

## SpEAC

### Minutes – March 28, 2019

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#### Guest Update

- Dr. Tortu – Faculty advisor for Interact. Shared info about Acapella for Autism on 4/13, 7pm. Various acapella groups from all over NJ and PA. Tickets are \$12.50 each. You can buy tickets on [www.acapellaforautism.com](http://www.acapellaforautism.com). Students in Vocational Transition Programs are putting posters up in community, baking and selling cookies, auctioning bench and artwork. Continuing to take sponsorships from businesses.
- Interact Club – community service organization at MHS, grades 9-12. Provides and organizes activities for community service opportunities for students such as Acappella for Autism, blood drives, fundraising for Philabundance. Students do all the planning, organizing (contacting vendors, etc.). Also provides great leadership skill building for students.

#### Administration/Dr. Tate Update

- Annual review/IEP season – always busy time of year.
- Budget – final budget hearing May 1<sup>st</sup>. Original ask for .5 Social Worker was denied based on budget constraints.
- Second question and Referendum discussions still in progress.
- Orten-Gillingham training – finished for this year. SE and Basic Skills teachers in grades 4, 5, 6.
- RBT (Registered Behavioral Therapist) Training – finishing up. Mostly focused on paras, some teachers are also requesting it and attending. Targeted for all grade levels.
- Transportation – interviewing for supervisor position. Dr. Tate participated and was able to ask questions specific to needs of SE population. Asked if we are bringing Ricks bus company back next year? Don't know yet. Goes out to bid every year.
- Elementary Supervisor – have a pool of applicants narrowed down. Hoping to have someone in place for summertime.
- ESY – working on coordinating the program. ESY will be at UES. Reading programs being coordinated – will likely hold it at UES (in past was sometimes at Roberts). ESSA program runs Tues, Wed, Thurs. Students who meet the district set academic criteria can participate if they are students at our schools that are eligible under the ESSA/Title I program (currently Roberts, UES, WAMS and MHS; however some years past WAMS and MHS has not qualified).
- Summer Special Needs Rec Camp – still no transportation this year (unable to find driver/companies)
- Strategic Planning / SEL Committee – looking at an SEL program for elementary schools. Exploring programs, how we “add” without “taking away” from existing time/programs. Also looking at other initiatives in upper schools.
- Mission Voice Run – April 27<sup>th</sup>, starts at MFS, benefitting Special Needs Recreation program.
- Special Olympics/Unified Teams – Basketball finished, Tracking is starting up.

#### SpEAC Business

- IEP Workshop – went really well. Great presenter, good turnout.
- SpEAC Leadership – Need to fill spaces for next year. Jonnene will reach out to some potential individuals. Really important to have both a Chair and Co-Chair.