

# Meeting 05/15/24

Meeting start: 5:35pm

Introductions:

6 parents/ 1 admin (in-person) No attendance via ZOOM

- Karen Mowry presentation- We would like more information on transitions , Monica powerpoint from Karen so that we can post in on Facebook and the school website.
- Transitions and how can we make it easier for IEP kiddos, within the district.
- Middle school and high school flow chart for student services staff
- Have Karen or another advocate visit yearly, maybe toward the middle of the year since.

IEP Binder Event- super informational and participants felt Andrew had more information than the advocate.

Get his cards to pass out with SEPAC brochures. Make sure that parents know that NBCC will provide transportation. Have Andrew come again next year. Maybe a training/talk and IEP Binder Building if needed or interest arises. Plan this toward the beginning of the year?

DEIB meeting: Kristen Pallet.....joint meeting. Possibly June 10th or 11th. Appleblossom the Possum was a concern that parents are wanting brought up at this meeting. Only one activity was able to be done by bridges and two kids in a third grade classroom. Need to make events in the school more inclusive or let teachers and staff have more information ahead of time so that ALL kids can be included with a like option. Kids are advocating for themselves that there are issues with these events. Send any ideas for this meeting to the SEPAC email.

More exposure of students with disabilities, more inclusion. How do we get the district to help with this. Where can we help?

Students with disabilities make up 25% of the district student population. Monica was asked for the number of students that receive services and how many in each service at each school. We also want to see numbers from previous years, 5 years. Also kids that are on 504 plans. Waiting for this information.

Losing a full time PT position in the elementary school. We are also losing 1:1 and changing to a "special education staff model". Funding and staff cannot be a reason for lack of 1:1 support. Are other families going to be blind sided? Why are all of the cuts that we are seeing aimed at special education. Also, how are all families that have a 1:1 going to find out?

Why are there no reports to DESE on rejected IEPs? Told that they are being sent in to DESE, but DESE has nothing on file for the last 5 years. A student's amendment was also sent to another family with this amendment being stapled between the other child's amendment.

Staffing is an immediate concern

Clarification on why there are so many clerical issues.  
Asking parents how they want IEPs sent, DocuSign or hard copy?

Grant can be used but need to sit down with Monica to talk about a budget and how that will work for next year since the budget for school committee is already done for next year.

Meetings seem to be preferred on Wednesdays.

Event for next year- potluck or catered event to get parents to come and be social (meet and greet). Sub committee to help plan this for the start of the year. Make a sign up for planning this.

What events should we have tables at? Open houses for each school.

By-laws have been accepted and voted

Positions have been voted in and are as follows:  
Kristina Snyder- co-chair/ secretary  
Nichole Christman- co-chair/ Treasurer  
Jen Solak- co-chair/ Events and outreach coordinator

Question on school representative, ask Monica what that means, do we need three people from three schools or do we just need one person and this is already covered by Monica.

Best practice should be allowing all students to have access to visuals and other tools, this would also help with normalizing. This would help behaviors in classrooms as a whole, not just special education students.

How can we ensure communication between staff to know who in their class IEPs and that they have seen them. Jackie said that all teachers can access their students IEPs as it is accessible on Powerschool and teachers have to sign off that they have read it. It should be a requirement that at the start of the year all teachers read and sign off that they have read their students IEPs. How can this be enforced or implemented?

Next meeting date TBD, waiting to schedule with DEIB

Meeting end at 7:28pm