The Methacton Special Education Alliance Home and School Association

1001 Kriebel Mill Road,
Eagleville, PA 19403
seamethacton@gmail.com

Thursday, November 13 2025, 7:00 pm - Skyview Upper Elementary Library

Attendees: **Jodi Kohar, Tara Ryan-Schill, Amy Hofmann, Diane Greeley, Reba Mann, Erin Wiggle, Jessica Ragusa, Nerissa Spampanato, Amy Smith, Joelle Mensch**

1. Motion to Open Meeting: 7:07 pm
    a. Motion to approve by: Reba Mann, 2nd by: Erin Wiggle.
2. Motion to Approve Meeting Agenda with Flexibility:
    a. Motion to approve by: Tara Ryan-Schill, 2nd by: Amy Smith.
3. Motion to Approve Meeting minutes from October 6, 2025:
    a. Motion to approve by: Tara Ryan-Schill, 2nd by: Reba Mann.
4. Reports
    a. Administrator's Report - Dr. Gravinese

        Friendly Reminder: Please keep your questions general and refrain from asking about individual cases or specific IEPs, GIEPs, or 504 plans, as we won't be able to address them in this meeting. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation!

    b. Mrs. Joelle Mensch - Special Education Supervisor, Grades 9-12
        i. Also helps with psychologists as a group because training and background are in counseling
        ii. Progress monitoring released 11.17
        iii. 12.1 child count due: all IEPs need to be finalized by 11.24
        iv. Belonging efforts
            1. Michaela Whitehouse-Zelli, new Climate and Belonging Facilitator, current HS English Dept teacher
                a. Mapping out her responsibilities now
                b. Mapping out for building liaisons as well
                c. Restorative practices will be a focus
                d. Attending building meetings to meet all of the staff
                e. International student fair will also be a responsibility
        v. Unified Sports/Activities at the high school
            1. **Best Buddies Club:** student-led that promotes inclusion, friendship, understanding, visible/invisible disabilities, shared experiences and activities, long-term, lasting connectivity to school and community, international organization, rolling

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membership, Google classroom for students to join with announcements, parents get emails with the events, monitored for staffing if needed, use Remind app, club meetings are once a month for about an hour after school in the cafeteria, usually 2 events a month

2. **Unified Sports**: two throughout the year, "sports for everyone," opportunities for shared experiences, growing and learning, Bocce fall/winter, track winter/spring, school pride, inclusion, teamwork, collaboration, varsity letters for involvement, if participation is every year of HS will receive a 4 year varsity award at the senior awards ceremony, need to fill out athletic forms and physical forms, can't participate in Unified and another full time sport due to scheduling, "athletes" and "partners" are the correct terms, can also make either the competition team or the practice team, skills assessments determine placement, teams have ratios for athletes to partners, all members are members of the club, Bocce November 17-March 1, Track and Field March 2-May 15
3. **Special Olympics:** Mrs. Mensch is now overseeing it, only two students registered so far, please fill out the interest form that was sent out to register your child, Special Olympics is at Spring-Ford on May 6th (raindate May 7th), student needs to be at least 8 years old by May 6th, students with developmental and intellectual disabilities qualify to participate
4. **PAES Lab**
    a. Practical assessment exploration system
    b. Hands-on, simulated work environment that allows students to
        i. Explore a wide range of career fields
        ii. Learn and practice job skills
        iii. Build independence and workplace readiness
        iv. Develop soft skills such as teamwork, responsibility and problem-solving
    c. Mobile unit from MCIU travels to the high school
    d. This is for students who will likely stay in the district until age 22
    e. Careers
        i. business/marketing
        ii. Computer technology
        iii. construction/industrial skills
        iv. consumer/service skills
        v. processing/production
    f. Data collection to work on tasks again with feedback to develop career insights

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g. When the students are close to post-high school transition, it's helpful to guide those transition goals with what they are interested in through this exposure

5. **Apartment program:** looking to brainstorm on this, working on program description, bridge between school and home life, fostering independence, empower with skills and confidence
6. **OVR information sessions:** all special education students are eligible, identified through direct-instruction English classes, all students get information on it for transition services from counselors, we can get more information from the transition coordinator

c. President's Report - Jodi Kohar
   i. October Fall Family Social: about 30 Key Club high school volunteers staffed it, about 100 attendees
   ii. NOREP virtual presentation in November was a success
   iii. Unity Day t-shirts, 80 orders were placed over a few day period!

d. Vice President's Report - Reba Mann
   i. Committees
      1. Fundraising - Jodi / Amy
         a. MERCH! - Amy
            i. Checks will come quarterly
            ii. Should have first amount update at next meeting
         b. Reading Phils: will start promoting mid December
         c. Kendra Scott
            i. December 7th 2pm to 4pm in store in KOP
            ii. Need to mention SEA at the register
            iii. Can use online code Sunday the 7th to Monday the 8th
            iv. We have a signature piece selected as well (see flyers)
      2. Social Events
         a. Variety Club Holiday Lane: we will go as a group on Friday December 5th
            i. Best Buddies are going Friday the 5th
            ii. Thursday the 4th is drive through only
            iii. Saturday the 6th is the last evening
            iv. There is a lot of activity across the campus and lots to do and see!
      3. Presentation updates
         a. Waiting for information from the inclusive for February, no topic yet
         b. Financial planning presentation will be scheduled for February
         c. Effective communication on IEP teams will be scheduled for April

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4. Representative Joe Webster resource fair January 25th from 1pm to 5pm at the Expo center in Oaks. It is FREE to attend.
5. Methacton Post Prom
    a. Sensory hour: working on improving logistics for students who want to participate
    b. 1:1s are okay for prom and sensory hour but advance notice is helpful so the district can secure staffing
6. Best Buddies update
    a. Alice in Wonderland at the HS Friday November 14th
    b. Friendsgiving November 21st
    c. Variety Club Holiday Lane December 5th
    d. Cookies and Cocoa Holiday Party December 22nd
7. Unified Sports
    a. Schedule begins on Monday, see website
8. CHOP ADHD Driving study: contact SEAvpMethacton@gmail.com for more information
9. Facebook post on survey
10. Waivers basic Workshops through Vision for Equality and PA Family Network

e. Treasurer's Report - Tara Ryan-Schill
    i. $3055.12 current balance
f. Secretary's Report - Amy Smith, no report
g. MCC Update: no report, meeting is next week
h. MSD Board of Directors Update: no update

5. Old Business
    a. 2025 Book Donations: each building's liaison will deliver to building librarians over the next couple of weeks
6. New Business
    a. Learning what changes at federal level are starting to mean: The PEAL Center presentation encouraged communication to your legislators to communicate your priorities
    b. Montco Works Now:
        i. Students 14 to 21
        ii. Free service for those with a disability that may have barriers to transition
    c. Career Fair at the high school tomorrow
7. Adjournment: 8:42 pm

    Motion to approve by: Amy Smith, 2nd by: Erin Wiggle.

Mark Your Calendars

SEA Home & School Meeting dates:

- ~~October 6,2025~~

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- November 13, 2025
- January 29, 2026
- March 26,2026
- May 28, 2026

Presentation dates: (Thursdays, Dates subject to change depending on availability of presenters and District events)

- ~~October 2025~~
- December 2025
- February 2026
- April 2026

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