



Special Education Committee Minutes

January 11, 2018

Board Chair—Dana Schwartz

Administrative Liaison—Alyssa Marton

Attendance—Please see the accompanying committee attendance sheet.

Dana Schwartz called the meeting to order at 6:06 pm.

The minutes of the October 12, 2017 meeting were approved.

Old Business

- None

New Business

- Defining the SEC – review the mission statement in part because Mrs. Schwartz is new.
- Purpose and outcome driven meetings. Mrs. Marton offered to bring in trainers again. Reviewed the presenters from last year. Mrs. L suggested bringing a student who has graduated last year and what it is really like to once HS is over. Hearing from the student and the mom and how everything has been worked out. That there is light at the end of the tunnel. Mrs. P colleges come to the HS, now there are colleges that provide support could they come in and speak to their programs. Mrs. Marton described the programs and how the District can share programs, but don't have say over acceptance and there are limited slots. Presentation from the Boy Scouts for students with special needs. For an alternative path for scouting. A group from Doylestown, to discuss puberty and shaving it is Ryan Wexelblatt from the Center for ADHD. Called MS guy stuff. Mrs. B we had discussed a round table with the therapists and get to meet them and see what they do. A couple of parents had spoken about a "Buddy Club" for the kids. Mr. they all need community service and this would be an easy way to get this completed. Mrs. Marton described the buddy club set up. Mrs. K a crash course on what is ahead of you. A guide or training or session as a road map as to what is to come. Mrs. Marton brought up the Autism awareness/ difference awareness day. This will be a lot of work. Some are concerned that we may not have a great turn out. Mrs. Q What would be our larger purpose. Mrs. Marton discussed fund raising to support continued Creative Bridges art programs. Mr. K asked about the budget/cost. It would depend on the activity. Mrs. H could we do something for swimming? Maybe the Doylestown Y or CB East. The Y has the ability program. Mrs. Marton what is our task for February? March will be NOVA. Mrs. B shared how wonderful the program was. Mrs. Q suggested having something on safety and the law and she can do that. Mrs. Marton and Mrs. H will contact the Boy Scouts. Mrs. L what is a real emergency? Having a premise alert for your property.

Mrs. Q it might be good to have 2 separate. One for parents on what to teach your kids and one from LVF for a CIS training. Mrs. P we would love this topic. Mrs. H is there a driver's ed class. Discussed an option in Quakertown. Mrs. P discussed the parent support group and being open to everyone. Mrs. Marton offered to attend.

- Review process for PDE cyclical monitoring March 2018

Little bit of history about it, talked about it in sept, every 6 years every school district is audited looking at multiple factors. Educational benefit – has a child meaningfully accessed their services, Special Ed compliance: timelines, signatures, etc., accurate and complete.

We are up for our 6 years audit this March. 19-21
State requires we complete a facilitated self-assessment
3 things completed: surveys – parent survey, student, and a staff survey

Posted a link for the parent survey. If children over 14, they could do the survey in class.
Staff survey taken care of.
Discussed option to bring computers to our meeting, but right now we are only 9% complete.
It went out via website and via case manager in Sept.
Not too late to do this.
We can bring computers, or Alyssa can send it out in a list serve blast.
Survey monkey, PDE link.

Alyssa will send it out again in list serve, and case managers to send it out a second time. They leave it open until the audit March.

Let people know dates to encourage families to respond.

Aside from that, next week PDE sends a letter to Dr Yanni, 10 files they will pull, educational benefit review, looking at different types of needs, lengthy process, entire day, do a review of 3 years of IEPs and document if those students make progress, and if not, were they responsive to their needs.

30 days, mid Feb, PDE sends names of 10 more students. These are the compliance files. 1 year worth of into. IEPs, are we compliant with our timelines from evaluation reports to IEP, etc. Those 10 families are going to be contacted. PDE will come on site March 19-21, the 10 files will meet with the case manager, teacher and principal. Those parents will be scheduled to speak, the questions are here.

They randomly pick 10 random students.

They're looking for a common thread – that our goals are measurable and report of progress shows growth, if not, did we readjust our goal and instruction to guarantee a child makes progress. Look at next year's IEP, looking for growth again. They would flag for inconsistencies. If they master a goal, they need to put a statement in the record. We do that for 3 years. Each area of need, was their progress, was it revised.

For the 10 families, what if the family has a different take than the school? You have the right to call PDE if you're unhappy about anything. But a parent may very well say, do you feel that you're heard, do you feel you're an active participant. After they're done, meeting with parents, students and staff, they do an Exit meeting with team. Sometimes they may offer a corrective action plan.

Alyssa – it helps to have PDE have another set of eyes. It's a really good process.

Years ago, we were found out of compliance in a different school district, paperwork issues.

Our data is reported to the state on an annual basis. You can pull up last year's data, our numbers are fantastic. Great strides.

I wanted to make sure you had those q's ahead of time. If your child's file gets pulled.

Any questions about that?

no.

Public Comment: NO.

Meeting adjourned.

- Parent interview questions

Public Comment

Dana Schwartz adjourned the meeting at 6:57.

Respectfully submitted,

Alyssa Marton

Director of Student Services

