

**SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY PANEL MINUTES**  
**Alabama Industrial Development Training (AIDT)**  
**1 Technology Court**  
**Montgomery, AL 36116**  
**9 a.m. – Noon**  
**February 17, 2026**

**IN-PERSON**

Holly Knott, Mercy Pilkington

**GOOGLE MEET**

Valencia Curry, Wanda Dial, Jason Fisher, Shanquail Horton, JaLicia Maddox-Jones, Carin Mayo, Tiffany Moore, Tiffany C. Moore, Aleshia Paige, LaDonna Rudolph, Kate Simmons, Katie Stuart, Richard Templeton, Shenika Weatherly, Rebecca Zanotti

**NOT PRESENT**

Jennifer Blakely, Kameron Carden, LeAnna Feely, Evandra Jackson, Jean Marzullo, Keren McElvy, Ashley McLeroy, Jessica Pelt, Kathy Poore, Lisa Powell, Danielle Sylvester, Shana Smith

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE), Special Education Services (SES) Section Special Education Advisory Panel (Panel) representatives – DaLee Chambers, Kimberly Baker, Jennifer Burt, Brian Dunn, Kemeche Green, Latasha Kendrick, Erika Richburg, Michelle Zeigler

Chair Carin Mayo called the meeting to order and provided an overview of virtual meeting guidance for panel attendees.

Chair Mayo conducted roll call and welcomed the new panel member. Kate Simmons moved to approve the meeting minutes from December 16, 2025; Valencia Curry seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Chair Mayo provided an overview of the advisory panel's purpose and responsibilities.

**SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES FISCAL MANAGEMENT TEAM PRESENTATION:**

Erika Richburg, ALSDE, SES, Education Administrator, presented Stakeholder Input for the *Alabama Individuals with Disabilities Education Act* (IDEA) Part B Grant Application and Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Proposal:

- IDEA Part B funding sources supporting special education in Alabama
- Special education budget categories and items using current FY 2026 / SY 2025-2026
- Proposed priority areas for special education for FY 2027 / SY 2026-2027
- Solicit stakeholder input to inform IDEA Part B budget planning for FY 2027 / SY 2026-2027

**BREAK**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comments received

**ALSDE, SES DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Dr. DaLee Chambers, ALSDE, SES, Program Director, provided an update on the following:

- Recommendations from the Student Achievement and Data Committee regarding indicators in the State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report (SPP/APR) where targets were missed or worsened
  - Indicator 3C: Proficiency (Alternate Achievement Standards)
  - Indicator 3D: Academic Gap Between Students with and without Disabilities
  - Indicator 5B: Least Restrictive Environment
  - Indicator 14: Post-School Outcomes

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **MEMBERSHIP** (Committee Chair: Mercy Pilkington)

- Panel members were provided with applications from two potential new members to review in advance
- The panel voted unanimously to recommend the new members to Dr. Mackey for appointment
- Current vacancies: Parents or individuals with disabilities; Representative of charter schools

### **BYLAWS** (Committee Chair: Wanda Dial)

- A meeting is scheduled for April 10, 2026, at 1:00 PM to review bylaws

### **STAKEHOLDER AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT** (Committee Chair: Katie Stuart)

- The committee intends to meet and discuss information open for public comment

### **STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND DATA** (Latasha Kendrick reported on behalf of Committee Chair: Kameron Carden)

- The committee met and discussed recommendations regarding slippage observed in five indicators for the FFY 2024 SPP/APR
- Recommendations will be sent to ALSDE and Panel members for review

### **OLD BUSINESS:** (Chair, Carin Mayo)

- No old business to discuss

### **NEW BUSINESS:** (Chair, Carin Mayo)

- No new business to discuss

### **PANEL MEMBER or STAKEHOLDER NEWS** (Latasha Kendrick)

- February 28, 2026: Alabama Hands & Voices Library Day

### **ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM THE PANEL:**

No additional questions or comments

The meeting was adjourned at 10:17 AM

### **NEXT MEETING:**

April 14, 2026

Location: Virtual