

PWCS SEAC

Meeting Agenda

August 18, 2020

I. **Opening of Meeting**

Welcome – Cindy Buckley

Approval of May Minutes- Kristie Bowie-Young: [Minutes were approved](#)

II. **Citizen Time**

Each citizen is invited to state his or her concerns to the committee. In accordance with HIPPA regulations, it is requested that citizens do not use the name of the student, teacher, or school in their comments.

Two minutes to speak to a topic:

Adriana Sturdevant (Gainesville District): concerned about the ability to provide FAPE for her son in a virtual setting. Communicated issues that occurred during Spring and ESY. Expressed frustration and concerns. Concerned about the training of the teachers to be able to teach virtually. (Addressed by Roper and Huebner)

Janice (not SEPTA, Gainesville District): question: will OSE be taking concerns from today's meeting to the school board meeting tomorrow. Gave input on her experience for her child and virtual in Spring/Summer. Concerned about their mental wellbeing. (Addressed by Roper/Huebner)

Jenn Buky (Coles District): Would like to know why we can't fight to open schools. Can schools be opened for those teachers who want to come back into the building and the parents who have chosen to have their student come in the building. (Addressed by Huebner)

Sandra Kern (Potomac District): Thanked staff members that are here tonight. Parts of the county told one thing and other parts not told anything at all. The levels of communication/explanation of information. This is a concern. Wants to make sure information is more equally distributed. Minutes calculated in the IEPS. Wants to see how that is going to be calculated. (Addressed by Roper)

Lorelei Kennedy (Potomac District): sees both sides as being a parent and a TA. @ children have IEPs. Spoke on Summer experience. Walked away from the computer. Attention span to the virtual task. Difficult choice being there for both (children at home doing virtual and her being in the building to do her job). Shared her thoughts about this unchartered territory.

III. **Office of Special Education**

- Return 2 Learn Plan
- Roper: gave comments
- Huebner: gave comments

IV. **Business**

- New member, Beverly Hicks, Brentsville District
 - Introduced self and gave comments, was a SPED teacher for 13 years, now trains adults and does advocacy. Has 2 7 y/o's in the PWCS.
- Elections

- Nominations: Chair- Jamie Van Echo (uncontested), Vice Chair – Brandi Workman (uncontested), Secretary – Shelly Witte (uncontested) Congrats to all, unanimous vote for all positions
- Motions
 - Virtual Meetings
 - Motion to add Virtual meeting to our Bylaws: question about closed captioning and sign language interpreter. Zoom account through PWCS. Another Citizen time procedure Zoom based. Set up a committee to develop Zoom protocol. Address attendance when using Zoom. Voted on and it passed.
 - Empty Seats
 - Adds to bylaw to allow committee members to continue in their seat until a new person is placed in order to minimize empty seats for long periods of time. Discussion on the motion: communication to get seats filled is a concern. Huebner offered assistance to be that bridge, voted – 2 abstain 5 yes 2 no, motion passes

Return to Learn motion 6: move that PWCS SEAC send a statement about the return to Learn plan to the School Board: Discussion given, went over the statement, made edits, motion passed.

- SEPTA Update
 - Melinda: Thanks SEAC for their support last year and OSE’s support, SEPTA has been having virtual meetings, next Wednesday is another virtual chat where Janice will be leading, excited for a new year. Next speaker will be from Mental Health America.

V. Member Time

- Jaime Van Echo, Superintendent Representative
 - Gave thanks for the support for her new position that she was voted into, our new Chair! Thanked Roper and Huebner for their support in this difficult time.
- Kristie Bowie-Young, Superintendent Representative
- Justin Caron, Occoquan District
 - Nothing new, but saying goodbye.
- Sarah Pitkin, Coles District
 - Questions from constituents about where the services will be provided, be careful about the wording that each IEP team does.
- Shelley Witte, Woodbridge District
 - Thanks for the nomination and being voted for Secretary, Challenger Baseball with Shelly and her family. Have enough participants for one team. Following Little League and CDC rules.
- Beverly Hicks, Brentsville District
 - Communicated about what she is hearing around her, the inconsistencies in communication,
- Brandi Workman, Potomac District
 - Thanked everyone for their vote (is now Vice Chair). Really excited for the upcoming year. Please try to be solution-ary when parents reach out to you.
- Angela Comiskey, Neabsco District
 - Gave her experience since school closed in March. Spring was a slow start. Had ESY but teacher had to end early so services weren’t fully filled. Has not had Speech that was supposed to occur during ESY. Was supported by OSE with an eye gaze device. Hasn’t had any contacts from parents in her district.

- Yukiko Dove, At Large
 - Communicated experience with being both a SPED teacher and a parent of a child with a disability. Communicated virtual is a great communication means with parents.
- Rhonda Tabor, Consultant
 - PRC has started scheduling for the year. Working with other family engagement and ESOL, making workshops for everyone. Please direct parents to the PRC website for resources. PEATC is having a transition workshop. PWCS website has trainings for Canvas and FAQs.
- Joi Funches, Consultant
 - Resource – Kristine Germeyer (VDOE) – state representative, and Hank Milward (VDOE) for the resources they have available at the state level and for SEAC training for new members.

VI. **Closing**

Meeting adjourned at 9:11 PM

The SEAC is organized and functions in accordance with state and federal requirements. The Committee's functions include the following: monthly meetings with Director of the Office of Special Education; determining needs of children with disabilities within the county; developing priorities and strategies for meeting identified needs of children with disabilities; preparing and submitting an annual report to the Prince William County School Board.