

Sudbury Special Education Parent Advisory Council

Sudbury SEPAC

Meeting Minutes for June 2, 2014

Kids' Craft Room, Goodnow Library, Concord Road, Sudbury, MA

Present: Jenn Seney, Lisa Kouchakdjian, Stefanie Mittelstadt, Laura Demerle, Paula Moyer, Sara Houle, Jessica Cohen, Kelly Atkins

Old Business

1. Minutes from May 5, 2014 meeting was approved.

Treasurer's Report

1. None.

New Business/Assignments:

1. **VOTED** for Board Positions, motions made, seconded, show of hands –
Chair - Lisa Kouchakdjian
Vice Chair - Laura Demerle
Secretary - Paula Moyer
Treasurer - Jennifer Seney
Events Coordinators – Lisa Kouchakdjian and Laura Demerle
Membership Coordinators – Paula Moyer and Jessica Sales Cohen
PTO Liaison – Jessica Sales Cohen
Technology Coordinator - Stefanie Mittelstadt
2. Discussion – Does Debbie Dixon have something to include in pre-k packets?
3. Friendship Program – Kelly Atkinson
“Real Friends.” First targeted independent, high functioning adults. On weekends, teens without disabilities – do icebreakers, show typicals that special needs people are people, too. Hope to make it a monthly meetup. They are not paid and not given community hours (trying to make it real friends, not, “I’m being paid to be a friend.”)
Got a grant from the state, training – giving kids an overview of what to expect.
Oversight – 2 coordinators and their boss
6-7 volunteers, 5-6 disabled
If Sudbury were to implement something similar, coordinator would come in and sit down and talk. What do we need to do? Probably more appropriate for Middle School, or even 4th-5th grade.
Payment? Do not know.
People recruited via SEPACs and other networks and databases.
Too early on both sides for commitment, but will keep in mind.
Jess – Rather than “friendship” group, how about “activity” group? Or have HS students who want credit to facilitate students in activity. Show kids that special needs people can be talented at certain activities or the same activities that they like.
4. Events: Venues – library, Fairbanks Community Center.

Lisa K has already contacted most of the people on the list Paula drafted. Aimee Yermish – Twice Exceptional or Advanced Learners? AANE – B. Dater – Free! She just wrote a book. Alison Andrews. Jen Barsamian. Karen Levine re: anxiety – Free! Play movie – invite community.

Will look at having events at schools.

Will coordinate with other SEPACs so we are not trying to get the same people.

5. Do we owe MassPac dues? Lisa K. will email Deb Dixson re: same.
6. Lisa K will write letter to Town Crier announcing new Board and highlight future activities.
7. Meetings over the summer – July 8th at 7p.m. Try to have at library or Fairbank CC for an hour. Will talk about Open Houses. August 19th at 7 p.m. at library
8. Sara Houle may retire from SEPAC after Open Houses. She will be missed!
9. Social – changed from June 7th to June 20th at Acapulco's.
10. The remaining Agenda items will be discussed at next meeting.

Adjourned: 9:00 p.m.

Submitted by: Laura Demerle, Secretary

Future SEPAC Meetings/Events:

June 20th - 7:00pm – Parent Social, Acapulco's, Sudbury

July 8th – Board Meeting – 7 p.m. – Library

August 19th – Board Meeting – 7 p.m. - Library