



Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting December 12, 2018

Welcome & Introductions

Mrs. Smith (Coordinator of Special Education and Transition) and Dr. Cunningham (Assistant Superintendent) welcomed the SEAC committee and expressed their appreciation to the new team which has been expanded to include more parent representatives. The new configuration includes two representatives from each of the elementary schools and three representatives from each of the secondary schools. The new SEAC committee includes the following members:

- Hampton High School: Chris Andrews, Ana Hughes, Marie Spence
- Hampton Middle School: Amy Bennett, Anne Lavelle, Jackie Smith
- Wyland Elementary: Amanda Frischling, Jennifer Weiner
- Poff Elementary: Jessica Dixon, Raina Dunlap
- Central Elementary: Jill Schiller, Trisha Webb
- District Administration: Dr. Rebecca Cunningham, Sharon Smith
- Special Education Secretary: Darlene Howell

Dr. Cunningham and Mrs. Smith indicated how much they appreciated the guidance, hard work, and direction from prior SEAC committees and also outlined how they would continue to work with the special education teachers and principals to keep everyone updated and lines of communication open. The teachers and principals, who were previously a part of the SEAC committee, will be staying in the classrooms and buildings to work with the students unless they are needed as a guest presenter.

Each SEAC member received a new binder for agendas and other information which will be shared at the meeting. Mrs. Howell, Special Education Secretary, was also introduced and will be the official note taker for the group. Notes from the SEAC meetings will be placed on the ht-sd.org website and distributed to parents of children with special needs through an email blast.

After this introductory welcome, Shari Berg took a photograph of the SEAC committee which was posted on the website.

Development of SEAC Mission Statement

Dr. Cunningham explained how mission statements capture the purpose of a group or organization, and presented the District's mission statement as an example. The SEAC representatives then engaged in a group thinking activity to generate ideas which would shape a future mission statement for SEAC. Some "big ideas" garnered from this activity include the following:

- Collaboration
- Support
- Communication
- Inclusion
- Community
- Partnership between parents and the district
- Promoting awareness

SEAC members will review these ideas again at the next meeting to continue working on the development of the mission statement.

Parent Training

Mrs. Smith reviewed the results of the Parent Training Topics Survey which was distributed to Hampton parents of special needs children, and asked the SEAC representatives to examine the data to identify pertinent topics and dates for upcoming parent training events. After discussion, the committee decided upon a Parent Training on January 23 in the evening at the middle school. Potential topics for this event include the following:

- Social skills
- Stress/anxiety
- Mental health
- OVR/Transition
- Study Skills/Organizational Skills
- Assistive Technology

The committee envisioned a welcome from the District, an opportunity for parent networking, and smaller break out sessions to address the topics identified through the survey.

An additional training event is being planned for March or April. A prior presenter, Shawn McGill, will be asked to present again for the District. Her presentation would be focused on individuals with disabilities and how to promote healthy relationships, navigating dating and address sexuality in a healthy, safe way.

Quarterly Meeting Dates

The SEAC committee agreed to meet quarterly, which includes meetings in March and May 2019. Once these specific dates have been identified, they will be posted on the district website.

Parent Corner/Info/Website

There is considerable interest from the SEAC representatives in adding a "Parent Corner" to the special education webpage. This space could be used to share information regarding activities, websites, events, and training that may be of interest to families but would not be specifically endorsed or sponsored by the District. There was also a discussion regarding how to help parents access the daily building announcements.

ESY

The success of our first in-district ESY program for the summer of 2018 was discussed. Tentative dates for programming for the summer of 2019 were discussed as well as the location of the program. SEAC members reviewed two potential sets of dates for the month of July with one option being 4 days a week and one option being 5 days a week. The final determination will be dependent upon availability of staff, construction projects within the district and student needs. The inclusion of typical peers was also brought up and will be a consideration for this upcoming summer.

Conclusion

At the end of the meeting, Mrs. Smith indicated she would send out a survey to the SEAC representatives to finalize the next quarterly meeting dates.



SAVE THE DATE

Special Education Parent Training Night

January 23, 2019

6-8:30 PM

Hampton Township Middle
School

PURPOSE:

The Hampton Township School District Special Education Department is pleased to host these programs, designed to provide an opportunity for training and information sharing for parents.

Special Education Workshop: January 23, 2019

The evening workshop will include breakout session on the following topics:

- Mental Health
- Secondary Transition
- Social Skills
- Organization/Study Skills
- Stress & Anxiety

Representatives from Hampton Township School District, Family Behavioral Resources (FBR), Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) and Maximizing Adolescent Potentials (MAPS) will be presenting.

The evening is free and any Hampton Township School District parent, resident and staff are welcome to attend.

We hope you can join us for the informative session that interest you!

The Express-O cart will be open for business with a variety of beverages and snack items for sale.