

Calvert County Public Schools
Special Education Citizens' Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes: October 12, 2021

Attendees:

- Joe Cormier
- Shelley Miller-Parent
- Kathleen Porecki-Parent/Calvert Marine museum
- Christina Harris-Director of Special Education
- Kara Muffley-Parent/CCPS staff
- Sue Rafalowski-parent/Partners for success
- Mathew Layton- Supervisor of Spec Ed CCPS
- Kristen Garrent-Parent
- Christina Hall- Parent
- Lashonda Scott-parent/PPMD
- Michelle Shifflet- Parnet
- Camile Miller-Parent

Welcome and Introductions

Welcome from Joe Cormier. Purpose of SECAC is to build a bridge between community and CCPS to share info with parents as part of child's IEP team.

Bylaws:

Reviewed last meeting worked with Ashton Nelson and webmaster to put online. Can click on link to review on webpage. Posted till Nov 9, any comments/changes sent to Joe prior to next meeting. (joseph.somd.leaders@gmail.com)

Elections:

There are many openings in the SECAC committee: Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Member-at-Large x2. No nominations yet. If interested let Joe know.

Logo Ideas for SECAC

Discussed that CTA students in the computer design program will help SECAC make a new logo. Will be setting up a meeting with the CTA. Tina thought the CTA could help HHS ROTC to help make items for Haunted Woods. To help Spec Ed kids to learn life skills, like using a hammer, hang a picture. Joe suggested this might be a suggestion for Janet Stephanson for life skills. Send ideas to Joe.

SECAC Flyer

The SECAC tri-fold flyer needs to be updated. Tina suggested to include chain of command, notice time frame and what is supposed to be included, , who to contact if someone isn't doing their part. Maybe include something in the hospital literature when parents have a baby. From Christy Harris, public awareness program is in place with the local pediatricians. Ms. Garrett said this information is not easily accessible, a pamphlet is too small to contain all this information, and with so much information, it is difficult to process. Maybe add a QR scan.

Camille suggested that those with good ideas, maybe join the committee to help make these things happen. It's not just up to Joe and Christy to make decisions. Could you send out the electronic version of the current pamphlet?

Director Update

Director update-presentation highlights from Christy:

- Narrow the Gap – camera lens model on infographic (idea to use this as logo)
- Partnership with MD Coalition of Inclusive Education (MCIE)
- Strategic plan-prioritize equity, access and progress
- Make sure each student receives FAPE in gen ed or restrictive environment with goal of graduation from high school, or career and community ready.
- Oct 2019 (last official census data)- 1695 students/10.6% CCPS is usually around 10% , slide showed disabilities broken down CCPS vs State Avg (Christy can send more detailed lists if anyone requests)
- Questions
 - Distance Learning Plans for SPED from Tina for Christy. Why did they name IEP, Distance Learning Plan (DLP) and do you feel it was successful? This was an unprecedented situation with the pandemic, yes.
 - Another question from Michelle, about the bus situation. Contact IEP chair or Christy if problems with transportation. They are prioritizing special needs situations.
- Annual report card from MSDE for CC “meets requirements”
- 70.8% of students with IEPs are receiving supports and services in the general education environment (LRE A); state target 70.9%. The state sets annual targets which school systems must meet. If a school system does not meet an annual target, an action plan must be developed and submitted.
- 67.12% of students with IEPs graduated in 4 years. While this is the general expectation, some students with IEPs may need to have their high school plan revised to allow them a 5th or 6th year to complete high school and graduate.
- Work with teachers through instruction to be guided, rigorous, engaging, continuous and tailored in flexible groups and through evidence-based practices

Budget

Didn't get to use due to pandemic. Joe worked with Ms. Cochrane used some money towards books and materials for transportation to use on the long bus rides. Oct 1 - \$2500/yr through grant. Any ideas of how to use the money, please let Joe know.

Calendar/Community Events

- Oct 20th-parents place rights Virtual
- Oct 28th- ABC of behavior, supposed to be in person
- Nov 4th Potty training in older kids in person but might be virtual
- Nov 18th- Crushing Holiday anxiety BCBA- in person
- December 8th What is Autism- Pathfinders- in person

Adjournment and Final Points