

Home/Hospital Planning Committee

Wednesday, November 18, 2015 – 7:30AM

Present: Brenda Ellison, Candace Rubin, Eva Zweifler, Lisa Silverstein, Lincoln Cromwell, Lauri Davis

1. Minutes of October 14th, 2015 Meeting: Approved
2. Chrome Books: Glen VanDerWater told Brenda the district is phasing out Netbooks and is working on supplying us with Chrome books as soon as possible.
3. SLOs: Adam Urbanski's position is that H/H Teachers shouldn't have to write SLOs, as we shouldn't receive composite scores. Brenda was told that it is legislation and that we have to comply. However if we do not, by default, the district will complete our SLOs for us. We should never qualify for composite scores, as statistically we don't fit the model. For those teachers who have received scores, they can be appealed and overturned.
4. Teacher Changes: If a student and teacher are not a good fit, a teacher switch can make a big difference. We asked what the protocol is to make these kinds of changes. Brenda said an individual request must come to her with a rationale behind the request. Any trouble should be brought to Brenda's attention immediately, not just in an email – although having a paper trail is also a good idea. Parents can also make a request for a teacher change.
5. Staffing Levels: We asked about our numbers. Brenda reported we are close to full and Central Office is aware we might need to hire Special Ed and regular subs soon. The math teachers will be pulled, as necessary. We also do have a handful of teachers who can work with the higher level math students.
6. Five-Day Suspensions: Eva and Candace reported that there is a precedent for a three or five day suspension from home instruction for assault by a student to a home instruction teacher. We will look for documentation and Brenda will discuss it with legal.
7. Addition of Counselor: We have a new .5 counselor to work with home instruction, effective Monday, November 23rd. Kim Valilee has been helping Kelly with schedules, if there isn't one in the system. Hopefully the new counselor can work on identifying students in need of January Regents exams.
8. Autism PD: Brenda agrees that this would be a valuable PD, as autistic students can behave completely differently from students with learning disabilities. We should outreach to the district autism team.
9. Old Business: Operating Procedures - Brenda said Candace should see her to set up a time to review our proposed changes.
10. New Business: A request was put in to have a PD: "Designing and Implementing Social Studies Inquiry for Grades 7-12" on April 13th. The wording needs to include all H/H Teachers, but it was approved. As of January 1st, the Director's Office at Strong Hospital is ending their validation for free parking. They sent a letter to Central Office regarding this. While we can submit our parking to the district for reimbursement, it would behoove the district to reach out to Golisano Children's Hospital to see if they are willing to provide free parking to our teachers.

Next Planning Meeting: December 9th, 2015 – 7:30AM (Postponed until 12/16)