

Special Education Ad Hoc Committee Meeting Agenda
May 1, 2014 – 5:30 pm, Board of Education Offices

1. Follow up from last meeting – commentary or questions
 - In attendance: Ginger Brown, Ruth Shilkowski, Gretchen Magel, Jennifer Hunter, Kathy Alberici, Janice Simonetti, Kathy Bender, Liz Wesolowski, Freeman Burr (briefly)
 - Minutes are posted from the last meeting
 - Reporting back to school PTOs -evolving the relationship between the school reps to keep dialogue open
 - We will post the upcoming meetings on the main district website

2. Continued discussion of committee structures, function and parameters
 - Meet every two months, starting in September, on the third Wednesday of every month.
 - Committee members to report back to their local PTOs after each meeting
 - Sending agenda items in advance

3. ESY planning update
 - Admins have met with Darla Lussier, ESY coordinator
 - Elementary students to have name tag with their name, teacher name, and bus number
 - All jobs have been posted
 - We have started to collect data on students to create caseloads for ESY on a rolling basis. Aiming to reduce any last minute planning, as much as is possible.
 - Solicited input from curriculum leaders and school psychologists to ensure a smooth start and transition
 - Parent input - ensure that the ESY programming is robust
 - Summer programs with community trips are worthwhile for ESY - parent feedback
 - Mrs. Bender indicated that the district will look again at how students are grouped, the possibility of community outings for specific groups, and sending out information to parents as early as possible.

4. Out of District and 504 committee member representation
 - All were in agreement to include
 - Parents will send names if they have any suggestions
 - Hope to have reps for September meeting

5. Feedback on website

- Looking to make this meaningful and useful
- Parents to provide feedback
- Summer project - to look at local districts' websites
- Explanation of assessments and what they purport to look at
- Explanation of acronyms - dictionary

6. Topics for potential parent trainings conducted by the district

- How to plan for an effective PPT meeting
- Breaking down the IEP
- Special education laws and procedures
- Transition - how do parents plan for it and the meeting - what's available in the 18- 21 program

7. Futures Consulting Group

- A special education consultative group who came five years ago. We have solicited their follow up consultation for this spring.
- The goal of the consultation will be to look at vertical articulation of sped programs and horizontal alignment, now that PHS has been open a few years
- Futures will be issuing a parent survey, to be sent to ad hoc committee members.

8. Parent input/feedback

- Community service - Since this is required for graduation, consider providing support during community service - has to be a nonprofit charitable organization. Request to look into supports that are appropriate and available.
- Shelton High School calendar - not updated regularly on the website, at times parents do not know about school events if students do not report them.
- Email blasts will be created by committee reps at the beginning of next school year, case managers will provide parents with an alert as to who their building rep is. Parents can email the rep to opt in to any email blasts from committee reps.
- Diversity day - consider starting it up next year in the fall

Next meeting - [September 17, 2014 at 5:30 pm](#)