SNAC 

Special Needs Advisory Council

Nantucket, Massachusetts

Laura Steele, Suzanne Fronzuto – Co-Chairs

SNAC Meeting Minutes

September 21, 2022

(**Note**: The meeting was held In-Person in NHS Cafeteria and via Zoom

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:00 PM with 11 people in attendance at the start of the meeting. Co-chair Laura Steele opened with greetings and introductions. The minutes from the May 18, 2022 meeting were accepted.

New Business:

- Election of Board & Building Reps

  SNAC positions for the 2022-2023 year have been assigned and voted on as follows:

Co-Chairs:	*Suzanne Fronzuto and Laura Steele*
Secretary:	*Lora Kebbati*
NES Liaison:	*Grace Hull*
NIS Liaison:	*Sarah Hollis*
CPS Liaison:	*Laura Steele*
NHS Liaison:	Venka Gazaille
FONPS Liaison:	*Kristen Dussault*
New School Liaison:	*Grace Hull*
Lighthouse School Liaison:	*Allison Johnson*
Social Media Liaison:	*TBD*

- SNAC representation at the upcoming Open House events is planned as follows:

SCHOOL	DATE	SNAC REP(s)
NES	Mon 09/26/22	Laura Steele, Allison Johnson
NIS	Tue 09/27/22	Sarah Hollis, Venka Gazaille
CPS	Mon 10/03/22	Lora Kebbati, Suzanne Fronzuto
NHS	Thu 10/13/22	Grace Hull, Suzanne Fronzuto

Coverage is subject to adjustment based on scheduling changes

The SNAC is organized to empower parents, school staff and community professionals to collaborate in a positive decision making process to plan and implement educational programs for students with special needs.

The SNAC will support, guide, advocate, advise and educate parents, Nantucket schools, and the community on the rights and needs of children with disabilities and their families.

Director Update:

- Deb Gately, Director of Special Services

  (The Director's update, as attached to these minutes, is incorporated by reference.)

Other Discussion:

- Laura Steele met with fellow co-chair Suzanne Fronzuto to discuss goals, topics of interest and presentations for future meetings. She spoke with the new NPS transition specialist Jennifer Christiansen, and an introduction/presentation by Jennifer is planned for a near future SNAC meeting.
- Venka Gazaille shared her journey and experience as a life coach specializing in ADHD. Plans for a full presentation at a future SNAC meeting or more formal workshop were discussed.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:00 PM. The next meeting of the SNAC is October 19, 2022 at 5:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lora Kebbati, Secretary of SNAC.
Approved through a vote of SNAC members on _____

Special Services Director's Report
SNAC - September 21, 2022

- Procedural Safeguards were emailed to all families on September 9, 2022. Additional copies will be available to families at scheduled team meetings throughout the year.

- The Special Services Department has welcomed new staff members this year including:
    - Renee Printz - Administrative Assistant to the Director
    - Jennifer Christiansen - Transition Specialist
    - Lisa Ouimet - BCBA
    - Tina Steadman - Pre-K - NES
    - Blythe Purdin - Grade 1 NES
    - Marissa Pellegrino - Grades 3-4 LBLD - NIS
    - Jenny Williams - School Counselor - NES
    - Madeleine Sybert - Social Worker - NES
    - Katie Manchester - School Counselor - NIS
    - Julie Salisbury - School Counselor - CPS
    - Frederick Eruchalu - School Counselor - CPS
    - Pam Pellegrino - School Counselor - CPS
    - Nicole Sandoval - Social Worker Intern - CPS/NHS
    - Jessica Snow - SEL Counselor - CPS/NHS
    - Heather Freeman - contracted provider for CPS Speech and Language
    - Several Teaching Assistants District Wide with many positions still open

- We have started the year with the following positions still open:
    - 2 school psychologists
    - 1 speech pathologist for NHS

- Report on ESY
    - Successful program during Summer 2022
    - Inclusion students were paired with Title I summer program students
    - IDSC programs ran as independent programs but students participated in adaptive specials and went on field trips with all students.
    - For the first time in a long while we had an in person Physical Therapist on the island and remote occupational therapists from the Boston Ability Center.

- Special Education staff participated in professional development at the beginning of the year on the new IEP program- EdPlan - we hope to have it up and running by December 2022.

- Planning and coordination is underway for our IDSC Transition/Vocational students to go to Our House to engage in activities of daily living and functional life skills.

- Introduction of Healthy Relationships Curriculum in IDSC programming Grades 1 through Transition/Vocational.

- We are preparing for six Pre-K and four K-8 Child Find sessions for 21-22.

- We would like to have Jennifer Christiansen attend the October SNAC meeting for our community to meet her and to have her share what she has done so far in the district.