



Berlin/Boylston Public Schools

Special Education Parent Advisory Council

SEPAC Meeting Minutes Wednesday, October 23, 2019 Berlin Memorial School, Berlin

In attendance: Jen Arsenault, Karen Molnar, Karen Groccia, Rochelle Peret, Esther Rhatigan, Jessica Meltzer, Rebecca Hall

General Meeting (7:10pm)

Minutes - Esther Rhatigan

- September minutes put on Google Drive for review
- Sent out the passwords for the board gmail accounts
- Esther to remove Kerry from forwarding, and replace with Rebecca
- Note: Make separate links or prompt on web site going forward. Folks had trouble knowing to click the pie flyer.

Membership - Esther Rhatigan

- Using only email addresses, instead additions from the Facebook page, we are at 85
- Esther to forward email from Karen M. about a study to membership

Financial Report - Rebecca Hall

- Has everything she needs and is going to the bank to sign the account form tomorrow
- Rochelle may have to sign as well

Communications - Karen Groccia

- SEPAC Awareness group on Facebook
 - Coalition for SEPAC Awareness – Massachusetts Chapter
 - House Bill 3911

Public Relations -Karen Groccia

- Meeting PR done
- Not picked up for The Item
- Submitted the ad to the yearbook, but has not received a receipt
 - Will be asking
 - Check publicity email account for forwarding
- 18th – put pies on Facebook again

Pupil Personnel Services - Karen Molnar

- Working on having school committee talk about moving pre-k back to BES
 - Second preschool at Tahanto of neurotypical children
 - Integrated class at BES, which would be filled first
 - Allows easier access for preschool teachers to work with specialists and kindergarten team
 - Would cost more for the district
 - Numbers coming up project need for more spaces

Old Business

- Fundraiser Update
 - Ends on the 25th
 - 71 pies sold
 - Need 95 for \$4/pie, 96 for \$5/pie
- Collaboration with other SEPACs?
 - Jess still to research speakers to discuss

New Business

- NISW Timeline and Activities - December
 - Theme : Charting the Course for Inclusive Schools
 - Perhaps “The Path to Inclusion”, “Navigating Inclusion”
 - Maps, Paths through school
 - Writing on handprints to create path to classrooms
 - “Half an idea” from Karen M.
 - Notes to classmates about gratitude for other classmates
 - Kindness notes around Valentines Day without a to or from
 - Perhaps buy a bunch of cheesy Valentines cards
 - Or What can we do to be kind in December and What did people do in February
 - “Pathways to Kindness”
 - See if guidance counselors or grade teachers would talk to the kids and send us the answers they collect?
 - Need to work with the principals
 - Ask membership if anyone’s interested in helping
 - HOPE club might be able to help
 - Karen M. investigating if there are still whole school assemblies
 - Perhaps the kids can call things out in a 10 minute window
 - Would require a member attend to collect the information
 - Karen G. will have the plan of action next meeting
- Preschool Information Night
 - November 13th, 6pm at Tahanto library
 - Esther presenting for SEPAC
- Early Intervention Transition ideas
 - Rebecca suggested creating a personal note for people transitioning from early intervention, from SEPAC board saying we’re here to help, reach out.
 - Email EI groups about January presentation for folks about to transition
 - Consider a meeting presenting the IEP

School Meeting Reports

BES School Council
BMS School Council
BES PTO
LINK

Boylston/Regional School Committee

Tahanto PTO – Jess has a contact to get info from these meetings going forward.

M/S/P to adjourn 8:32pm. Meeting adjourned.



Submitted by Esther Rhatigan

Approved:

rp **Rochelle Peret, Co-President**

JM **Jessica Meltzer, Co-President**

kg **Karen Groccia, Vice President**

RH **Rebecca Hall, Treasurer**

ER **Esther Rhatigan, Secretary**