

SEPAG Meeting Minutes – October 6, 2025

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Manito Library

Prepared by: Kelly Falcon, SEPAG Chair

1. Welcome & Opening Notes

Meeting commenced at 7:00 PM. Livestream option was discussed and declined by the district.

2. District Presentation

District Representatives Present:

- Dr. Manganelli – Supervisor of Special Services
- Ms. Seton Feeney – School Social Worker

Overview of Special Services and Roles:

Dr. Manganelli:

- Child Study Team (CST)
- Related Services: Speech, Occupational Therapy (OT), Physical Therapy (PT)
- Special Education Teachers
- Outside Services & Out-of-District (OOD) placements
- One BCBA currently employed (hired last year)

Student Services (Ms. Zimmerle):

- Counseling, ESL, Nursing, Gifted & Talented, TOPS Program

Social Work & Intervention (Ms. Seton Feeney):

- Member of Crisis Response and I&RS Committee
- Referral process can be initiated by school staff or parents
- Reference to NJ Administrative Code for Special Education / PRISE (online)

Staffing Updates:

- Second full-time Occupational Therapist hired – start date in December
- Fifth full-time Speech Therapist hired

3. Testing & Assessment Updates

Adaptive Testing:

- Scheduled rollout in Spring
- Includes State Math and ELA Assessments

DIBELS (Now M-Class):

- Updated system implemented
- Administered twice per school year

4. Parent Discussion & Concerns

Communication and IEP Collaboration:

- Parents expressed desire for streamlined communication and clear personnel roles
- Parents reminded they are equal members of the IEP team
- Encouraged to request data, ask for measurable goals, and request service logs

Future SEPAG Meeting Topics Suggested:

- Meaningful IEP goal development
- Addressing district noncompliance, including lack of Prior Written Notice (PWN)

New Legal Requirement:

- District must provide written notice 2 days prior to IEP meetings
- Notice must include Present Levels and list of participants

State Survey:

- Oakland Special Services participated in a state survey; data coded by district
- Parents requested timeline for public access to findings

Standardized Testing:

- Testing not listed in IEPs below 3rd grade but still administered
- Parents requested discussion on disability impact and accommodations
- Suggested goal development to address adaptive test engagement

5. Program Concerns – TOPS

Safety issues during drop-off/pick-up:

- Cars and large trucks moving through parking lot
- Bus blocking entrance

- Construction vehicle concerns and worker smoking

Recommendation:

- Consider separate bus drop-off/pick-up times to improve safety

6. Action Items & Follow-Up

- Schedule next SEPAG Meeting and release meeting agenda
- Plan session on addressing district noncompliance
- Request release timeline for State Survey data
- Raise TOPS safety concerns with administration

7. Meeting Adjournment

Meeting concluded at approximately 8:30 pm.

Next SEPAG session topic to be confirmed and communicated to parents.