

SpEAC Meeting January 28, 2021

Amy was unable to attend so Kimmie Smith ran the meeting and it was called to order at 9:45am.

Dr. Tate's Update:

Survey from Scott looking at all opinions and options. He continues to focus on our SN students to see what needs or can be changed. His focus is right now around the K program and if there are any options to increase the students time by getting them more instruction time. Continue to have substitute issues. Admin is trying to cover classes and periods and there is hope they will get more subs. There are some subs available but it seems that Busy right now with the budget. Little room to grow given the 2% cap. SE was looking for 2 or 3 new teachers and several paras but they have had to lower that expectation. Annual reviews will be starting soon and ESY planning has already begun. Hoping to run a traditional program that has been run in previous summers. Unified sports are up and running with bowling and the Unified Club is up and running at the UES. Basketball and track will begin in maybe a month at the HS and WAMS. The AD is helping to find other schools to play Funds leftover in the IDEA grant for preschool and they were able to order sensory stations and playground equip science stations and new technology. They have to spend it or lose it They pput in for the state wide grant \$150,000 to districts that can get the \$. Moorestown put in for the grant for kids who may have hit the COVID slide to help cure that.

Parent Training March 8 from 6-8 pm will be Strategic approaches to the IEP. Link will be found on the SpEAC Facebook page. The second will be on May 3 6-8 pm Navigating School Services. The link will also be found on the Facebook page.

Nurtured Heart Approach will be on February 11 from 6:30-8 on Zoom and the link will also be on the SpEAC Facebook page. If people have questions about these training specifically, they can reach out to Kimmie Smith at ksmith96@yahoo.com. If there are any other organizations that parents would like us to reach out to, please let Kimmie know and she will be happy to reach out all of them.

Jenny Legath mentioned a SpEAC survey that we would like to send out to the SE community to see how we can better help our families and students. She asked if the Admin could email out a survey on our behalf since we cannot get access to the names of the students who receive services. Dr. Tate was not sure it was possible but he would investigate.

Kindergarten registration – Cathy Cain still sends out a folder of info so we should continue to provide info for SpEAC. There is a link parents can go on and based upon the answers given by the parents, Cathy will send out the specific info they may need.

Vocational Program: PoshMark is still up and running. They will be sending out an email to gather donations soon. Students are still going to their job sites but there have been some that have ShopRite in Mt. Laurel/Moorestown opened up a lot of positions just for our students.

School Reps: Baker – no new updates. SV – meeting on February 9th.

Dria Law BOE update: January BOE meeting they elected Caryn Shaw and VP Lauren Romano. Survey was sent out to everyone in the district. Community Engagement Forum on February 22 at 6:30pm via Zoom. The Communication committee has been discussing whether or not to have a town hall were COVID and COVID procedures will be discussed. Budget planning is in full swing. Changes to employee benefit law and compensatory education and decrease in revenue are all factors that need to be addressed when considering this budget.

Question regarding regression: Social interactions and social skills regression. What types of things are available to us that are beneficial for our kids? Social and emotional learning committee. Some things for teenagers include Aspen social group in Cherry Hill and Youth partnership groups in Burlington County. After school program in Willingboro at JFK. Varsity Tutors.

What can we do right now in the winter with COVID. Playing cards online with friends. Lots of games online that the kids can play with their friends. Maybe we can put together a page of resources.

Reentry: Concern about not having enough resources for resources. Integrated programs will likely be at risk. Concern that they will decrease these programs and increase the use of self-contained classrooms. Suggestion to remind each other during these meetings that we need to keep this in the front of our minds. Maybe putting the Admin/BOE is on notice that we know this is coming and we will advocate for our students. We should push for unified activities for our students who are not participating in unified sports, as well. Survey monkey on our Facebook page might reach more people which would give us more input to take to the BOE.

Suggestion was presented that we propose a round table with Dr. Tate, etc. We did something similar in the fall.

Kimmie Smith adjourned the meeting at 10:46am.