

Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) Committee Meeting



Meeting Date:	January 10, 2023
Meeting Start/EndTime:	6:00-7:30 PM
Meeting Location:	Virtual: Zoom link https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85171902297?pwd=VnpzdkJxN1V1M0szbFU1dk1oS1hEQT09
Members Present:	Anna Gaffey, Melanie Brunsdon, Cassie Gudmundson, Mindy Reinardy, Molli Kook, Dr. Sarah Knudsen
Other Attendees:	3 non-voting members
Members Absent:	

<p><i>Our Vision:</i> A safe and inclusive community of compassionate, curious and resilient lifelong learners.</p>	<p><i>Our Mission:</i> Inspire, curiosity, empower resilience, engage community.</p>
<p><i>District Belief Statements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● We believe that public schools should serve and engage students, families, staff and the community. ● We believe learning and teaching is maximized in a safe, respectful and inclusive environment. ● We believe every individual's diversity and experience is valued. ● We believe healthy relationships are crucial for the success of our schools. ● We believe that every student can achieve to the 	<p><i>Core Values:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Safety: Everyone's physical and emotional well-being is a priority. ● Integrity: Everyone does the right thing and makes positive choices, even if it is difficult. ● Inclusivity: Everyone belongs, is valued and is heard. ● Equity: Everyone has the opportunities, access, information and support provided in the individual way they need it.

- best of their ability.
- We believe all decisions should be focused on students and their success.

- **Respect:** Everyone's differences are recognized, acknowledged and celebrated.

Committee Purpose and Collective Commitments:

<u>Agenda Item:</u>	<u>Type:</u> <u>(Procedural, Information, Briefing, Action)</u>	<u>Discussion/Action:</u> <u>(Minutes)</u>	<u>Person Responsible:</u>
Welcome		Introduction of current members and introduction of new prospective voting members.	Co-chairs
Voting for new members	Action	<p>SEAC Voting Member Positions to fill:</p> <p>District Staff Member Parent Co-facilitator (Cassie's position) Community Member Non-public School Representative</p> <p>Parents/guardians interested in becoming a voting member: Siegfried, Monica Rupert, Loucresie Hudson, Vanessa Stafford Heather Kidd, Courtney Bergstrom, Kate</p> <p>No responses: Staff member Community member Parent of a non-public student</p> <p>Current voting members split into breakout room</p>	Co-chairs

		<p>session to vote on new voting members. Voted in: Vanessa Hudson and Kate Bergstrom as parent voting members, voted in Loucresie Rupert as community voting member.</p> <p>Members discussed remaining positions and where to find people to fill them (more detail in later agenda/action item).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Suggestions for possible community members/sources: Winona Health or Gundersen Winona pediatric nurses or pediatricians, rehab therapists. - Suggestions for staff members from Winona Area Public Schools. 	
Elect a new co-chair:	Action	<p>Members discussed what general co-chair duties consist of, extended invitation to all three new members if they would be interested in co-chairing the committee (Cassie's term will be ending). Vanessa and Kate: no. Loucresie, yes. Sarah will add Loucresie to the shared drive, and she will become co-chair officially when Cassie steps down at next meeting..</p>	
Discuss efforts to recruit unfilled positions	Action	<p>Members discussed further ideas on how to find members for unfilled voting positions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Non-public school representative: Molli noted a parent on the form meets this requirement - Staff member: emails went out, Karen placed items in the newsletter. Non-special ed, non-licensed staff are fine to apply as well. - Community member: Sarah serves on WSU SEAC, she will reach out to members there. Mindy also noted that they are looking for 	Co-chairs, Dr. Knudsen

		<p>members as well. Maybe have a joint meeting with WAPS and WSU SEAC, for discussion and idea generation. Disability Services/Access Services programming at WSU could also provide a resource, people.</p> <p>General recruitment ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - each member could reach out to a staff member they know - SEAC could host community coffee talks at local coffee shops. <p>All these ideas/sources could also help with PNN planning.</p>	
Staffing updates	Information	<p>Goodview Elementary has hired a special ed teacher for the DCD program (to replace Kristin Rodgers), Emily Franzen. Also hired: a substitute to cover until Emily is certified, and an EA.</p> <p><i>Details from Emily Casselius's email (1/3/23): [Emily Franzen] is a recent graduate from Winona State University. As we wait for her license to be issued from the state, she will serve as an EA in our program to begin building relationships with students and staff. This time will also be used to provide Miss Emily with needed training and professional development.</i></p> <p><i>Deb Whalen will serve as the licensed substitute teacher beginning January 4 until Emily's license is issued. She is an experienced special education teacher who will bring great support to our DCD classroom.</i></p> <p><i>Morgan Rinn was hired as an EA right before break</i></p>	Dr. Knudsen

		<p><i>to support our DCD program. She will be a wonderful addition to our team!</i></p> <p>SPED staff positions still open:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 1 half-time teaching position at WK.- 3-4 EAs at WMS- 1 EA at the high school- 1 intervener position at Goodview- 1 part-time nurse (LPN or RN, a couple hours one morning per week)- 1 full-time nurse (LPN or RN, 7 hours per day + transportation) <p><i>Question:</i> how many children in the district are on IEPs/IFSPs/being served by SPED? (birth through 21) Public, non-public, resident. <i>Answer:</i> 631. (number has declined)</p> <p>Q: Any ideas why SPED kids numbers are declining? A: Lots of reasons: aging population, declining local birth rate, low availability of housing for young families, landlocked geographically, etc.</p> <p>Note: children receive services because they need services. No student will be denied an IEP, a free and appropriate education, or special ed services, in an effort to make more congenial statistics. Students with complex/more extreme disabilities are a static population according to these numbers, and expected to continue to need a certain amount of services. Students with mild or less extreme disabilities are a population that is more flexible and may move in and out of special ed as they grow and change.</p>	
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Other topics		<p>WAPS Referendum discussion – we should do research and schedule our next meeting before the referendum vote, as there are lots of access items in the referendum. Vote is scheduled for Tuesday April 11.</p> <p>The Winona Post has an article regarding the details of Option A, the package approved by the School Board: https://www.winonapost.com/news/winona-school-board-approves-94m-ask/article_c74d52b4-9145-11ed-aea0-0723c5536dbf.html</p> <p>Details from another article for brevity:</p> <p>Option A – \$94 million</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Remodeled classrooms at the three elementaries and high school● Additions at W-K and Jefferson● New gym and locker rooms at WSHS, as well as remodeling of current locker rooms● Remodeled music area at WSHS● Remodeled industrial technology area at WSHS● Remodeled space for activities and fitness at the ALC● Some deferred maintenance at all facilities, including:<ul style="list-style-type: none">● At the three elementaries, replacing exterior windows● At Goodview, replacing the gym floor● At Jefferson, replacing the playground● At W-K, replacing exterior stairs● At WMS, replacing the roof● At WSHS, meeting ADA requirements● At the ALC, providing another boiler	
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● At Paul Giel Field, upgrading bleachers <p>Not included (all at WSHS):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A second court at new gym ● Auditorium upgrades ● Some deferred maintenance 	
Set next meeting date	Action	<p>Next meeting: Wednesday March 29, 6pm. Welcome new members and celebrate former/emeritus members. :)</p> <p>Parent Network Night: PNN Planning Subcommittee will be: Loucresie, Kate, Cassie, Vanessa, Karen, Mindy, Molli. Meeting tentatively scheduled (virtual): Thursday, January 26, 6pm. Mindy will send out google meet invite. Plan PNN for after that meeting, tentatively scheduled for Thursday, April 27.</p> <p>(Suggestion: make a better framework for planning a PNN. Template for all us newbs!)</p> <p>Cassie will reach out to Monica Siegfried about joining the PNN subcommittee (MS expressed interest in this particularly).</p> <p>Sarah: COVID/Parent engagement funds (general ed) could maybe be used for one-time funding for PNN needs.</p>	Co-chairs
Meeting adjourned	Action	Co-chairs closed the meeting.	Co-chairs