

# Calvert County Public Schools

## Special Education Citizens' Advisory Committee

### Meeting Minutes

May 10th, 2022, 6:30PM-8:00PM  
Brooks Administrative Building/BOE  
1305 Dares Beach Rd.  
Prince Frederick, MD 20678  
In Person

#### **Attendees:**

Joseph Cormier – SECAC Chairperson  
Mechelle Shifflet – SECAC Vice Chairperson  
Dr. Christina Harris - Director of Special Ed./SECAC Treasurer  
Dr. Susan Johnson – Assistant Superintendent of Instruction  
Margo Gross – Supervisor of Special Ed.  
Bryan Sammons – Inclusive Programming Specialist  
Bestie Camilliere – Inclusive Programming Specialist  
Lisa Walker- Inclusive Programming Specialist  
Shelly Baden – Parent  
Shelly Miller – Parent/ The Connection  
Joy Wier – Calvert County Parks and Recreation Supervisor  
Sue Rafalowski – Parent/Partners for Success  
Mike Rafalowski – Parent  
Samantha Mathieson – Parent  
Joanne Koterwas – Parent

#### **Welcome and Introductions AND Purpose of SECAC – Joe Cormier**

Joe Cormier facilitated introductions, reviewed the purpose of SECAC, the agenda which included an addition of Parks & Recreation summer activities, and meeting norms to include holding questions to the end of each presentation and everyone being respectful.

#### **Parks & Recreation- Joy Wier- Therapeutic Recreational Supervisor**

- Summer Camps- in the past they would host Camp Calvert, however interest has reduced. Parks and Rec is now using a more inclusive model. This year there are about 40 kids at each site.
- Work with Infants and Toddlers- welcomes observing students in community settings, adaptive swim programs, athletic programs, arts and music class. Parks and Recreation also has exercise classes.
- Parks and Rec also works with Connections and other groups once students graduate. In addition, they provide services to students in CCPS' Learning for Independence program where students work on careers, hands-on, leading to visiting employers and possible hiring.

- Parks and Rec works with outside funding. Low Intensity Support Services funding is available through Health Department. Parents can apply and use the money for various programs. A parent in attendance shared that she has received funding previously.
- Flyer shared for Special Needs Night/Night at the Museum taking place at Calvert Marine Museum which features a free boat ride (contact Joy for the boat ride).
- Therapeutic services and programs are featured in the Parks and Rec brochure and on the website.
- Summer Camp Packets were offered to attendees

### **Director's update: Inclusive Practices in CCPS- Dr. Susan Johnson & Dr. Christy Harris**

This presentation provided an overview of key information about inclusive practices in CCPS. The presentation that included information on the items below. To access the presentation, please go to the SECAC webpage (<https://www.calvertnet.k12.md.us/secac>) and select the presentation under "Resources" on the SECAC tab.

- What is special education?
- What is Specially Designed Instruction?
- Where does a student receive special education services?
- Least Restrictive Environment (LRE)- As noted by IDEA
- Where does Calvert County Public Schools currently service students?
- Trend data for CCPS's LRE A
- Special Education Providers
- Why Include?
- What are Inclusive Practices?
- Inclusion is Membership and Belonging
- Implementation of Inclusive Practices
- What can parents and educators do to support inclusive practices?

There were questions and discussion around the following: training for general ed. and special ed. teachers and other staff to be able to meet the needs of all learners in the general education environment for academics and behavior; there was discussion around the Collaborative Proactive Solutions (CPS) model by Ross Greene, the proactive nature of the CPS model and the schools that have participated in training; there was a question and explanation of requirements for progress monitoring and data collection as special education providers are required to document services and the data on the IEP goals and objectives. Related service providers document IEP services in a database called Meduclaim. There was also discussion around the timeframe for scheduling an IEP team meeting upon parent request, which should be scheduled as soon as possible, but no later than within 30 days.

### **Staffing plan for 2022-23 school year- Christy Harris**

- Increase of 4 Special Education Teachers
- Increase of 13 Instructional Assistants (most of these were added this school year)
- Other increases are noted on the Special Education Staffing Plan Comparison (distributed to all attendees) which included: Speech Language Pathologist, Occupational Therapist, Behavioral staff, and Teacher of the Visually Impaired.

### **SECAC Treasurer update- Christy Harris**

- The budget was provided to all attendees and updates to the budget were shared to include expenditures for materials of instruction for the SECAC Staff Appreciation awardees.

#### **SECAC awards recognition and after-action review- Joe Cormier**

- Joe reviewed the winners of SECAC awards and shared what he will be presenting to the BOE at the next meeting.

#### **Fall event – Resource fair/ Driver Safety Program: What to Do During Traffic Stop – Pathfinders for Autism**

- Joe reviewed the events planned and updates along with how they impact the budget as some SECAC funds will be used.

#### **Calendar / community events**

- IEP Basics – Free Training event Wed May 25th, 2022  
<https://www.tfaforms.com/4975447> Register as an in-person or virtual attendee.

#### **Adjournment and Final Points**

#### **RESOURCES**

- [Equity Based Inclusion | MCIE](#)
- [PaulaKluth.com - Toward Inclusive Classrooms and CommunitiesPaulaKluth.com: Toward Inclusive Classrooms and Communities](#)
- [– Inclusive Education: It's not more work, it's different work! \(fivemooreminutes.com\)](#)
- [home - Inclusive Schooling](#)
- [TIES helps educators, parents, and administrators create and support inclusive school communities | TIES Center](#)
- [Disability Advocacy Organization - TASH](#)
- [All Means ALL: The SWIFT Center and Inclusive Education | SWIFT Schools](#)
- [Inclusive education | UNICEF](#)
- EMAIL: Christy Harris, Director of Special Ed. [harrisc@calvertnet.k12.md.us](mailto:harrisc@calvertnet.k12.md.us)