

Special Education Parent Advisory Committee
Meeting Notes
March 19, 2024

The Special Education Parent Advisory Committee (SEPAC) met on Tuesday, March 19, 2024, with 9 attendees joining via a TEAMS Webinar.

SEPAC Stakeholders Present: Katy Barnum, Tammy Graber, Kirstin Hanson, Siew Hoon Lim

SEPAC Stakeholders Absent: Kelly Ehli, Sarah Weisser, Kelli Bourke, Jason Cresap

Attendees: Shelby DiFonzo, Cassandra Jorgenson, Kim Myers, Kayla Taralson, Nicole

Schuler Chairperson Katy Barnum called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

Agenda was presented

- Approval of Minutes
- Approval of Agenda
- Assistant Director of Standard Based Instruction and Special Education presentation
 - HOPE Inc. - Bill Grommesh, Executive Director, Kelly Buhr, Office and Program Manager
 - Adaptive PE-Kim Myers, FPS and Kayla Taralson
 - Findings from OCR on hold until next meeting
- Recognition of audience
 - Please sign up through the chat option of the webinar. Each participant who signs up will have 3 minutes to make a public comment. This meeting is open to the public but is not a public forum. The primary focus of the meeting is the business listed on the agenda. Only the Council person will acknowledge public commentary. Please be assured, however, that all members are welcome and appreciate your comments.
- Success Stories/Feedback
- Work Group Updates
- Community Events/Resources
- Online suggestion box
- Review open stakeholder positions
 - Non-teaching staff
 - High School Student Representative
- Establish next meeting date
- Adjournment of meeting

Approval of minutes from January 16, 2024, on hold until next meeting

Tammy Graber moved to approve the agenda; Kirstin Hanson seconded the motion.

Special Education Leadership Updates:

- Ms. DiFonzo presented updates regarding graduation requirements starting in the 24-25 school year.

Presentations

- HOPE Inc. Bill Grommesh and Kelly Buhr presented information on services provided by HOPE Inc. Their mission is to provide family-friendly sporting and recreational opportunities critical to the health and development of children and adults living with mobility challenges.
- Kayla Taralson and Kim Myers provided information on Adapted Physical Education (APE) and where Fargo Public School is at in the process of piloting tools. Adapted Physical Education (APE), as defined by SHAPE, is modified physical education for students with disabilities, ensuring they receive effective services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). To qualify for APE, students must undergo evaluations measuring

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physical education areas per IDEA. Fargo Public Schools will initiate a pilot program in the spring of 2024. This pilot aims to develop eligibility criteria, procedural frameworks, and a comprehensive APE protocol for the 2024-25 academic year.

Recognition of audience

Chairperson Katy Barnum opened the floor for public comment.

- No public comment

Success Stories/Feedback

None

Work Group Updates

No workgroups at this time

Supporting our community

- ABLE games April 5-6
- ND DPI requesting input from parents and schools re: new target percentage for suspension/expulsion rates across state. Katy Barnum and Shelby DiFonzo have the link if interested.

Online suggestion box

Ms. DiFonzo stated on FPS website there is a section for comments/questions. Those pertaining to Special Education are sent to her.

Open Stakeholders positions

Non-teaching and High School Student Representative

Future Agenda Items

Review of minutes from January 16,2024 meeting

Findings from OCR

Meeting Timeline

The next FPS SEPAC meeting will be on Tuesday May 21, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

Are there topics you would like to discuss?

Please email Shelby DiFonzo @ difonzs@fargo.k12.nd.us