

Sudbury Special Education Parent Advisory Council

Sudbury SEPAC

Meeting Minutes for January 27, 2014

Superintendent's Office Conference Room, 40 Fairbank Road, Sudbury, MA

Present: Debbie Dixon, Lucie St. George, Scott Nassa, Mark Globerson, Jessica Sales Cohen, Lisa Kouchakdjian, Stefanie Mittelstadt, Paula Moyer, Jenn Seney

Old Business

1. Minutes from early January meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report

1. None

New Business/Assignments:

1. Anna wood presented on resources available at Park & Recreation. They have programs year round. She's trying to do more programs concerning life skills. Some classes take place in P&R facility, depending on the activity. Anna brought flyers on Summer Inclusion Program. Scholarships are offered for people who cannot afford services. Handicapped parking fees go to the Commission on Disability that subsidizes the scholarships. Little Flippers in Natick has a special needs swim program. Anna would like to start a special needs swim program in Sudbury, but she needs instructors. Anna's email address is wooda@sudbury.ma.us.
2. Thank you notes to donors are all done by Jenn Seney. They just need to be mailed. Donations were received from the Loring School when they did Best Buddies. Jenn will give her receipts to Lisa Vecchio for out-of-pocket monies expended for reimbursement.
3. Article on Basic Rights Seminar: Paula will email it to Jeff tonight and try to send it to the Patch. She will also email to all school principals and vice principals so that they can put it on their events calendars for their schools.
4. Paula stated that based upon survey results, many people did not know about SEPAC. Mark G. suggested trying to get to local churches and temples and send them an email through electronic bulletin boards. Lucie St. George said the School Committee is doing some coffees for incoming preschool in a about a month or so. Lucie said we can send a representative to speak about SEPAC. Scott Nassa suggested having the SEPAC get a table at the Science Fairs. We decided to forego going to the Science Fairs. Debbie Dixon said there is Kindergarten orientation in May. She suggested having us get on the agenda at orientations. Debbie said we need to work on communication at the initial evaluation stage based upon the survey. Debbie said we should speak to the principals at the schools to be able to attend.
5. For the School Committee meeting, Paula was going to give some percentages and talk about the comments sections and what the trends are. Paula is offering to talk about the comment section of the Survey. Debbie will speak on the pie charts to the SC. Scott Nassa said always good to redact names of schools. Dr. Wilson redacted the names of kids/schools in the survey to be distributed to the SC. Disclaimer at the beginning of the survey advised families that the Administration and the SEPAC board would be the only ones who would see survey results. Paula said she has gone over with Debbie some of the themes that we

- discussed in the comments section of the survey. Paula can present the narrative. Paula was originally going to ask the School Committee for action items to address some of the concerns of families as stated in the survey. Scott Nassa suggested that SEPAC is the task force to the School Committee. Debbie Dixon has already taken steps to address certain issues. She has spoken to principals already. Scott suggests we have a meeting or two, weeks down the road, to discuss how the District is doing. Debbie offered to do a summary action plan to develop with the SEPAC to present to the SC.
6. Paula will get Lisa K. contact info or the person at Maynard for the Basic Rights seminar to see if they need anything for the event.
 7. Jessica reported that the Community Center is being redesigned and that they want feedback on what changes we would like to see at the center. Jenn Seney suggested that the CC have a family changing room. Debbie suggested a meeting room. Tom Scarlata – design firm doing feasibility study on the development of a community center. February 13th at the Senior Center at 7:30 p.m.

Adjourned: 8:50 p.m.

Submitted by: Lisa Kouchakdjian, Co-Chair and Co-Event Coord.

Transcribed by Laura Demerle, Secretary

Future SEPAC Meetings/Events:

Feb. 3rd – Basic Rights in Special Education – co-hosted with Maynard and Acton SEPACS, Fowler School Library, Maynard

Feb. 5th – School Committee Meeting – SEPAC to present results of Parent Satisfaction Survey

Feb. 8th – Parent Social, Lotus Blossom, 7 p.m.

Feb. 27th – Parent coffee, 10 a.m., 30 Meadowbrook Circle

March 3rd – SEPAC Board meeting – 7 p.m. – SPS Superintendent Conf. Rm.

March 11th - How to use the iPad to Improve Communication Skills (TBA)

March 15th - 7:00pm - Parent Social, Lavender, Route 20, Sudbury

March 28th – 10 a.m. – Parent Coffee – 30 Meadowbrook Circle

April 7th - 7:00pm - SEPAC meeting, SPS Offices

April 10th - 7:00pm - Parent Social, Acapulcos, Route 20, Sudbury

April 15th - Managing ADHD in Children and Pre-adolescents (TBA)

April 30th – 10 a.m. – Parent Coffee – 30 Meadowbrook Circle

May 5th - 7:00pm - SEPAC meeting, SPS Offices

May 16th - 7:00pm - Parent Social, Bistro 20, Route 20, Sudbury

May 29th – 10 a.m. – Parent Coffee – 30 Meadowbrook Circle

June 2nd - 7:00pm - SEPAC meeting, SPS Offices

June 7th - 7:00pm – Parent Social, 29 Sudbury, Sudbury