# Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP) Meeting

Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE)

**Date:** October 7, 2025

**Time:** 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM EST

**Location:** Virtual Meeting

**Purpose of Meeting:**

To meet as a State Special Education Advisory Panel to discuss issues that relate to our duties under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and provide advice relating to children and youth who are eligible for special education and related services to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE).

*\*Please be advised that DESE does not authorize attendees to record or to use AI transcription tools during the meeting and DESE does not endorse any             unauthorized transcripts created by third parties of its meetings*

**Future SEAP Meeting Dates:**

* December 2, 2025  
  *9:00 am – 12:30 pm*
* February 3, 2026  
  *9:00 am- 12:30 pm*
* May 19, 2026  
  *9:00 am – 12:30 pm*

## Agenda

### Opening | 9:00 - 9:15

Martha Daigle, Assistant Director SEPP, Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

* Roll call
* Review and approve today’s agenda
* Approve minutes from previous meeting (June 17th)
* Old business
* Meeting procedures, regulation, and norms
* Update on Advisory Panel Operating Procedures

### DESE Updates | 9:15-10:00

Martha Daigle, Development Supervisor SEPP, Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

* Announcement of new Commissioner
* Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) Updates
* OSEP Differentiated Monitoring and Supports (DMS) Update
* Advisory Panel Operating Procedures – Panel Advice (see draft table of contents)
* Additional DESE Updates

### Public Comment Session | 10:00-10:15

The Special Education Advisory Panel welcomes public comment on matters within its purview. Accordingly, a maximum 15-minute period is made available at its meetings for persons in the audience to address the Advisory Panel for no longer than 3 minutes each. Written material of any length may be submitted. Preference will be given to persons who seek to address specific agenda items for the upcoming meeting. If any members of the Advisory Panel wish to comment during this time as a private citizen (not as a representative of the community partners they represent), that is permitted during this time. Agendas for upcoming meetings are posted prior to the meeting on the Special Education Advisory Panel website. Persons wishing to speak are strongly encouraged to submit their request before the day of the meeting. More information about Public Comment can be found [here.](https://www.doe.mass.edu/specialeducation/families/advisory-panel/default.html)

### Break | 10:15-10:30

### Advisory Panel Work on Priorities | 10:30-12:20

Alex Langevin, Technical Assistance Specialist, Technical Assistance for Excellence in Special Education (TAESE)

* Review and provide input for three Advisory Panel Priorities:
  1. Resources to support teams’ student-centered decisions (Related Council Priority: Student-Centered Instruction)
  2. Recruitment, retention and support/ Workforce (Related Council Priority: Building a Dynamic Multi-Cultural Workforce)
  3. Mental Health /Social Emotional (Related Council Priority: Safe and Inclusive School Communities)
  4. Racial economic and cultural inequity (Related Council Priority: Safe and Inclusive School Communities) Identity-affirming, socially inclusive, and student-centered practices
     + DESE – Update Panel on progress on this priority
     + Advisory Panel – Discussion & Recommendations
  5. General and special education collaboration to support educational accountability (Related Council Priority: Student-Centered Instruction)
     + DESE – Update Panel on progress on this priority
     + Advisory Panel – Discussion & Recommendations
  6. Accountability Monitoring and Data Collection on New and clarified initiatives
     + DESE – Update Panel on progress on this priority
     + Advisory Panel – Discussion & Recommendations

**Next Steps:**

* Annual Report to Address Advice on Priorities
* Training on New Operating Procedures
* Meeting Calendar for Next Year

### Closing Remarks | 12:20-12:30

Martha Daigle, Development Supervisor SEPP, Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

### Adjourn | 12:30

* Next meeting date: December 2nd, 2025, 9:00 AM – 12:30 PM

**Thank you for your participation!**

## Panel Priorities

2024-2025 School Year

1. Resources to support teams’ student-centered decisions (Related Council Priority: Student-Centered Instruction)
2. Recruitment, retention and support/ Workforce (Related Council Priority: Building a Dynamic Multi-Cultural Workforce)
3. Mental Health /Social Emotional (Related Council Priority: Safe and Inclusive School Communities)
4. Racial economic and cultural inequity (Related Council Priority: Safe and Inclusive School Communities) Identity-affirming, socially inclusive, and student-centered practices
5. General and special education collaboration to support educational accountability (Related Council Priority: Student-Centered Instruction)
6. Accountability Monitoring and Data Collection on New and clarified initiatives

## Duties of the SEAP under IDEA

* Advise the SEA of unmet needs within the State in the education of children and youth with disabilities. *(CFR 300.169(a))*
* Comment publicly on any rules or regulations proposed by the State regarding the education of children with disabilities. *(CFR 300.169(b))*
* Advise the SEA in developing evaluations and reporting on data to the Secretary under 618. *(CFR 300.169(c))*
* Advise the SEA in developing corrective action plans to address findings identified in federal monitoring reports. *(CFR 300.169(d))*
* Advise the SEA in developing and implementing policies relating to the coordination of services for children with disabilities. *(CFR 300.169(e))*

### State Related Duties

* Waiver of non-supplant requirement. State must consult with the Advisory Panel regarding provisions of FAPE. *(CFR 300.164(c)(4))*
* After deleting personally identifiable information, provide the Advisory Panel with DPH findings and decisions. *(CFR 300.513(d) and 300.514(c))*