

# Calvert Special Education Citizens' Advisory Committee

## Executive Board Meeting Minutes: June 9, 2020

### Attendees

Joe Cormier, Kathleen Porecki, Christy Harris, Kara Muffley, Shelley Miller, Sue Rafalowksi

### Approval of May minutes

The May meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

### 2020-2021 Meeting Dates

Meetings will continue to be held on the third Tuesday of each month except December. February is scheduled as a make-up if needed. The dates for 2020-21 are 9/15/2020, 10/20/2020, 11/17/2020, 1/19/2021, 2/16/2021 (make-up), 3/16/2021, 4/20/2021, and 5/18/2021 (Executive Board meeting). These may be held virtually.

### Planning and Topics for 2020-2021 School Year

9/15/2020- Overview of SECAC; vacancy in Alicia Chubb's Vice Chairperson position and Joy Eason's Member-at-Large position, review SECAC bylaws, Distance learning tips

10/20/2020- Invite candidates for open Board of Education seats to speak, review bylaws

11/17/2020- Community Resource Presentations: Calvert Community Mediation Center, So MD Bridge, Parent's Place of Md, The Connection Inc., The Autism Project, etc. Staff appreciation awards planning

1/19/2021- Local budget update, Sharing of Learning Strategies, Staff appreciation awards planning update

3/16/2021- Spec Ed. Staffing Plan, Distance learning tips, Tips for Parent Participation in IEP Meetings (5 day rule, Parental Input, Accommodations, What does my child need to be successful?, Where do I want me child and how do I get there?)

4/20/2021- Additional Sharing of Learning Strategies

5/18/2021- Executive board meeting

Parent Connections possible workshops include a Parents Place of Maryland- Understanding Special Education workshop, DDA presentation, ABLE accounts presentation and a Sensory workshop.

### **SECAC Budget**

The budget balance as of May was \$1299.23. \$600 is allotted to the winners of the 2019-2020 SECAC Staff Appreciation Awards. The remaining money must be spent by September 30, 2020. Executive board members will look for resources or books for parents on distance learning, bridging achievement gaps and additional topics of interest that can be purchased. Books can be shared at the first meeting and/or mailed to parents if necessary.

### **SECAC Input to Special Education Staffing Plan**

As of now no emails have been received for input to the staffing plan. The SECAC executive board is in support of the 2020-2021 proposed Special Education Staffing Plan and will write a public comment to indicate support. Last year's comment focused on increasing behavioral and mental health support for students. Additional behavior specialists and behavior technicians were added and these additional staff are included in the proposed plan. SECAC will write a public comment that supports maintaining the level of staffing needed to provide high quality IEP services to close the achievement gap that continues to exist between general and special education students, a gap that could be greater following the extended period of distance learning.

The staffing plan will be presented to the Board on July 16, 2020 and public comment must be submitted within 30 days.

The meeting adjourned at 6:01 PM.