

Special Education Parent Working Group (SPWG)

Meeting Minutes

Date: 02/15/22 at 11:30 AM via Zoom

Present: Molly May
Matt Zemo
Susan Stotzer
Rhonda Stout
Suzanne Wilson
Tabitha Rose
Traci Lepak
Tim Oates
Catherine Walker
Laura Avery

Board Summit Presentation

Matt went over the highlights of what was presented to the board at the board summit meeting. Upholding the value of special education continues to be a priority for the board. Here's a link to the board summit presentation:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1TsLovNFXXWFXZF5nqdzf6odXCcrslAwX/view?usp=sharing>

Special Education PTO

Molly raised the issue of having a special education PTO/booster club within the Eanes school district. Several SPWG members expressed concern that a separate PTO for special education went against the principals of inclusion. Instead, it was suggested that each school's existing PTO/booster club include a member who would be responsible for representing the special education community. This member might be the school's SPWG representative or another parent from that school's special education community. It was suggested that at least some of the funding for inclusive school activities should be requested from each school's PTO/booster club.

Inclusive Extra-Curricular Activities

A number of parents in the Eanes special education community have expressed concerns about their students not being able to participate in Eanes extra-curricular activities, particularly in "cut" (tryout) team sports.

Laura suggested that we approach the new athletic director (Callan Nokes) about creating a unified sports team at Eanes. The goal would be to select a sport with broad appeal to all genders and to students in both general education and special education. Nearby school districts should be

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contacted to see if they have a unified team we might be able to compete against. Additional funding might be needed for adaptive coaches.

Parent Welcome Packet

Matt will create a draft of the one-page parent welcome packet for the SPWG to review.

Best Buddies Walk

This year's Best Buddies Friendship Walk on May 7 will replace of the special education community picnics that Eanes has hosted in previous years.

Next Meeting

4/5/22 at 11:30 AM at Eanes Administration Building at 1601 Camp Craft Road 78746