

Calvert County Public Schools
Special Education Citizens' Advisory Committee

FINAL

Meeting Minutes November 7th, 2023

Attendees:

President, Joe Cormier
Secretary, Ashton Nelson
Member at Large, Lashonda Scott
Director, Special Education Department, Dr. Kendy Anderson
Samantha Mathieson, Parent
Adam Keesee, CCPS Secondary Transition Specialist
Shelley Baden, Parent
Joy Weir, Cal. Co. Parks and Recreation Therapeutic Recreation
Sherri Tardio, Community Mediation Center of Calvert
Susan Dudley, CCPS Physical Therapist
Laura Rivers, CCPS Adaptive PE
Kathleen Smith, Parent
Steven Norwecki, Parent
Camille Khaleesi, Parent
Antoine White, CCPS BOE Vice President

Welcome and Introductions

Meeting began promptly at 6:30. Mr. Cormier held introductions and explained meeting norms.

Meeting Minute Approval

Minutes from October 2023 were sent via email previously. No input given. Motion for approval by Ms. Nelson, second by Ms. Mathieson. Minutes approved and will be posted to webpage.

Facilitated IEP Meetings Presentation by Sherri Tardio of CMCC.

Sherri Tardio of Community Mediation Center of Calvert presented about Facilitated IEP Meetings. PDF of presentation can be found here: [SECAC Presentation 11.7.23.pdf](#) The brochure for Facilitated IEP meetings can be found here: [IEP-Brochure-2020-Statewide-updated-Dec-20.pdf](#)

Therapeutic Recreation with CCPR by Joy Weir

Ms. Weir came to discuss the several various programs that CCPR and Therapeutic Recreation has for persons with disabilities in Calvert. <https://www.calvertcountymd.gov/487/Therapeutic-Recreation-Services> There are 3 specialists that provide accommodations and special programming for all programs. Social groups are available, but they are looking for more interest in the community to be able to offer additional time. Works alongside Calvert Marine Museum for Sensory accommodating events as well as the upcoming Garden in lights (December 5th) in collaboration with Anne Marie Gardens. Summer camps are very popular over the past few years, providing 4-7 weeks depending on the program. All needs are accommodated for including behavior, hygiene, medication, feedings. A PCA is on site. Bussing available for the 4-week camp. The aquatic camp also very popular and considerations for expansion in the upcoming summer

being considered. Year round adaptive and Inclusive aquatics programs are available. There are offerings for assistance with program costs including the Therman Gray Scholarship (<https://www.calvertcountymd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/38343/-Therman-Gray-Scholarship-Fee-Assistance-Program-Information>) every quarter and the Therapeutic Recreation Scholarship. Liss funding can be used, as well as fundraising opportunities like the Annual Duck Race to assist with summer camp costs and fundraising. There is a new registration system that CCPR has implemented and families will have to set up their new accounts for their households in this system. Instructions are found here: [How To Sign Up For Calvert County Xplor - Customer View.pdf](#)

SECAC Awards

Joe asked for input regarding the upcoming SECAC awards. To be held at CHS on April 17th at 6:30pm. Ms. Nelson will reach out to CHS for additional confirmation of space. Keep both options for input – Microsoft online Forms and paper copies as needed. No input on any additional categories or changes in the firms. Would like to go out right after Christmas break. Ashton and Joe will work with CCPS communications and IEP chairpersons for distribution.

Directors Report/Treasury Report

- Dr. Anderson presented the current budget. Explained that the overage from last year is purposeful so there is no wasted funding. Presented opportunity and information for anyone to ask for scholarship to TASH conference that is being held in Baltimore this year. Registration is \$365 per person and could be requested as a scholarship prior to the Nov 29th deadline for registration. Please reach out to SECAC by 11/17 if you would like to be considered. There are teams from CCPS presenting at the conference. November 30th through December 2nd.
- Dr. Anderson commented that the October 20th PD parent panel was very impactful and looks forward to continuing the collaboration between Special education and it parents/community members.
- Announcement that Margo Gross, Special education Supervisor, has accepted a new role within CCPS as the Supervisor of Equity. We congratulate her and look forward to the hiring of a new supervisor in our department.
- Question asked if any other update to the audit findings. None currently, Dr. Anderson is happy with the progress and changes made in the process of reviewing the findings.
- December 9th, NHS, Ross Green associates to publicly present to CCPS and its community. More information to come.

Public Comment

- CCPS has welcomed a new Family Support Service Coordinator. Welcome Kristina Tchoumak. SECAC is still seeking a Vice Chair to finish the year term.
- Election information for remaining vacancies will come Spring. Please refer to our Bylaws for information regarding voting eligibility.
- BOE Meeting this Thursday. Thoughts on Calendar and other input please direct to Karen Maxey – MaxeyK@calvertnet.k12.md.us
- MSDE is seeking public input until November 9th regarding its Alternate Assessments percentage waiver. See our webpage for more information. <https://marylandpublicschools.org/programs/Pages/Special-Education/Waiver/index.aspx>

Calendar Items and Final Thoughts

- Calvert Basics – Next event November 10th at Calvert Country School

Future meeting dates: January 9th, February 13th, March 12th, April 17th (SECAC Awards), May 7th, June 11th (executive board meeting). All meetings are at 6:30pm and will be held virtually.

Mr. Cormier suggested that anyone who needs assistance/resources email him at joseph.somd.leaders@gmail.com

Meeting was adjourned at 7:33.