



New Hope-Solebury School District
Special Education Committee Minutes
September 13, 2016—6:00PM
Upper Elementary School Large Group Instruction Room

Attendance

- **School Board** – Jennifer Gormley (Chair), Mark Cowell
- **Administration** – Alyssa Marton, Ken Silver, Dr. Steve Yanni
- **Committee Members** – Mike Finley, Michelle Reynolds, Amy Laff, Jen Romett, Jennifer Block, Patty Reidy, Julie Lalonde, Kristine Quinby, Jennifer Wind, Gabriele Dorsam, Jacqueline Miller, Nancy Lawson, Pam Thompson, Jennifer Primavera, Alina Christy, Gretchen Reilly, Deborah Peckman, Karen Silberman
- **Presenters** – None
- **Public** – Rory Yerkes, Amber Gallen, Dianne Schlesinger, Karen Patrohay, Annette Rosenberg, Bethanne Joyner, Mary Ellen Cade, Kurt Rodebaugh, Jennifer Giacolone, Jen Jones, Diane McMichael

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Gormley at 6:00PM.

The minutes from the June 7, 2016 were approved.

Old Business

- None

New Business

- Mrs. Marton and Mrs. Gormley introduced Amber Gallen, our Board Certified Behavior Analyst.
- All members of the committee and audience introduced themselves.
- Mrs. Marton reviewed her goals for this year. They include:
 - Related services
 - Celebrating achievements of students
 - Consistency in programming and in communication
 - Linking instruction to the greater community
 - Access to the general education curriculum in the classroom
 - Partnering with parents
- A conversation ensued about incorporating training for parents/families into the special education committee meetings. The committee appreciated this idea. We will develop ways for students to provide babysitting and other services during the meeting. Additionally, we will look to find a pre-service BCBA who could provide social skills groups for students during the meetings.
- Mrs. Marton addressed the special education website, which has been totally revamped; includes parent resources/trainings.
- Several parents brought up additional ideas for training/work/ideas:

- Social groups between students in regular education and special education
- Student participating in their own IEP meetings
- Having alternate locations at lunch
- Mrs. Reilly reminded everyone about the parent support group.
- Mrs. Jones brought up the idea of the buddy PE program, about which Mrs. Marton expounded. The conversation expanded about our inclusive environments, how our students are accepting of one another, and how we will continue to promote inclusive environments. The committee discussed how help parents gain greater acceptance of our students. We will look to have a global focus to ensure students are included in all activities, sports, etc.

Public comment:

- None

Mrs. Gormley adjourned the meeting at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Alyssa Marton, M.Ed., BCBA
Director of Special Educaiton