



SE Parent Partners NOTES

October 24, 2023
Central Administration Board Room

Attendees: Matt Zemo, Emily Dunlap, Laura Avery, Lindsey Gauci, Susan Stotzer, Angela Davis, Vaidehee Gokhale, Cristal Carrasco, Krista Jack

Topics

[Overview of Special Education Resource](#) - A new document for this school year that provides parents with an overview of the special education process

[SPEDTex](#) - A resource to promote for parents looking for more information on various topics related to special education. Parents can search by topic for videos, resources, trainings, and chat with a LIVE expert. You will create an account and can customize your dashboard with tailored resources to topics of interest specific to your family/child.

Discussion of Increase in Special Education Population

- An increase of 20% in the student population over the past 5 years has led to a 10% increase in staff
- What can EEF fund? Are there other funding sources that parents can contribute to that directly impact SPED? Mr. Zemo clarified how funding works for EEF and that the monies benefit all children no matter what position is funded.

Next Steps for Parent Support and Training

- More parent training opportunities for parents of younger children
- Transition Trajectory for elementary parents
- ARD 101 - fundamental training for parents new to SPED or SPED processes
- Website extension specific to information and resources for new SPED parents

SEPP Structure/Communication

- Not all campuses are represented - how do we split representatives? HS/MS/Elementary based rather than campus-based
- Discussed the possibility of parent-partner-led Zoom each month to answer questions

- BCE has a monthly coffee and “What’s App” group

Opportunities for Staff Training Surrounding Transition Years

- Elementary staff are provided opportunities to meet with the MS coordinator to discuss what classes/service delivery models look like at MS vs. ES
- Elementary staff are provided with opportunities to visit and observe middle school classrooms
- Are there parent opportunities for this type of training/observation? Mr. Zemo clarified the intent of the progression meetings during “transition” years.

Inclusive Programs and Best Buddies Update

- [Best Buddies Champion of the Year Gala](#) - November 30th @ 800 Congress

Hidden Disabilities

- Revisit next meeting

Prospective Parents

- Template response is provided to parents and families looking to move to Eanes but have not secured residency. If parent partners are contacted, forward the information to Matt/Emily, and SPED admin will provide a response.

Follow up

- List of businesses in the community that hire and support our students/graduates
- Follow up with EEF regarding special education position funding/talking points to answer questions we are fielding from the community
- Additional parent training
- More conversation surrounding Hidden Disabilities at the next SEPP meeting
- Explore Parent Support Group

Upcoming Events:

- ❑ Transition to Liberated Adulthood - October 25th, 9:00 AM @ATS
- ❑ Meet & Mingle via Zoom - October 30th, 12:00
- ❑ Best Buddies Champion of the Year Gala - November 30th, 6:00 PM
- ❑ WHS to ATS Progression Meeting - December 7th, 5:30 PM
- ❑ [Cafe Series - Campus Conversations](#)
- ❑ [Topical Town Halls - TBD](#)
- ❑ [Listening Dinners - Invite Only](#)