

SpEAC Meeting Minutes November 11 2011:

Dr. Murphy: review of progress of design group (1) collaborative relationship between CST members. Meet regularly (every other week). The result is that there is a bigger picture of needs and programs across the district. Speakers have been in to address the group such as Mr. Bach, transportation, outside agencies for behavioral intervention. The meetings should be standard operating procedure.

(2) Balanced out district programs. MD and AI programs have been moved to Roberts – overall successful. Comment to address sensitivity training to general education population.

Parents get to know case managers and have some stability – system implemented so that case managers reach out to parents at the beginning of the year. Almost 100% compliance as to case manager/parent contact.

Dr. Murphy reported a personnel shift. Mrs. Hart moved from the UES to HS. She is taking on issue of homeless students and residency issues. She is also working with MD program to establish a vocational program. We need unique and tailored programming for life skills and vocation for more significantly impaired individuals in district. We are working with Wawa, the Evergreens, the Zoo etc. Students are being trained to do basic office skills with support. JCC program is being phased out. While the students are here, they are becoming known to employers. We are going to state workshops. Concerns about DDD. Currently we have a grant but that will run out soon. There are three programs: one is school based, CBI and structured learning.

“Report card” on design group as to prominent decisions and goals. Dr. Murphy’s role to present results. Compliance report for design group is part of our State monitoring and will be part of final report.

Homeless population: 23 kids id. Future condemnations on Camden Ave will yield more children without housing.

Residency issues: people attending that are not residents. Moving to get that straightened out

Parent manual to go up on line shortly.

Initiative presented to Mr. Bach under the Bancroft transition plan: the contract language talks about transitioning Bancroft out of this role within three years. Talks have started with Bancroft to transition them out. Plan calls for our own employees to have the same training as Bancroft people (not home program). Classroom aides to get trained by Bancroft. Training will take at least 10 days of intensive shadowing. Bancroft will stay through June 2011 to monitor training. Classrooms will then transition to township employees. Goal is that when a new para is hired

they could handle any kid in school including more significantly impaired. This, however, is not a fix all for every child rather it strengthens the entire school community.

Main focus is ABA methods not Greenspan or RDI. Those would be IEP issues. Can subs be part of training? Dr. Murphy to make a note of question.

Budget: developing new way of presenting budget so not too much to report. It will be addressed differently by assessing need and budgeting accordingly.

We will be monitored by NJ Department of Education in March with expectation of report being issued in the fall.

Linda Alexandroff:

Bd. Meeting this coming Tuesday night: technology, curriculum analysis (core and related subjects – looking at state mandates and we will implement). This analysis will be at least a 2 year process with the final line of budget efficiency. Operation and facilities – proposal from transportation advisor as to how we look: operation, efficiency, communication, financial and contractor performance. It will take 90 days for the study and the results will issue within 90 days.

Energy services audit at elementary schools.

Teacher Contract Negotiations: waiting appointment of fact finders. They will always try to mediate first. Fact finding is not binding though. “Best and final offer” is not an option.

Old Business: contour system and icon notification system for 504 plans. Genesis has interfaced with icon notification. HS piloted IEPs into the contour system and has now put 504 plans into contour system. Looking to make teacher access easier. Follow up with Kate Napolitano about 504 plans into contour system in other schools.

Survey on SpEAC website regarding 504 plans. Please encourage people to respond.

Budget – Scott presented this past year’s numbers. A general discussion regarding the budget ensued. The final numbers to come in December.

Conference set for March 12th at the UES. Need speakers. Need to discuss structure.

** Conference meeting scheduled for November 29 at 9:00 a.m. at Julie Sattinger’s house.

November 15 – 18th Holiday fundraiser at Learning Express.

December 12, 2010 Rec. Department Holiday party 1 to 4 at the 3rd floor of the Rec. Building