

SpEAC meeting September 10, 2015

Dave Tate gave his presentation:

In the process of fixing any opening school day glitches.

We had a good ESY program this summer.

Lots of new staff, paras.

Busing glitches -Rita wants to wait until the end of the week to make any changes.

Walkie talkies throughout district.

WAMs - converted over to a true middle school schedule (about 5 years ago) and it created an extra period. Home room was collapsed into first period and is five minutes longer. The kids are divided into teams made up of multiple home rooms. Special Ed kids are ending up separated from their teams based on their first period class assignment but they ultimately return to their team. The team is your set of core teachers. Lengthy discussion regarding the homeroom/team matter.

Carol Butler was in attendance to answer and explain WAMs schedule and activities.

Cindy Moskalow Supervisor of Special Education 7-12

Gerry Durisin Supervisor of Special Education K-6

Staffing changes:

Baker School the same staff wise

In Roberts: Jennifer Williams is replacing Florence Klein who retired

In South Valley -Kelly Eagles now LDTC and Elizabeth Matarese speech therapist

In UES - Sandy Foulks is LDTC, Frank Sein is the school psych, Breanne Swedler is the Social worker

In WAMS - Jill Carey Melton is the School psych, Kristi Shanahan is the LDTC.

In MHS- Anne LaMont is the school psych, Mia Doman is LDTC, Valerie Shopp is the social worker, Ashley Chiolan is the school psych

Classes and programming unchanged in each of the schools.

Staff trainings : social thinking workshops - about 20 teachers going.

Contact/speaker: Michele Garcia Winter. www.socialthinking.com

After school clubs - rec department and school have been working on a number different things. Trying to collaborate with neighboring districts as well to create after school opportunities.

Discussion of after school clubs - staffing concerns

A parent mentioned that Autism Family Services will provide on site training for existing, after school clubs.

Music therapy program is currently at WAMS. Some of the HS kids may be coming over to participate. In January the program will probably expand into the UES.

Discussion regarding ABA being covered by insurance and Performcare Assistive Technologies

Crisis Prevention - a number of administration, teachers and para's trained in each school . Importance of de escalation training

Diane gave a report from Al Panzerella of the school board:
Superintendent search is on going. Lynne Shugars is acting superintendent. We are looking for an interim superintendent. Different special needs programming not involving sports is being developed. Additionally, Kathy Goldenberg and David Weinstein of the school board stopped by to say hello. They discussed the superintendent search and mentioned first step is getting an interim superintendent. Any potential superintendents are already engaged so the search will progress. Our primary concern is to find the right fit.

SPeaC business - meetings will be listed in 9 places. We are making a big push to use the SpEAC website and Facebook as opposed to email blasts. Look under "events" on the website. Looking to make the website more user friendly and informative. Our meetings will also be posted on the Home and School website and the MTPS website.

Conference discussion. We may be able to get Dan Gottlieb as the keynote speaker.