

Special Education Parent Advisory Committee

Meeting Notes

February 18, 2025

The Special Education Parent Advisory Committee (SEPAC) met on Tuesday, February 18, 2025, with 17 attendees joining via a TEAMS Webinar.



SEPAC Stakeholders Present: Katy Barnum, Julie Emery Hetland, Shelby DiFonzo, Siew Hoon Lim, Sarah Fries

SEPAC Stakeholders Absent: Kelli Bourke, Kelly Ehli, Scott Hanson, Kirstin Hanson, Jason Cresap

Attendees: Emily Hanson, Cassandra Jorgenson, Elizabeth Hilliard, Caitlin, Bijal, Jared, Britny, Sara Tommervik, Kathy Klath, Kattie, Erin Holdman, Nicole Schuler

Chairperson Katy Barnum called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm

Agenda was presented

- Approval of Minutes
 -  Final-November 19, 2024 SEPAC Meeting Notes .docx.pdf
- Approval of Agenda
- Nomination of the Co-Chair:
- Director of Special Education Committee presentation
 - TNT Able Games Presentation
 -  School AG 25 Flyer.pdf
 - Curriculum and Instruction Presentation
 - Cassie Jorgenson, Shanna Olschlager, Rachel Burcham
 - December 1, 2024 Official Child Count
 - Progress Reports and Grading for Students with IEPs in the General Education Setting
- 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
- Community Events/Resources
- Establish next meeting date
- Topics for next meeting
- Adjournment of meeting

Siew Hoon Lim moved to approve the Meeting Minutes from November 19, 2024, Julie Emery Hetland second the motion.

Julie Emery Hetland moved to approve the Agenda for tonight's meeting, Siew Hoon Lim second the motion.

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Nomination of the Co-Chair:

Siew Hoon Lim made a motion to nominate Julie Emery Hetland for the Co-Chair position,, Chairperson Katy Barnum second the motion. Julie Emery Hetland accepted the nomination.

Director of Special Education Committee Presentation:

Shelby DiFonzo, Director of Special Education

-  SEPAC 2_18_25
 - December Child Count numbers
 - Understanding Evidence Based Reporting (EBR) for students on IEPs
 - How grading works for students with IEPs
 - Collaborative and transparent reporting

TNT Able Games Presentation

- Kathy Klath from TNT presented information on the Able Games

Cassie Jorgenson, Special Education Curriculum & Instruction Coordinator

- Discussed curriculum and instruction in Special Education
- Collaboration between general education and Special Education teachers

Recognition of Audience

Chairperson Katy Barnum opened the floor for public comment

- No public comment

Success Stories/Feedback

- Shelby DiFonzo gave a shout out to coordinators Cassandra Jorgenson, Jolene Schue, Kim Myers and Emily Hanson for their work with the STAR and LINKS programs.
- Julie Emery Hetland recognized the teamwork between students and Special Education teachers

Community Events/Resources Available

- The Able games will be held May 2, 2025. More information can be found on the TNT Fitness website.
- We Rock the Spectrum Kids Gym a sensory-friendly indoor play gym for all kids. Information can be found by clicking this link: [Kids Gym Indoor Playground | We Rock the Spectrum - North Dakota |](#)

Meeting Timeline

- The next FPS SEPAC meeting is scheduled for May 20, 2025 at 5:30 pm

The meeting adjourned at 6:18 pm

Are there topics you would like to discuss?

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