



Berlin/Boylston Public Schools

Special Education Parent Advisory Council

SEPAC Meeting Minutes Wednesday, November 20, 2019 Tahanto Regional Middle/High School – Media Room

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

General Meeting (7:10pm)

Minutes - Esther Rhatigan

- October minutes put on Google Drive for review
 - All approve
 - Attended preschool info night
 - Smaller crowd than last year
 - One potential new member

Membership - Esther Rhatigan

- Two new – 88

Financial Report - Rebecca Hall

- Balance = \$1116.99
- Check written to repay Karen G. for yearbook ad

Communications –

- Rochelle and Jessica not seeing anything
- Rochelle to update with MassPAC

Public Relations -Karen Groccia

- Meeting PR went out
- VP email is all set
- Created a general NISW timeline

Pupil Personnel Services - Karen Molnar

- Started budget process
- Did some intensive reading training
 - Brought in Dr. Melissa Orckin from Crafting Minds
 - Talked about evaluation process
 - Teachers enjoyed the training
 - Broke down a framework of how to look at training and testing
 - More specific to dyslexia, including greater understanding

Old Business

- Fundraiser Update
 - \$550
 - Night time open houses did the best
- National Inclusive Schools Week: Kindness notes for ♡-Day?

- Plan
- Talk with admins
- Need to kick off the week of January 13th
- Holidays make planning time short
- Give schools heads-up of effort for thank you/kindness notes
 - Heart shaped notes
 - No names
 - Perhaps week before have a box where we collect heart notes
 - Then we put boards together and up the week of
 - Or a chain of hearts around the cafeteria = Path to Kindness
 - Buy read wrapping paper after Christmas to wrap collection boxes
 - Berlin has a die-cut machine what could possibly cut hearts
 - Rebecca volunteered Becky Rober?
 - Jessica has offered to wrap boxes
 - Construction paper to cut into hearts
 - Boxes for career center, cafeterias, mental health club, central offices, libraries and preschools
- 1) reach out to schools
 - Put in cafeterias and libraries
 - Ask for announcements at Tahanto
- 2) get materials
- 3) topic = something kind someone has done for you
- 4) create promotional materials – Help create the path to kindness!
- 5) write words for announcements
- Rochelle will draft something by Friday, the 29th
 - Jessica will approach Tahanto and BMS
 - Rochelle will approach BES
 - Messages to be sent out and replies by December 11th meeting
- Rebecca will try to get construction paper on Black Friday
- Put the boxes and such together over the holidays
- Create schedule starting January 20th to have board members put hearts up so path grows
- End of Year Draft Report for review
 - Not ready at the moment
- EI “Graduation Card” welcoming them to SEPAC with contact info
 - Karen G. will work on designing something

New Business

- Scholarship
 - Amount and number of scholarships
 - 1 for \$500
 - Looking not to require a large fundraiser next year
 - New Scholarship Chair
 - Esther
 - Improve Scholarship Forms - Google and paper-based applications
 - Want to have a way for applicants to upload pictures with their essays
- December 11th meeting will still be in Berlin
 - Karen G. will attend

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 8:26pm. Meeting adjourned.



Submitted by Esther Rhatigan

Approved:

____ **Rochelle Peret, Co-President**

____ **Karen Groccia, Vice President**

ER_ Esther Rhatigan, Secretary

____ **Jessica Meltzer, Co-President**

____ **Rebecca Hall, Treasurer**