

**Home Hospital Program Planning Meeting  
Tuesday, November 4th, 2025 ~ 8:00AM**

**\*Present:** Chris Smith, Lisa Silverstein, Pat Cain, Jill Paris,  
Roger Rouse, and Sarah Spano

- 1) **Old Business:** September 30th planning meeting minutes were reviewed. Chris would like to amend #6 to add a sentence at the end.\*  
  
**6) Teacher Coverage for Conferences:** Chris stated that conference days will not be approved this year for HH Teachers with assigned students, as he believes direct instruction and student needs take priority. Teachers offered to provide coverage for one another when attending conferences. Chris referenced the HH Operating Procedures which state, *"The district will provide a substitute teacher when an HH Teacher is absent for more than 3 days."* Teachers indicated willingness to override that provision in this instance, but Chris declined. **\*He said we can not change the policy for the benefit of the teacher when we do not do it for the student.**
- 2) **Number of Students/Hospital Plan:** We currently only have a few openings left for students. We asked whether there is a plan for servicing students in the Child & Adolescent Psychiatric Program at Strong once all teachers have full assignments. Chris said he will address this if and when it becomes an issue; at this time, it is not a problem.
- 3) **Parent Recording of Instruction:** As technology has become more sophisticated and affordable, teachers have begun noticing security cameras in many homes. Lisa shared some online guidance (see below\*\*) that may apply to our situation. Chris said he would send this to the law department to help craft a statement for parents, possibly to be included in our intake materials.
- 4) **Supply Ordering Update:** We should continue to direct all supply needs to Velvet. If any orders require approval, Velvet will coordinate with Chris to obtain necessary authorization.
- 5) **New Business:** none.

**Next Program Planning Meeting:** Tuesday, January 13th, at 3:00pm.

\*\*For consideration regarding parent recording of instruction :

Under **New York's one-party consent law**, a conversation may only be recorded if at least one participant consents. This rule is established under **New York Penal Law §§ 250.00 and 250.05**, which define *eavesdropping* as the unlawful use of any instrument or device to overhear or record a private conversation without the consent of at least one party to that conversation.

In a **home instruction session** where the **parent is not present** and **neither the teacher nor the student consents**, there is **no lawful party providing consent**. Because a **minor child cannot legally give consent**, a parent recording the session from outside the room would be violating New York's eavesdropping statute (**N.Y. Penal Law § 250.05**).

The limited **"vicarious consent" exception** recognized by courts allows a parent to consent on behalf of a child *only* when the parent has a good-faith belief that recording is necessary to protect the child's welfare (for example, in cases of suspected abuse). This narrow exception does **not apply** in typical educational or instructional contexts.

Therefore, such a recording would not meet the requirements of New York's one-party consent rule and could constitute an **unlawful interception of a private communication** under **N.Y. Penal Law § 250.05**.