

Sudbury Special Education Parent Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes for November 10, 2014
Goodnow Library (Craft Room)
21 Concord Road, Sudbury MA

- Present: Lisa Kouchakdjian, Stefanie Mittelstadt, Laura Demerle,
 - Jessica Sales-Cohen, Debbie Dixson and Jennifer Seney
1. Minutes from October 7, 2014 were approved.
 2. Paula will distribute Social Thinking Flyer around town.
 3. Lisa K will write a letter on Neil Blicher's presentation.
 4. Lisa K reported that a lot of people are saying that they are hearing about events that SEPAC puts on in the town paper.
 5. Shana Kaplan has been working on myths and facts about special education. We talked about it briefly but Lisa feels that we should wait until Shana is at the meeting to make any decisions about it.
 6. We discussed what towns we are compared to by the Massachusetts Department of Education. Sudbury is compared with Berkley, Acushnet, Concord, Lincoln, Southborough, Northborough, Summerset and Island Regional. This information is analyzed on the Dart Website-District Analysis Review and Assistance Tools.
 7. When should we hand out Myths and Facts Sheets? Maybe at events or back to school night.
 8. There was a large group at Karen Levine's workshop, about 50 people.
 9. Bus incident at Haynes School (Partner Program) was discussed. If a child can hurt others an aid is needed.
 10. Kim Swain (Assistant Superintendent), Lisa Kouchakdjian and Debbie Dixson will meet with once a month to discuss issues in Special Education. Doctor Wilson prefers to meet with principals to talk about SEPAC.
 11. Lisa K mentioned that SEPAC is mandated by law and she would have liked to have been included on the conversation that was centered around inclusion.
 12. Debbie Dixson will have ten minutes at the beginning of a SEPAC meeting to talk about hot topics or whatever is relevant at the time.
 13. Lisa K mentioned that she would like SEPAC to be more visible in town. How can we increase visibility in the town?
 14. SEPAC can't write their own checks. Reimbursements have to go through Debbie Dixson's office. Stephanie is going to look into having a certain percentage of a sale from Amazon.com be contributed to SEPAC. Jenn is looking into fundraising options at Lotus Blossom, Lavender and Bertucci's.
 15. A few parents have approached Lisa about having a siblings with special needs outing of some sort.
 16. New dates were discussed for the remainder of the years meetings: December 15, January 12th, February 9th, March 16th, April 13th, May 18th and June 8th. These dates are all on Mondays.