

Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) Committee Meeting



Meeting Date:	Wednesday, March 29, 2023
Meeting Start/EndTime:	6:00-7:30 PM
Meeting Location:	Virtual via Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85666236455?pwd=USt1ellJVUtLVGFhMHB0O05oS3Bkdz09
Members Present:	Dr. Knudsen, Loucresie Rupert, Melanie Brunsdon, Vanessa Hudson, Kate Bergstrom, Anna Gaffey
Other Attendees:	https://forms.gle/yAEFW6mosqFrUkUK9
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 best of their ability. ● We believe all decisions should be focused on students and their success. 	<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. ● 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		<p>Reminder: We will follow the agenda. Voting members of SEAC may address the co-chairs/Director with questions and comments regarding agenda items.</p> <p>The are agenda items tonight where everyone present will have to opportunity to ask questions and providefeedback. These items are highlighted in yellow.</p> <p>The purpose of SEAC is to discuss special education programs and programming. Due to data privacy, it is imperative that we do not discuss individual students or district employees.</p> <p>By-laws</p>	Co-chairs/Dr. Knudsen
Introduce New Voting Members	Info	<p>Vanessa Hudson, parent (2023-2025) Kate Bergstrom, parent (2023-2025) Loucresie Rupert, community member (will serve as co-chair, 2023-2025)</p> <p>Notes: Melanie Brunsdon served as facilitator to introduce new members and thank yous to voting members who are finishing their terms and/or contributing to SEAC and PNN.</p>	Co-chairs

Thank you	Information	<p>Thank you to Cassie Gudmundson. Cassie has served on SEAC for many years and as co-chair for the past year.</p> <p>A special thank you to Molli Kook and Mindy Reinardy who have served on SEAC for many, many years. They have provided many students and families with support and services.</p> <p>Thank you to others who showed an interest in serving as a voting member. Reminder: EVERYONE is welcome to attend all meetings. We want to increase regular participation.</p>	Co-chairs, Dr. Knudsen
Referendum Info	Information	<p>Nancy Denzer, School Board Chair, will present referendum information Link to the slides: https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1Av9siik6OqEJutAxvoY9xznqtgMWayFqiFWw1w7zAuM/edit?usp=sharing</p> <p>Notes: presentation on upcoming referendum. Discussed polling places, early voting at the district office (in the high school), and an overview on the questions on the ballot. Approved on January 5th, vote early or by April 11.</p> <p>Question one:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elementary schools: redesign of learning spaces, accessibility issues a big deal. Try to surpass required accessibility/ADA code. (e.g. No classrooms in the basement, attempting to address the barriers students have had getting to class/being with peers..) - Middle school - deferred maintenance - ALC - fitness center, activity and 	Dr. Knudsen

		<p>social-emotional programming centers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- High schools: biggest remodel/renovation, of tech/art/career wing. <p>Question two:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- High school upgrades/improvements including gym and locker room spaces. This would affect district as a whole since WAPS lost gym space with previous building closures. <p>Can't pass Q2 without Q1 passing. No physical plans for the building improvements yet - they have to pass first before planning can be done.</p> <p>Quick history of recent decisions and referendums regarding school buildings, and community task force activities and actions, as well as description of options investigated before coming down on this particular referendum. Task force report (as well as potential/possible ideas for plans) is available online through the WAPS website.</p> <p>Timeline of school board decisions related to building and task force topics. Also discussed: general opinion poll that showed a majority of the Winona area community still believes that WAPS is a viable option for school.</p> <p>Some tools available on the WAPS website:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Tax estimator to help citizens figure out what their personal tax increase would be.- Polling place lookup- Contact info for Nancy Denzer as a resource and connection <p>Questions:</p>	
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<p>Parent Network Night</p>	<p>Information</p>	<p>Parent Network Night Flyers for PNN</p> <p>Notes: Vanessa and Mindy are on the committee, as well as Topic chosen: accessing community resources in Winona County and Hiawatha Valley Mental Health Center. Jenny Stark, Tristan [last name needed?], and Tim, others will come, have presentations prepared for what services they offer.</p> <p>Childcare will be available, but registration will be required. Next PNN planning meeting will be on Monday night (4/3) to finalize.</p> <p>PACER also is offering life planning webinar.</p> <p>Loucresie: can we add the PACER link to a mailing for students/parents. Also, email for community</p>	

		events this week had PNN on it.	
Voting for new members	Action	<p>SEAC Voting Member Positions to fill: District Staff Member: Becky Webster, Birth -3 Early Access Service Coordinator</p> <p>Notes: Becky Webster introduced herself and gave a little background on her work for the district and Birth-3. "First contact" for parents from WAPS. Voting members voted to bring Becky on as staff member voting member (starting this year, 2 year term, will end in 2025 along with Kate, Loucresie, and Vanessa).</p>	Co-chairs
Discuss efforts to recruit unfilled positions	Action	<p>Still need: Parent/guardian of a non-public student</p> <p>Notes: clarification - this member has to be parent of a non-public student with an IEP/disability. Charter schools are considered public.</p>	Co-chairs
Staffing and programming updates	Information	<p>Slides</p> <p>Notes: Staffing needs and changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WAPS still very much needs EAs and EA subs at all levels, intervener at elementary level (have one, need two), and sub for maternity leave at Jefferson. - DCD teacher at Goodview - Teaching positions at all locations - Sarah's position as Director of Special Ed (will be leaving for Owatonna Public Schools position) - SLP - PT (will be virtual again next year, no 	Dr. Knudsen

		<p>applicants this year again despite recruiting – description of the PT virtual model and how it works with EA and occasional in-person visits) - will NOT be seeking out an in-person PT as of today. Current PT and EA are expected to remain the same for next year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - School psychologist <p>Any concerns or interest in positions, please email SPED/Sarah K.</p>	
<p>Overview of Special Education Department Goals for the 2022-23 school year</p>	<p>Information</p>	<p>Expanded info and discussion from above presentation: standards-aligned goal development and frequent progress monitoring (see slides)</p> <p>Notes: Presentation of survey of SPED staff, no in-depth analysis yet but overall feedback was positive. Staffing and support instability mentioned as a concern: means students possibly do not get support/services they need during the school day.</p> <p>Increased amount of kids/kindergarteners needing SPED services – will respond by adding/shifting staff/programming where needed.</p> <p>EBD programs’ needs and SPED settings discussed. Setting 1-3 include some mixed amount of general ed and special ed. Setting 4 is 100% special ed and located in a self-contained/special environment. In the past WAPS has partnered with HVED for this, but they do not have the capacity for all the students with needs for this setting. Biggest obstacle to WAPS creating a setting 4 space is lack of local viable site.</p>	<p>Dr. Knudsen</p>

		<p>Loucresie: will put out word to her family and friends who work for Edina Realty and may know any available spaces.</p> <p>Mindy: Cotter is moving their students to West Campus buildings.</p> <p>Some options: Wesley church? Riverway building? Old Knitting Mill building (Goodview?)? Something big enough for current needs and room for expansion.</p> <p>Extended school year change: Five days a week (3 hours per day, 9am-12 pm) for two weeks, a change from 12 to 10 days total. Decision was made to hopefully create more commitment from staff and students to be present for entire run of ESY.</p> <p>Locations will probably be WK, Goodview, and high school, but will be finalized.</p> <p>Key Kids question: Loucresie: Can you expand on Key Kids and how they handle SPED kids who have IEPs and need 1-1 aides? Sarah: Day care, parent choice option, run thru Community Ed. Student's IEP doesn't follow them from school to Key Kids, not an IDEA-supported program. (Presumably any aide would need to be figured out between parent and the program)</p> <p>Unified Phy Ed soft launch (WMS, WSHS): mostly planning and course proposals.</p>	
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		Professional development goals:	
Input regarding programming changes made from last year to this year, general feedback	Discussion and input	Brief review of last year's programming changes earlier in the meeting. Notes: No discussion on this (meeting running long) but general survey will be linked in the chat for SEAC members to respond. Possibly will be emailed out to other parents of students in the program affected by the changes.	Dr. Knudsen
Joint SEAC Meeting	information	Sarah will pass along idea for joint meeting with WSU SEAC group to next SPED director.	
Set fall meeting date	Action	Date for fall meeting will be: Tuesday, Sept 19, 2023 , probably virtual or a combination of in-person and virtual, or in-person with a livestream.	Co-chairs
Meeting adjourned		Co-chairs closed the meeting.	Co-chairs