

Loudoun County Public Schools
Special Education Advisory Committee
Wednesday March 3, 2021, 7:15 p.m.

Executive Committee:

Chair, Sharon Tropf
Vice Chair Planning, Shehnaz Khan
Vice Chair Membership, Heidi Bunkua
Vice Chair Communications, Craig Metz
Secretary, Kathryn Rosenbrook

Liaisons:

Dr. Patricia Nelson, Director of Special Education
Beth Barts, School Board
Leslee King, School Board (Alternate)

Member Attendance: A quorum of SEAC voting members was confirmed with Vice Chair of Membership with 13 out of 15 members present.

Business Meeting Agenda March 3, 2021

1. Welcome and Call to Order, Sharon Tropf, SEAC Chair 7:15
Explained the role of SEAC, Regulations, and SEAC Leadership.
2. Public Comment.
Amy - Catoctin District- Independent Education Evaluations (IEE) at Public Expense. LCPS Administrators are not following VA Regulations and procedures by requiring parents to fund IEEs due to a below market rate fees cap. LCPS needs to be honest and transparent with parents and students, eligibility practices should be clearly outlined so parents understand the special education service process.
3. Chair Report.
 - a. Review of February Minutes, approved.
 - b. Nominating Committee Report, Members have been contacted to fill the slate.
 - c. SEAC Awards, Theme "Everyday Heroes" has been published and nominations are being accepted.
 - d. Executive Committee.
 - Next Executive Committee meeting, March 15 at 6:30 p.m., open to the public
 - Membership –15 members, 1 application
 - PTO/PTA Representatives 32 Schools
 - 2020-2021 SEAC Survey being developed will be published in April
 - Presentation Planning, currently planning for 21—22 SY, please send the Executive Committee any feedback on this year's presentations or areas you would like to see presentations.
 - Career and Technical Education Advisory Committee, SEAC has 2 seats on this committee.

- e. Policy and Compliance Committee.
 - The subcommittee met twice to review Policy. Chair Sheridan was part of the review of Policy 2520, feedback from discussion were provided to Chair Sheridan. Policy 8265, Student Search and Seizure was reviewed and information from a variety of school districts across the US were reviewed in addition to the VDOE Guidance documents.
- f. Specialized Programs.

The subcommittee will be focusing on Transition and Literacy.

 - a. Transition: The leads will be reaching out to LCPS transition supervisor to coordinate and attend the next meeting._
 - b. Literacy: The leads will reach out to LCPS supervisor to coordinate current attending a subcommittee meeting to discuss outstanding issues and recent concerns with the miscommunication regarding literacy instruction aligned with the science of reading being published by LCPS.
- g. Executive Functioning and Social Emotional Learning, SEAC Chair will reach out to help facilitate meeting.

4. Liaison Reports

- a. Parent Resource Services.
 - Trainings are a mix of livestream and pre-recorded workshops. All flyers and workshops are posted on the Parent Resource Services (PRS) webpage. To receive emails of upcoming trainings, parents can use the Keep in Touch option available on the PRS webpage. Next presentations are on Social Emotional Learning and What is Child Find.
- b. School Board Liaison, Beth Barts
 - Thanks and kudos to Parent Resources for all the workshops made available this year. Next School Board meeting is March 9 and the board will be discussing summer school opportunities for students. March 23rd a discussion will be held regarding the expansion of in person learning. Also, to be discussed is fall in person learning. There will be options for distance learning in the fall based on needs and/or wants.
- c. Office of Special Education, Dr. Patricia Nelson
 - COVID Recovery Services. The distinction of compensatory services, COVID Recovery Services, and ESY. The considerations to be used and how the services are to be provided. VDOE is providing guidance to local school divisions. Dr. Nelson explained how the services will be determined and the processes to have the student eligible for the different services. IEP Teams should be determining the need for services for students and schedule meetings as necessary.
- d. Department of Pupil Services, Dr. Asia Jones
 - There is no cost for any of the LCPS summer programs being offered. IEP teams should be discussing the need for programs for students. The programs will be five weeks long and held five days per week. A distance learning option will be offered, too. All information will be available 3/4/21 on the special education web page. Thank you to the POD workers for getting the vaccines to employees.

5. Old Business:

SEAC Bylaws.

A thorough review has been completed and updated. The following changes are proposed:

1. New member requirements-**Voted/Passed unanimously**
2. Removal/Duplicate---Student voting membership changed to bring into alignment with VDOE-**Voted/Passed unanimously**
3. Voting for nomination committee regarding out of cycle voting **Voted/Passed unanimously**
4. Removal of officers and would need to be public **Voted/Passed unanimously**
5. Added the word Virginia and will follow FOI for Virginia **Voted/Passed unanimously**
6. Open meetings to the public **Voted/Passed unanimously**
7. Electronic participation **Voted/Passed unanimously**
8. Added Executive in compliance with Va. FOIA **Voted/Passed unanimously**
9. Public comment at beginning or end-rewording to allow flexibility **Voted/Passed unanimously**

6. New Business:

- A. Dr. Fulton: Review of Policy 8265-Student Search and Seizure. Dr. Fulton provided a brief presentation. This is an updated policy; the last update was about four years ago. Clarified the purpose of the policy. The administrator and/or designee will be trained for the search/seizure policy. This does not pertain to School Resource Officers.

B. **Policy 8265, Student Search and Seizure Presentation to SEAC Membership:**

SEAC Policy and Compliance Subcommittee had reviewed the policy and had the following concerns:

- Draft Policy 8265 affords less protections than the Virginia School Search Resource Guide published by the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE), October 2000.
- The draft policy does not address students with disabilities.
- The draft policy does not address the mental health impacts of searches and seizures.
- SEAC Policy and Compliance Subcommittee made 4 recommendations to address these specific areas of concern to the SEAC membership.

Membership approved all recommendations unanimously with 13 of 15 members present.

C. Annual Plan

- Dr. Nelson presented the Annual Plan. This plan will be presented to the Superintendent for his approval and then provided to VDOE.

7. Adjourn. 8:44 p.m.