities.

Looking forward to 2022-2023

Working together is critically important to support students with disabilities in LaSalle Parish. This collaboration also helps all our efforts move forward. The SEAP will continue to recommend improvements within the special education system to improve outcomes for students.

The SEAP will determine priority focus for the 2022-2023 school year at the August SEAP meeting.

Appendix A: Schedule of Meetings

The SEAP met three times during the 2021–2022 school year. Notice of the public meeting was posted on the LaSalle Parish Special Education website and at the LaSalle Parish Special Education office. The meetings for the 2021–2022 school year were as follows:

Date	Location	Topics
March 10, 2022	LaSalle Special Education Office	• Reviewed student data and degree of learning loss for students with disabilities. Discussed district plan for addressing learning loss. • Reviewed and discussed the American Rescue Plan - IDEA budget.
April 12, 2022	LaSalle Special Education Office	• Discussed summer learning opportunities for students with disabilities. • Discussed job readiness training and post-secondary transition services for high school students with disabilities.
May 13, 2022	Zoom Conference Call	• Discussed parental support for families with students with disabilities. • Discussed SEAP Annual Report and recommendations.