

Special Education Parent Partnership Committee Meeting Minutes

4/08/2022

1:00-2:00

Members Present: Corinna Graner, Molly Meyer, Ali Howe, Ericka Ronnings, Erica Swenson, Emily Bremner Forbes, Andrea Combs, Aimee Libby, Aaron Ruhland, & guest Lyssa Campbell

Our meeting began with an introduction of Lyssa Campbell. Lyssa is the Director of Communications for Orono Public Schools and is in the process of developing a new Orono Schools website.

Lyssa began by showing the group drone footage of the campus that was shot this past fall and nicely showcases our united campus.

Lyssa showed the group some changes that will be forthcoming such as;

- Tabs for every building/program including Early Childhood
- More opportunities to cross reference
- Language translation through the Weglot application, providing services to the top 5 languages spoken in the homes of Orono students
- ADA compliance (screen readers able to work more smoothly, ALT tag descriptions of images)
- Responsive design that is easier to view on mobile devices
- Many different ways to format information
- Full control over our navigation

Lyssa opened the floor to input from the SEPPC members. Lyssa asked that they share what they think is missing or what doesn't currently work with the site. An SEPPC member stated that it is not clear where you purchase tickets to sporting events. Lyssa shared that we will have an "athletics manager" site in the future and make sure this is addressed.

Another member wondered if the new site might be able to link to MDE/outside information on guardianship & post secondary courses. Lyssa said she would look into it and talk with the Special Services department.

There was also a question about where links to activities will be found. Lyssa assured the group that the goal of this redesign is to make finding things such as "student activities" easier and more user friendly.

The meeting wrapped up with a goodbye to a longstanding member, Andrea Combs. This was Andrea's last meeting. She was a valued member of the SEPPC and she will be greatly missed although we look forward to hearing about the next chapter for her family.

This was our last meeting of the 2021-2022 school year. We will meet again next school year starting in October.