

MINUTES

SECAC

October 10, 2024

In Attendance

Jeanne Erdley, Kara Stone, Suzanne Oshinsky, Colleen Sasdelli, Megan Fitzgerald, Lo-An Fine, Kim Heeter, Ken Miller, Amanda Baroch, Brenda Walker, Carol Bruce, Carey Reise, Cathy Bendis, Gail Stone, Jessica ____, Karen Baumeister, Katie York, Kristy Gizinski, Lauren Harper, Matt Bedsaul, Melissa Copeland, Michelle DiGiorgio, Rebecca Maison, Sarah Walter, Tina Hockaday, Tracy Masur, Carie Sadowski, Shannon Clark

Welcome & Announcements

1. Welcome from SECAC.
2. Introduction of SECAC Board Members
3. SECAC Board Elections – Nominations by May. Election in June. All Board positions are available.
4. Upcoming Meeting: November 14th – How to Communicate Effectively Without Feeling Overwhelmed in an IEP Meeting – Charmaine Thaner
5. Notices for Community Events are through Facebook group and/or Email list.
6. Please leave questions and comments in the chat. It is being monitored.

Presentation – Back to School / HCPS Special Education – Colleen Sasdelli, Cathy Bendis, Ken Miller

- I. Special Education
 - a. Special Education has grown 14% since the 21/22 school year,
 - b. More than 80% of those students are in general education classes.
 - c. STRIVE classrooms have been added to Southampton and Deerfield.
 - d. Learning Together was added to Emmorton.
 - e. New STRIVE programs at Abingdon, Forest Hill, Hickory and Roye Williams.
 - f. Classroom Support Program added to BelAir High.
- II. New Staff
 - a. BCBA's
 - b. Non-public teacher specialists
 - c. SLP's
 - d. OT
 - e. 23 inclusion helpers
- III. IEP Changes
 - a. Parental rights booklet has been updated with some changes in language.
 - b. Certificate vs diploma will be stated with projected date of exit.
- IV. Priorities for the Board of Education
 - a. Student Achievement
 - i. Wants to eliminate student achievement gap for Special Education students.
 - ii. Teacher shortage
 - iii. Dual certificate vs Special Education degree

- iv. Budget
 - v. Mindset shift from your kids to our kids
 - vi. Ensure IEP's are individualized and clear.
- b. Family engagement
- c. Safety and school culture
- V. Priorities for Special Education
 - a. High quality instruction including behavioral.
 - b. Increase small group instruction.
 - c. Resource allocation
 - d. Meaningful parental partnerships are essential.
- VI. Transportation
 - a. Hires, trains and certifies all staff.
 - b. Routing trips and activities
 - c. Manage and inspect buses.
 - d. 32,000 students ride the buses.
 - e. 1,000 students are in special education.
 - f. 16 driver vacancies.
 - g. GPS has been added to all buses which tracks all the bus locations.
- VII. 504 Plan
 - a. 504 is based on disability and accommodations.
 - b. IEP is all that but with special instruction.
- VIII. Achieving True Self – Sarah Walter (ATSHARCO@achievingtrueself.com)
 - a. Grant coordinator / partnership with HCPS
 - b. Services are short term (1-4 months).
 - c. Parent consent is required.

Q & A

Q. Are caregivers invited to 504 annual review?

A. Yes

Minutes taken by Kara Stone, Secretary/Treasurer