

## Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Meeting Minutes Oct. 3, 2024

Attendees: \*See attached list

1. Introductions of school staff were made- School psychologist, Executive Director, and Sped Support staff.
2. Members of the SEAC of RCPS were then presented to the group:
  - Nicole Champney (Chair)
  - Tanya Cox
  - Ashley Settle
  - Brooke Jenkins(Teacher Rep)
3. The Executive Director shared the major responsibilities of the SEAC of RCPS, as addressed in the Regulations Governing Special Education Programs for Children with Disabilities in Virginia (January 25, 2010, p. 73) are as follows:
  - Advise the local school division of needs in the education of children with disabilities;
  - Participate in the development of priorities and strategies for meeting the identified needs of children with disabilities;
  - Submit periodic reports and recommendations regarding the education of children with disabilities to the division superintendent for transmission to the local school board;
  - Assist the local school division in interpreting plans to the community for meeting the special needs of children with disabilities for educational services;
  - Review the policies and procedures for the provision of special education and related services prior to submission to the local school board; and
  - Participate in the review of the local school division's annual plan.
4. The Executive Director provided an update on recent School Based Mental Health Grants that the division has received to provide financial support for mental health services for all students, including funding for a student support specialist and calming corner materials/supplies.
5. SEAC Team member Tanya Cox gave a presentation on *Advocating for Your Child's Needs*. Ms. Cox shared her on personal experience as a parent of a student with Autism. She stressed the importance of meeting with school staff to identify the individual needs and supports that will enable students with special needs to meet their full potential. She encouraged parents to listen to what their child said that he/she needs, and to assist them in advocating for those needs.

6. Closing comments were made- there were not request for future meeting topics or any concerns expressed.