

Prince William County
Special Education Advisory Committee
2020-2021
December 15, 2020 7pm
Virtual meeting

bit.ly/PWCS-SEAC

I. Opening of meeting:

- Call to Order: Jaime Van Echo 7:06
- Approval of November Minutes:
 - Brandi motioned to accept minutes, Kristie seconded the motion, minutes accepted.
- Citizen Time:
 - At every meeting of the SEAC, an opportunity is provided for visitors to make public comment. It is received without SEAC comment. The public comment is summarized in the SEAC meeting minutes. The SEAC is always looking for ideas and suggestions from students, parents and teachers that will improve the education of children with disabilities. The SEAC requests that any concerns expressed include general comments dealing with global issues rather than a specific comment dealing with a personal matter or situation.
 - The Committee suggests that you address concerns about personal situations directly to the Office of Special Education. In accordance with HIPAA regulations, please refrain from using the names of students, teachers, or schools.
 - Please use the comment box in the virtual meeting to identify your first and last name and magisterial district for the minutes.
- No public comments today

II. **Office of Special Education:** Dr. Roper presenting SMORE news from around the division.

- <https://www.smore.com/5dzjk-monthly-magic>
- Contains photos and examples of materials handout process for Special Education Parents. Providing thousands of items since they have started. Thank you for sharing the continued work of project search. There has been such a great

III. **Twice Exceptional Student identification, supports during virtual learning etc.**

- Ms. Brenda Bailey, Supervisor of Gifted Education, shared some of the efforts the office has been engaged in to work with the needs of the twice exceptional students (2e students). A task force has been created to better understand the partnership needed between gifted education and special education. She discussed the process of identifying 2e students including ensuring equitable representation. She referenced Dr. Susan Baum and her book “To Be Gifted & Learning Disabled”. Ms. Bailey also recommended Emily Kircher-Morris and her podcast about neurodiversity. The Gifted services in PWCS focuses on a strength-Based Approach to Gifted Services utilizing appropriate modifications and accommodations as needed.
- Parents should reach out to teachers and admin to request testing or for support with identification. Identification and testing process is different than the Eligibility and testing process for Special Education services, however testing can be completed simultaneously if requested.
- Gifted instructors should work in close collaboration with special education instructors, case managers, and administration.
- Contact information:
- http://www.pwcs.edu/academics_programs/gifted_education_program/office_and_staff
- Supervisor: Brenda Bailey, baileybs@pwcs.edu
- Admin Coordinator: Jackie Overton, overtojm@pwcs.edu
- Secretary: Karen Fulton, fultonkl@pwcs.edu
- Phone: 703.791.7400

IV. **Business:**

- Subcommittee to Review and update By-Laws: Jaime Van Echo, Shelly Witte, Kristie Bowie-Young, Rhonda Tabor, discussion and needs.
- Working Document
- Kristie has made some suggestions and changes but based
 - Motion to table for one month because of absence of multiple members from the committee by Jaime Van Echo, seconded by Yukiko Dove.
- Subcommittee for SEAC Outreach and membership: Jaime Van Echo, Brandi Workman, Beverly Hicks discussion and updates.
 - Yukiko Dove would like to join the committee. Outreach continues but there was limited response this month.

- New business?
 1. Superintendent search meetings. Thoughts? Impressions?
 - The groups shared what their impressions were and the overall desires of the parents from the meeting: School board meeting this Thursday will be only focused on the superintendent search and will discuss the results of the meetings and the survey.
<http://bit.ly/PWCS2020SuperSearch>
 2. Updated information on Parent Packets online and what we would like to discuss in the new year including Transition concerns (from survey completed by Cindy: “Transition (what outside resources are being included in IEP meetings? E.g. CSB, DARS, Project Search. What guides are provided to parents so they know what steps they should be taking? A 4 year plan for example)”, Fiscal Officer Meet the new “fiscal officer in charge of budgeting and expenditures” for the OSE and learn what his/her role will be and how current spending is distributed to each school, and what the expectations are for each school. Related services: Related services- speech, OT, etc. who is eligible? Do parents know what the options are? How will they be provided virtually? Why are some nonverbal students no eligible for speech? Why is it so difficult to get OT in PWCS?
 3. Meetings in the new year:
 - January: Make up services/Covid recovery Services/ESY
 - February: Transition
 - March: Related Services- Preferred OT and Speech
 - April: Fiscal Officer May: Report to the Board
 4. Committee member support in creating presentation to the school board. Last year’s idea was wonderful in that each committee member took some time to take notes about a particular presentation. So far, we have had an extra meeting in August to vote in new chair/vice chair/secretary and

wrote a letter to the school board to advocate for students with IEPs, a presentation in September with update on virtual learning from Huebner and Roper, the Ombudsman in October, November we had Kim Legault- Early Intervention/Child Find. Looking for volunteers to take on supporting the draft of the presentation to the school board in an online document.

- Brandi, Jaime, and Joi will help with content Beverly will put it into a Powerpoint
- SEPTA update
Virtual Gala-Dance-a-thon on Facebook : Lots of fun and a fundraiser of \$850 as well as spreading awareness of organizations working together.

Thank you for helping spread awareness and links to SEAC on the PWCS website.

- Parent Resource Center: Rhonda Tabor Unavailable. Requested to direct families in need to the website to access upcoming events. <http://bit.ly/PWCS-ParentResourceCenter>

V. Member Time:

1. Kristie Bowie-Young: Superintendent Representative
 - Her Monthly parent support group meeting is this Thursday. To get the Zoom link for the Parent Support Group meeting for this month, email either myself or Jan Russell at the Arc, kyoung@ieccil.org or jrussell@arcgpw.org
2. Yukiko Dove- At-Large
 - Has questions regarding restraint for students and the inclusion of prone restraint. PWCS uses multiple levels of training for physical restraint but beginning Jan 1 there will no longer be prone restraint. Levels one and two will be completed by all teachers for education. No certificate required.
3. Beverly Hicks-Brentsville District
 - Nothing to report
4. Sarah Pitkin- Coles District
 - Nothing to report
5. Deborah Tekempe-Gainesville District
 - Nothing to report
6. Angela Comisky- Neabsco District
 - Nothing to report
7. Brandi Workman-Potomac District
 - Nothing to report
8. Shelly Witte-Woodbridge District
 - Absent at this meeting

9. Consultant-Rhonda Tabor
 - Absent this meeting but wanted to announce training coming up.
Check the PRC website for more information
10. Consultant-Joi Funches
 - Nothing to report
11. Jaime Van Echo-Superintendent Representative
 - Nothing to report
12. Vacant-Occoquan District (Justin Caron fill-in)
13. Vacant- Teacher Representative
14. Vacant-Superintendent Representative
15. Vacant-Superintendent Representative

VI. Closing

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.

Motion to adjourn from Kristie, Second by Beverly Hicks at 8:47