

ALLEN PARK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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ALLEN PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION WORK SESSION MINUTES • December 9, 2024

DRAFT ☐

APPROVED ☒

The work session of the Allen Park Board of Education was held on Monday, November 11, 2024, at 6:05 p.m. at Riley Education Center Gym/Cafeteria, 9601 Vine, Allen Park, MI 48101.

The work session was called to order/Instruction for Public Comments: President Warren

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call/Present: Babbage, Filipiak, Klein, Luecke, MacDonald, Martin, Warren

2024-165	<p>Motion by Vice President Filipiak, supported by Treasurer Martin, that the December 9th work session agenda be approved as presented: Yeas: Babbage, Filipiak, Klein, Luecke, MacDonald, Martin, Warren Nays: None <u>MOTION CARRIED.</u></p>
	<p>Special Education Discussion – Dr. Matthew Sokol Elementary Resource Room: Dr. Sokol addressed the board to discuss current staffing issues in the special education department for the elementary schools. This need became apparent in the most recent data dives, we still aren't seeing the growth that we need to see in the elementary schools. The proposed solution is to post for one additional elementary resource room teacher.</p> <p>Preschool Mental Health Needs: We have 4 GSRP, 3 tuition based and one ECP (210 students). Taylor Cuddy is covering speech at preschool in addition to the elementary buildings. Marissa Tringali currently works with ECP students because those students came from Arno. Kathy Weaver (HS and Cabrini) is coming to the preschool on an as needed basis. There are a lot of issues and need for resources. She does a great job but needs to drop everything when there is a PS crisis. Wants to hire one SSW or Psychologist to work with the PS program including ECP. Hoping to work with families on regular basis and try to prevent some of the issues that are happening. If they do this, Marissa and Kathy would be able to go back to their assignments full time. Staffing is difficult so he would like to post for both and see what we get.</p> <p>3-5 Cross Categorical Programming: We put K-2 cross cat in place after Covid and it has been such a success in providing the students what they require. He has heard from staff and parents about growing sentiment about how we need to open up 3-5 cross cat programming. Legally our students need to be educated in the least restricted area possible. RESA said we may be over-programming but Dr. Sokol wants to make sure we are providing education that is meaningful to them, not just pushing them into a gen ed classroom. It would be very beneficial. Staffing would stay the same and same ratio for K-2. The team is already set up and it would be for Fall of 2025.</p> <p>Dr. Sokol answered all of the questions presented by the board members.</p>
	<p>Kiwanis Corporate Membership Mr. Darga was visiting Liberati's and Frank Liberati asked that he gave the board the information about the Kiwanis Corporate Membership. This is only \$150 per year and if this is something that the board is interested in we can put it on an upcoming agenda. Mr. Darga will gather more information.</p>
	<p>Citizens' Comments: There were two citizen's comments at this time by Kendra Payette-Linn and Kathy Weaver regarding mental health.</p>
	<p>The meeting was adjourned by President Warren at 6:52 p.m.</p>

Respectfully Submitted,


Laura M. Luecke, Board Secretary