

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY PANEL MINUTES
1 Technology Court
Montgomery, AL 36116
9 a.m. – Noon
February 19, 2025

IN PERSON

Valencia Curry, Tasha Harrison-Betts, Mercy Pilkington, LaDonna Rudolph, Tranesia Williams

ZOOM

Kari Balazs, Lisa Balazs, Kameron Carden, Allie Cunningham, Jason Fisher, Shanquail Horton, Evandra Jackson, Holly Knott, Jean Marzullo, Carin Mayo, Lisa Powell, Kate Simmons, Danielle Sylvester, Katie Stuart, Richard Templeton, Rebecca Zonotti

NOT PRESENT

LeAnna Feely, Jane Lamb, Karen McElvy, Ashley McLeroy, Tiffany Moore, Jessica Pelt, Hank Poore, Kathy Poore, Shana Smith, Shenika Weatherly

OTHERS PRESENT

- Alabama State Department of Education ALSDE, Special Education Services (SES) Section Special Education Advisory Panel (Panel) representatives – DaLee Chambers, Latasha Kendrick

Chair Carin Mayo called the meeting to order. LaDonna Rudolph motioned to approve the December 16, 2024 meeting minutes; Richard Templeton seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Mayo conducted roll call, welcomed new members, and gave an overview of the advisory panel's purpose and duties.

SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES FISCAL TEAM PRESENTATION:

The ALSDE, SES, Fiscal Administrator Erika Richburg presented on Stakeholder input for the special education budgets under IDEA Part B:

- IDEA sources of funding for special education
- Special education budget categories and items for AL Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, School Year (SY) 2024-2025
- Proposed priority areas for special education FY 2026, SY 2025-2026

OFFICE OF SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PRESENTATION: ALSDE, OSI, Administrator Robin Anderson Davis, provided an overview of the Alabama Federal Accountability System:

- Academic Indicators
- Indicators of School Quality/Student Success
- School Differentiation

BREAK

ALSDE, SES DIRECTOR'S REPORT: (DaLee Chambers)

Dr. Chambers provided an overview/update on the following:

- 2019-2024 scores for National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)
- 2025 Special Initiatives Grants
- Special Education Engagement Groups

PUBLIC COMMENT

One public comment was received relating to salaries for special education paraprofessionals.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP (Committee Chair: Lisa Balazs)

- A new candidate was presented to the board and voted on.
 - Jennifer Blakely: Parent
 - Wanda Dial: Teacher
 - Motion made by Holly Knott; Seconded by LaDonna Rudolph; Candidates were unanimously voted in

BYLAWS (Committee Chair: **OPEN**)

Chair Mayo asked the panel to consider becoming the chair of the Bylaws committee.

STAKEHOLDER AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT (Committee Chair: Katie Stuart)

- No report for this meeting.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND DATA (Chair Mayo presented on behalf of Committee Chair: Kameron Carden)

- The committee is scheduled to meet on February 21. A report will be provided at the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS: Chair, Carin Mayo

- April meeting will be virtual; August and December will be decided at the April meeting whether meeting face to face or virtual.

NEW BUSINESS: Chair, Carin Mayo

- No new business.

PANEL MEMBER or STAKEHOLDER NEWS (Latasha Kendrick)

- The First Biennial State Transition Conference, March 3-5, 2025, Auburn, AL.
- MEGA Conference 2025, July 14-18, Mobile, AL.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM THE PANEL:

No additional questions or comments.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:53 AM.

NEXT MEETING:

April/Virtual