

**Local Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)
Prince George Public Schools, VA (Region I)**

Meeting Minutes

January 17, 2019

- Members in attendance: William Gandel, Kim Lee, Larry Hahn, Kathy Mitchell, Elizabeth Griffith, Adrainne Thomas, Mark Simpson, and Cynthia White. Ms. Zetta Ethington and Jennifer McGuire participated as consultants from the Student Services office.
- Chairperson Lee called the meeting to order at approximately 5:12 pm.
- There were no visitors to address the Committee during the available Public Forum Period, so there were no public comments.
- Past Business:
 - Members reviewed the minutes to the previous meeting (November 29, 2018). The minutes were approved without further change.
- New Business:
 - A warm welcome was given to our new members Dr. Adrainne Thomas and Elizabeth Griffith. Dr. Thomas discussed current trends in the career field of Special Education from the perspective of up and coming college students. She talked about the perceived challenges with recruiting. One of the obstacles discussed was that students perceive there is a excessive amount of required paper work necessary for the career field.
 - Preparation for the upcoming social activity was discussed and the following were proposed.
 - Location: Prince George Public Library
 - Proposed Dates: February 21, 2019 was selected as the primary date with February 28, 2019 as the alternate.
 - Time: 6:00 to 8:00 pm or 5:00 to 7:00 pm depending on allowable hours at the Library.
 - Facebook participation was discussed and the number of posts/likes for was reported. SEAC activity in the social space and on-line continues to be encouraged.
 - Chairman Lee review the survey questionnaires and possible future actions based on the responses previously received. Various school sponsored training offerings and sessions were described and discussed. A new online “Teachers Academy” had been established. These program were good attempts to gain positive results and were seen as warranted.
 - The four points where SEAC could change for positive and effective results was tabled until later. Chairperson will follow-up via email.
 - The Special Olympics Report was given by Ms. Mitchell.
 - The Polar Plunge will be held on February 5, 2019.
 - Bowling, Swimming, and a Soccer Team are all underway.

- These events are greatly supported by the soldiers at Fort Lee and the P.G. Police Department.
 - Ms. Ethington reported on current staffing levels and the use of contract teachers was also described. Currently, there is one vacancy for a teacher and interviews are scheduled.
 - The annual plan which is due on March 1st must approved by the SEAC prior to it being acted on by the School Board. Review of that plan needs to be accomplished on or about February 1st.
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- The next meeting will be the social event that will be held on February 28, 2018.
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 - The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:15 pm.

LAST ENTRY