

Sudbury SEPAC Meeting Minutes

Date: Feb 9, 2016

ATTENDANCE

Present	Absent	Name	Role
x		Laura Demerle	Vice-Chair, Event Coordinator
	x	Pieter DuPlessis	Neighboring SEPACs Liaison
	x	Bruce Hoffman	Treasurer
	x	Shana Kaplan	Membership Coordinator
x		Lisa Kouchakdjian	School Committee Liaison to SEPAC
x		Stefanie Mittelstadt	Chair, Technology Coordinator
x		Paula Moyer	Secretary
x		Jessica Sales Cohen	PTO Liaison, CRANE Liaison
x		John Verre	Interim Director of Student Services

Open Regular Session

Start Time:

1.

Summary of Discussion

- Meeting minutes from 12 Jan 2016 motioned, seconded, and approved.

2.

Summary of Discussion

- In the middle of budget season. John focusing of course on students with disabilities. He is trying to move ahead with programming development in terms of budget discussions. Aiming for equity not equality. Can't fall below FAPE (Free Appropriate Public Education) and must provide LRE (Least Restrictive Environment). SPS uses modified rollover budgeting.
- Walker report was not presented and accepted by the School Committee last night because the meeting was canceled. Once that is accepted it will be made public. This is just one source, though, that shapes the thinking in the Student Services Dept.
- Also working on tiered systems of support for social/emotional/behavioral area. This is outside of sped. Developing a universal screener for teachers to identify level of need (DESSA screener), guided by psychologists and counselors. Now at stage one of implementation in some elementary and middle school grade levels. DESSA is a benchmark assessment to track progress in social/emotional/behavioral area.
- Bringing on some consultants to work with our teachers.

- ESY will be run by John this summer. He is putting together a program plan for ESY. Process is taking longer than expected, but the outline is there. Program was disorganized and costly, and this takes away from budget for the calendar school year. Concentrate on school-based academics and social-emotional support -- not ESY's job to provide fun. Consolidate the middle school services to save on staffing costs. Separate locations for different groups of students okay, but try to contain the programs better while keeping in mind the needs of the kids. Individualized flexibility within a structure.
- John hopes to go to the APPLE institute.
- Because of snow day he missed a meeting with legal to talk about sexual abuse prevention workshop.
- Curtis Principal search -- John would welcome SEPAC parent leaders there, and will bring this up with Anne. Jessica could be a part of this.

3.

Summary of Discussion

Discussed the movie 2e: Twice Exceptional. We have to pay \$150 to view it.

Venue for AAC -- Laura is going to find a venue for this.

Fundraiser March 1 at Lotus Blossom.

Federation for Children with Special Needs conference is March 5, 2016. We get one free attendance paid. Can anyone go? Stefanie will probably attend.

Adjourned at 9:09pm