

APS SEAC Meeting Minutes for October 26, 2022 at noon via In-person and Zoom

APPROVED at SEAC 2-23-2023 Meeting

Lynn Hathaway (chairperson) welcomes everyone in person and virtually and calls meeting to order

L. Hathaway: Review of Agenda

Roll call :

1. Sagan Allen-Williams (parent) - absent
 2. Lisa Bacala (other stakeholder)-present
 3. Lesly Borskey (parent) - absent
 4. Jade Brignac (parent) - absent
 5. Weston Moreau (parent) - present
 6. Lynette Gros (parent) - present
 7. Eileen Jorgensen (parent) - present virtually
 8. Elizabeth King (special education teacher) - present
 9. Briaon Landry(parent) - absent
 10. Marvin Reed (parent) - present
- Chair: Lynn Hathaway, Director of Special Education - present

Public Comment Procedures:

L. Hathaway asks and explains to audience how to make or complete form for public comments

L. Hathaway reviews how council came about and how council has expanded, now 10 council members, L. Hathaway tells parents that they can apply to be a member and superintendent makes final decision

- Rotating times between noon and evening meetings
- Hybrid approach
- Evening meetings will rotate between feeder schools
- Noon meetings can't be at schools due to lunch so will be held here at LSSC

L. Hathaway reviewed Purpose of the Team and Responsibilities

Old Business

1.a - Copy of last meeting minutes

Motioned for approval by W. Moreau, and 2nd by M. Reed

Minutes approved for Aug 31, 2022 meeting

1.b - Handbook/Toolkit Review and Update

- Feedback has been given by council
- Now in hands of media department
- Overview of what will be in the binder and how parents are an essential component to the process
- Will have electronic format
- Council will be able supply updates/additions
- Opened for feedback on toolkit

1.c- Communication improvement for transition times

- met with lead teachers for discussion of ideas for improvement
- E. King: things have gotten smoother but working as a whole to make the process

better

-L. Gros: support differs between primary and middle (car rider, nurse not knowledgeable of the medical issues of her child) Suggestion: Checklist for teacher and parent (ie did you get to meet the nurse?, do you know where your ...is?) checks and balances for teachers and related service providers, parents- do I need to email them later?

-E.King: Service Providers: sometimes we drop the ball in that area- suggestion- questionnaire

-L. Gros: We are here for academics but sometimes our kids' biggest need is basic needs- child coming from a Leap Connect classroom - seems to transition well- seems different in high school. "I'm talking about the students still in gen ed classes" worrying about major transition.

-E. King: teachers introducing self and different roles at the middle school level so that parents know who to reach out to

L. Hathaway: liked feedback and suggestions- agreed that students with significant disabilities have a tighter transition process, but we need to look at this and continue to improve

W. Moreau: roadmap for transition (how and when to request an IEP,etc.)

M. Reed: roadmap of who to contact and when

W. Moreau: Roadmap of what happens when sped student transitions out of Sped

L. Hathaway: trying to make it easy to use (acronyms, etc) this is just a start and the council can add things to it (referencing toolkit)

Reed: prep day - meet the teacher

L. Hathaway: explains how the district may separate meet the teacher days/nights

L. Gros: Dutchtown High had one this school year which was separate and parents were able to meet the personnel (all service providers were introduced to all parents)

L. Hathaway: APSB fastest growing parish and aim for consistency and striving to come together as a team, want parent input

W.Moreau: parental involvement is crucial, and would like list of external resources

L. Hathaway: legally not able to advertise private companies my team is committed to making it better for your child

L. Hathaway open meeting up to audience for any feedback/comments

No feedback from audience

New Business:

L. Hathaway:

2.a.- Fall Engagement Night: Partner with LASARD : November 2

- For students in self contained classrooms, eligible
- Flyers sent home and will be on website
- One click access to website
- Also coaching in our classes (LASARD)
- Another in spring
- Feedback will be used for spring class
- Make and take things that night
- LASARD did trainings last year for teachers

Chat Question:

What grade levels? K-12

2.b. - Policies and procedures passed last evening for cameras

What does it look like?

- IDDFC
- Procedures how it works
- Funded
- L. Hathaway spoke with LDOE, releasing money this week through grants
- Forms available on website by end of week
- Working with the tech department (storage, estimates, etc.)
- Law gives parents ability to make request
- District not wanting to make parents make request, plan to install in all self-contained classrooms due to high needs of the students in those classes
- Not live feed cameras
- Separate server (administrator and director access)
- Forms will have to be completed for access

L. Hathaway: Any public comment?

Parent: If we put in a request, when do we get follow-up?

L. Hathaway- already had requests that came in and we are starting there

- Staff trainings needed
- Electrical work
- Signage

Reed: about how long to turn around?

L. Hathaway: pretty quick

L. Hathaway: notice of when audio/video will start will be sent home with students

Parent Items:

3.a.- L. Gros: access to extra curricular activities & clubs, increase student involvement (PBIS rewards- items on list that meet their needs ie. "taking of shoes" no no due to orthotics, some items not obtainable--Fall activities, accessibility) Suggestion/thought: sport- sponsor which can help access some of the high school clubs

L. Hathaway: - at start of school year-challenge of principals of how to better include ALL students

- Push at lead teacher meetings for "all"

Parent: Do you all have "peer buddies" here?

2 Public Comments (Virtual):

J. Rollins: Concern with Red Ribbon Week, "dress like your friend"- parents not sure of how this will work for nonverbal students or students who don't have or can't communicate about a friend
- Sensitivity Training for school personnel

E. Jorgensen, council member: increase interaction with special education students and peers, field trip to park yesterday, would have been great to have buddy or high school student to interact with students, social interaction- board game or time on playground

High School: clubs, Program created for those students to go and work with special needs kids at lower level schools

L. Hathaway: reach out to Beta clubs, high school students interested in education

W. Moreau: Parent night of self-contained to help facilitate parents meeting each other

Gros: described how a parent had shared contact information and it assisted in relationship building

E. King: explained how a student wanted to be in 4-H, team worked to help meet his needs- Allied Health, can we partner with them?

L. Gros: For several months a year, Allied Health does work with them. Can we increase this?

M. Reed: PBIS at the students level including kids that may have other behavior challenges.

Audience Member: good communication with teacher and making sure the teacher is involved with... dress like you friend

L. Hathaway: communication is good and important... sending out memos to schools to highlight inclusivity, also challenging schools to be more inclusive

L. Hathaway- Toolkit, layout of organization, website with pictures

M. Reed- students with 1:1, interaction

3.b. Challenges with School Pictures

L. Gros: Pictures extra care and time for set up

- high school is different takes them during the summer

- not clear of when retakes would take place

-looking presentable for pictures

L. Hathaway: Awareness that there is a concern and reminding of possibly needing more time

-consistency across district is needed and a focus

Online Comment:

J.Rollins: really about family and dignity, siblings with yearbooks, communication is critical- saw a difference in the last 2 years of schooling/different principals

M. Reed: Could we incorporate it (pictures) in the special needs prep day?

E. King: Placement in the yearbook- "Leap Connect Class"

L. Hathaway: Use of "Leap Connect" has been addressed, they should take pictures with their class.

Audience Comment: Described how her grandson, a student (senior) did not go in the summer to take his picture. Grandmother told him to tell teachers he needed to retake. Grandmother states that she should have gone to school and made him take a picture for retake.

M.Reed: We know our child best, we have to advocate for them. Parents are their voice.

J. Rollins: Agrees and would like to add: school system could make little things easier for parents - need consistency throughout district and monitored

M. Reed: sees strives within our district

J. Rollins: feelings more could be done at a district level, thinking of every parent, should be easier- not everyone has the same access

L. Hathaway: Any additional information?

M. Reed motion on 3b for recommendation to look at 1c to include 3b
Look into prep day and school pictures for solutions

W. Moreau 2nd motion
Motion passed

L. Hathaway: Next meeting will be December 14 at 6 pm location to be determined
Moreau motion to adjourn
2nd by L. Gros
Meeting Adjourned