

SPeaC meeting Sept 11 201

Dave Tate made welcoming remarks and presented a short program showing some staffing changes. Most staffing is unchanged except Sid Katz is the school psychologist at Wams. There is also a new speech therapist at South Valley, Erin Hart. She will also be at Roberts and Baker. Erin Kitley is in the resource center.

A variety of inclusion teachers have been added at each school.

Description of programs and staffing at each school including "BD" classes. These are self contained for individuals with behavioral challenges. the students can integrate when appropriate.

Integrated kindergarten an all day program

Special class programs - NJ code requires programs be created for kids with IEPs but taught by a General Ed teacher

Transportation issues significantly better. Two routes are being worked on but getting better.

Dyslexia training is on going through district. However, the State requirements are vague but cover diagnostics and strategies. Two hours a year training is required

State utilized our transition program in a state video. Details to follow!

Possible after school programming is a funding issue and highly unlikely.

Discussion turned to a new law signed by Governor Christie this summer requiring school districts to "ensure that special needs students are given an equal opportunity to participate in existing physical education and athletics programs, it does allow for programs to be modified to ensure the safety of the students. In the event that students with disabilities cannot be included in an existing program, the school district must make an effort to provide that student with a reasonable alternative." "Christie signs bill giving disabled students equal access to athletics"  
[NorthJersey.com](http://NorthJersey.com)

Theresa Miller of the Moorestown Rec Department made a presentation:

Gave brief background of special ed recreation committee. Three parents are currently involved. Volunteers are welcomed. Meetings are once a month for about an hour.

- \* A "Meet & Greet" at the rec center will be held on Tuesday October 21, from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.
- \* Open Gym for individuals with special needs is every Saturday from 9 to 11:30
- \* The Holiday Party is a must attend and this year will be held Sunday December 14th from 1 to 3:30!
- \* There is also homework help available and busing from WAMS

Moorestown keeps programs open to non residents and is on the MTPS website under "support organizations"

Summer camp was held at WAMS this year as an extension to the ESY

Costs are \$75 for entire month. Thanks to the generosity of the Sean Fischel foundation, swimming and field trips were also enjoyed by campers.

Goal is to expand the camp into older group and younger group but need to explore fund raising options

Participation in summer theatre program was very successful kids.

Counselor in training program for ages 13 through 15

Diane took the floor and reminded everybody that:

\*SPeaC meeting will be the second Thursday of each month

\*April 25th 2015 is the SPeaC conference and the first planning meeting is in November - date and time to follow.

\* The best way to contact Diane is by email : rdoherty123@comcast.net

Using Moorestown Speac email will take about 24 hours for a response

\* This past Sunday we had a vendor table at the Obstacle Run and was very successful.

If you know of any opportunities for us to have a vendor table let Diane know

\* Upcoming School Board and Town Council elections: if any candidates want to address SPeaC, they can come to our October meeting. They can speak for 15 minutes. Please direct all requests to Diane. We want to treat every candidate equally.

A HUGE thanks to Nicola for all of her efforts and hard work !!!!!

