CALL TO ORDER

Announcement of Spanish Language Translation Services

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Minutes from 1.16.20
   -Dani
   -second: Mailie

Public Comment

Nona: Were not notified the Admin left and many turned in mileage and it’s lost in limbo. Sent back in January and it’s still sitting there. No one has called back.
Irene: interim admin was using Jennifer’s email.
Nona: Sent to Sharon Neves
Celeste: Can district send an email out to SpecEd parents with the new admin info for them to access for communications.
Charles: apologizes. Ann Marie Paparelli is the new Admin for Student Services. Game email address.
Mailie: The high school play is going on. The Crucible and her son is working the door! Feb 28 - March 1 weekends at 7pm & Sunday 2pm matinee.
Tom Young: Son was a full inclusion student. This committee is needed and great.

Reports

1. District Office
Charles: Ed Services Dept specific to SpecEd - Big thing being worked on is Differentiated Assistance program for over qualifying students for SpecEd. Requires investigation into why. Is there a need or other reasons? Part of the process is looking at things systemically and access to FAPE. Analysis of kids in RSP at the high school and who are receiving D’s and F’s and systems to monitor that and address it. This is the time when the Master Schedule is planned and this impacts budgeting needs and includes what is needed for the students, especially in terms of extra support. Another area is around culture and climate: students who are receiving suspensions (including in school suspensions) especially kids who have an IEP. Watch to see if there is a need for a Manifestation Determination at the 10th day of suspension which is the legal limit (cumulatively). What does it look like to set a threshold at 5 days to do a proactive MD meeting.
   MD: Is the behavior that resulted in the discipline a manifestation of the disability and not punishing kids for something that is not in their control.
Today was the SpecEd Director interview panel.
Ashley: A lot of systems need to be built. Now there are times when the whole SpecEd team are meeting and having pro-active meetings to collaborate about specific needs. It’s been fun to watch and going into next year it will take place more. People are seeing how much easier it is when the team is coming together and involving parents. Spent time talking about LPAC and presented.

Irene: LPAC: English Language Assessments - 15% are SpecEd as well. Opportunity to look at the assessment and support. Cannot be excluded from LPAC but are allowed to do an exemption from one of the areas (Reading, speaking, listening, writing). Team can request that. Should we be keeping students as Eng Learners if their disability prevents them reclassifying them the traditional way.

Charles: Building on the collaboration of teams that Ashley discussed. This approach is MTSS and is being adopted at a district level. Tiers: First level 80% of kids, 10-15% kids, 5% who really need support. This is not special education. This is not the kids “fault” this is an issue of instruction and the instruction is what needs to change. These teams come together to develop support. System wide approach.

Hervy: Had Dept meeting with all department heads in secondary and placing kids appropriately in classes. Guidelines in placements. PIR: State wants at least 49% of SpecEd students in GenEd or more. Conversations around schedule changes down the road. Looking at more of a push in model and get kids in more GenEd. Learning Center model as well and in combination with intervention. Align with the middle schools with interventions and the kids don’t have to start a new program when they move from the Middle to the High School. Currently a 6 period day, if you have 2 classes you are at 28% in SpecEd. Kids are not getting full GenEd content and rigor.

Celeste: Where are we at with the changes to the master schedule so that EL and SpecEd kids don’t have to take zero period to get electives?

Hervy: that is in planning and discussion for 2020-2021 school year.

Charles: the approach being taken we cannot offer mandatory classes like ELD and required classes for IEP in an invitation zero period and not having access to the full gamut of electives. It is extremely challenging to change that system. Acutely aware of this and moving it as quickly as possible.

Teacher Rep: anticipate for this coming year?

Hervy: Perhaps. It’s a way bigger thing so that is still up for planning. Labor contracts.

Celeste: This is actually an OCR issue and a civil rights issue for students who belong to protected classes.

Charles: this is something we have to say louder and more frequently to get traction. It is like undoing a swiss clock.

Hervy: Looking at the learning center model and ELD and interventions can come in a Learning Center model. 45 min of direct instruction and then kids can go to their intervention. Then they don’t have to take a whole class for ELD and then reading programs etc can be done with fidelity.

Celeste: Fidelity is an issue with the block schedules as they stand.

Nona: 90 minutes of math for kids with learning differences is too much and too hard. Typical ADHD students cannot sit through 90n minutes but at Middle School and High School they don’t want to stand out and it makes them feel more ostracized. Even NT kids that are too long. Then PE every other day there are physical fitness issues. This creates more challenges.

2. Council member reports
Lisa Bell:
- Sassarini had no speech. They hired someone and that person left and they have no speech again. Parents have not been notified.
- Ashley: interviewed someone who is one semester away from SLP. Will be a SLIPPA and work under an SLP. Kids not being served and have been in contact with Elizabeth and the SLIPPA about parent notification.
- Lisa: Timeline? IEP’s coming up. Big issue. Families need to know, that is the bottom line.
- Celeste: Who will be calculating the minutes lost? How will parents be notified they are entitled to Compensatory Education?
- Ashley will notify. Will follow up next month with how that was resolved.
- Celeste: requested a copy of the notification be sent to the SEAC.

AGENDA

1. Special Education Moment - The Purpose of IDEA: Further education, employment and independent living.

2. College and Career Fair for Special Education Update………………………………….Information

Update with who was there and Lily’s senior project.
It was a wonderful event. Many students and families were excited that the opportunity was created for them. Many expressed they would like to see it continue as an ongoing event.

3. ESY

Update…………………………………………………………………………………………….Information

March 1 ESY offers
Hervey: will get back to Hervey with those numbers
Celeste: Is Hervy the principal this year
Hervey: doing the front work to get people hired, transportation.
Celeste:

4. Special Olympics: Tom Young

………………………………………………………………………………………………Information

- Jan Erickson
This presentation was recorded as a Facebook Live video on the SEAC Facebook page.
Lisa: request to get the flyer translated and sent out on peachjar as well.

5. Agenda Items for March

Hervey: Learning Center Models
Lily: College Career Fair

ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting:
- Thursday, March 26, 2020 from 6pm - 7:30pm at District Office