

**Calvert County Public Schools**  
**Special Education Citizens' Advisory Committee**

**Meeting Minutes: January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Attendees:**

LaShonda Scott, SECAC Member-at-Large  
Ashton Nelson, SECAC Secretary  
Dr. Kendy Anderson, Director CCPS Special Education  
Willanette Lohr, Inclusive Education Facilitator, CCPS  
Betsie Camilliere, Inclusive Education Facilitator, CCPS  
Bryan Sammons, Inclusive Education Facilitator, CCPS  
Samantha Mathieson, Parent  
Susan Dudley, Physical Therapist, CCPS  
Laura Rivers, Adaptive PE Teacher, CCPS  
Paul Reilly, Secondary Transition Specialist, CCPS  
Amy Cox, Teacher, CCPS  
Sue Rafalowski, Partners for Success/Parent Connection  
Shelly Baden, Parent  
Rae Anne Turlington, Reading Specialist, CCPS  
Joseph Cormier, SECAC Chair

**Welcome and Introductions**

Meeting was started at 6:30pm and introductions were held. Meeting chaired by Lashonda Scott, member at large. Meeting norms and expectations were reminded as follows:

- Use the mute button: Make sure to mute your microphone so that the presenter and other attendees aren't distracted by background noise.
- Avoid interrupting: If you have a question or comment, it's okay to raise your hand virtually or use the chat function to ask but try to avoid interrupting the speaker.
- Remember to be respectful and civil in your comments. Everyone is volunteering their time, effort, and experience to make SECAC great.
- Please refrain from referring to specific students or staff members, if you have a specific issue with your student's education, please contact the Director after the meeting. General meetings are for information sharing, parent education and providing feedback about staffing plan and guiding policy and procedures.

**Meeting Minute review/approval**

November meeting minutes were sent in advance of the meeting. No public feedback was received through email or in person. Lashonda motioned for minute approval, Ashton 2<sup>nd</sup> motion. No discussion requested, no opposed. November meeting minutes approved and will be forwarded to the CCPS Webmaster to be uploaded to the SECAC portion of the CCPS Webpage.

**Presentation: "What is Inclusive Education?"**

CCPS currently has 3 Inclusive Education Facilitators. All were present for the presentation. PowerPoint can be found [HERE](#)

## **Directors Report/Treasury Report**

Dr. Anderson discussed Special Olympics – dates to be in May. Working out the details with transportation and more specific information forthcoming. Please come out and support our students. In future, she indicated that she would like to expand trainings to parents on county-wide professional development days. Possibly 2-3 dates come fall. Dr. Anderson indicated that the Annual MSDE Audit report that was anticipated in November is still not available to her. She will present as soon as it is.

## **SECAC Awards**

SECAC awards are still set for April 20, 2023 at CHS. Ashton discussed that there was a possibility that Special Olympics would be held in April near awards date. If this is the case, we would discuss moving the awards to not overload staff and families with events. Form for nominations is ready and will be worked through the CCPS Office of communication for mass distribution. Will also be given to the IEP Chairpersons to get to families. Ashton will reach out to volunteers closer to March.

## **Questions/Comments/Celebrations**

- Dr. Anderson celebrates a great presentation from the Inclusive Education team and a great meeting with participants. Thanks everyone
- Ms. Baden indicated the need for a newer parent flier and better outreach to families. Made note that paper copies during meetings are not effective. Parent Connections also stated that it can be difficult to reach specific people because they do not have access to parent emails. SECAC board will reach out to Chief Communications officer for CCPS to discuss how to better promote the group. Ms. Rivers suggested a copy of our flier to be included with Quarterly Progress reports. Dr. Anderson agreed and will work with SECAC team to get a more parent friendly version for this.
- Ms. Mathieson stated our fliers seem clinical and that we need something that is more parent oriented and easy to read and understand. Ashton asked for anyone with specific ideas to please reach out to provide input.
- Joe stated that he met at the Arc of SOMD with Ron Mold, Director of Community Support along side the FOP for their donation of \$500 raised with their Disabilities awareness limited edition patch. More coming soon. Sheriff's dept to continue partnership in additional drivers workshops.
- CCPS is looking for Parent Surrogates to assist students who require one. If interested, please reach out to Nicole Ayres, Supervisor of Special Education.

## **Upcoming Calendar Items**

1/17/2023 – Trust Night, Reach out to Partners for Success for more information

[parentconnections@calvertnet.k12.md.us](mailto:parentconnections@calvertnet.k12.md.us)

1/31/2023 – Virtual MD Able account information session, reach out to Partners for Success for more information. [parentconnections@calvertnet.k12.md.us](mailto:parentconnections@calvertnet.k12.md.us)

1/31/2023 – Infant and Toddlers & Family Support : Getting ready for School at the library in PF. Reach out to Partners for Success for more information.

[parentconnections@calvertnet.k12.md.us](mailto:parentconnections@calvertnet.k12.md.us)

4 week series STIR Program, January 18 & 25, February 1 & 8

2/3/2023 – Try College for a day, Look for the information to come home from High School teams. Reach out to Paul Reilly for more information/questions.

[reillyp@calvertnet.k12.md.us](mailto:reillyp@calvertnet.k12.md.us)

February 3 and 4; February 17 and 18; March 3 and 4; March 17 and 18; March 31 and April 1; and April 14 and 15 – Family Leadership Institute held by Maryland Coalition of

families. [2023 Family Leadership Institute - Maryland Coalition of Families \(mdcoalition.org\)](https://www.mdcoalition.org)

2/10/2023 – Night To Shine

**Adjournment and Final Points**

Next meeting is Tuesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Meetings will remain virtual for remainder of year. Joe Cormier mentioned the recent BOCC meeting and reiterated that now is the time for families to be active in the business of the BOCC and BOE. Budgeting and continuation of the Blueprint are occurring and that testimony directly to these groups is the best way to gain traction and attention to our students and families. With no other business, meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm.