



MINUTES MAY 2021

Prince William County
Special Education Advisory Committee
2020-21
May 18, 2021, 7 p.m.
Virtual meeting
Meeting ID: 923 7481 4793 Meeting Passcode: 576616
bit.ly/PWCS-SEAC

Opening of meeting:

- 19:05

Call to Order:

- Approval of April Minutes:
- Approval of February Minutes: Tabled from March meeting due to a lack of a quorum. Tabled until next meeting due to not having quorum.
- Approval of March Minutes: Tabled until next meeting due to not having quorum.
- Motion to accept all at the same time by Shelly and seconded by Kristie.
- 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.
- Katherine Lekbad of Occoquan District: Are there any particular events for SPED students who are graduating this year? Is there a district-wide event for SPED students? Per Dr. Roper, SPED students typically participate with general education students. Sandra Kern, potomac district: Wants to thank Jaime and board for holding together



PWCS SEAC

SEAC and serving SPED students during pandemic year, also thank you to Dr. Roper and Mrs. Huebner as well for advocating for our kids for a better tomorrow.

Office of Special Education:

- SMORE news: newsletter presented, Monthly Magic | Smore Newsletters for Education
- Instead of the usual newsletter, Dr Roper shared with us details from the Parents as Partners virtual educational conference.
pwcs.edu/cms/one.aspx?portalId=340225&pageId=44792085
- The next material handout for families and teachers will be the 25th and 27th at three locations more applicable to ESL and summer learning. This will be the last materials giveaway for this year.
- Denise Huebner: We received funding from the American Rescue Plan Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund...
- We give an overview... work in collaboration with health department and this is reviewed by legal as well. We go through every possible training available.... Right now, we are still abiding by physical distancing requirements as well as mask requirements, there are exemptions to face mask requirements for disabilities and medical and parents/guardians/students are taken at their word. On Sunday 5/16/21 we completed 75000 vaccines for students and family members. We do anticipate that vaccines will become available for children ages 2-11 around September and will be working with the health department to see if we can support with another vaccine clinic when and if that need arises.
- The only change from when the school year started is that we went to a universal mask mandate. We still will strive to maintain three feet of distance and follow orders mandated by the governor.

Business:

- Subcommittee to Review and update By-Laws: Jaime Van Echo, Shelly Witte, Kristie Bowie-Young, Rhonda Tabor, discussion and needs.
 - Final Document: Need to have approval from PWCS lawyer prior to approval.
 - Sent to OSE on May 7, Jaime Van Echo
 - Dr Roper sent this to PWCS lawyer and has not yet heard back. We hope to vote on this in August at the next meeting.
 - Subcommittee for SEAC Outreach and membership: Jaime Van Echo, Brandi Workman, Beverly Hicks, Yukiko Dove discussion and updates.
- Nominating Subcommittee: Debi, Beverly and Yukiko
 - Yukiko has no updates.



PWCS SEAC

- Nominations for Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary: Jaime nominated for chair, Beverly nominated for vice chair, Shelly nominated for secretary.
 - Chair votes, all present voted for Jaime
 - Vice chair, all present minus one voted for Beverly (Beverly abstained)
 - Secretary, all present voted for Shelly
 - Need appointment of communications chair to support posting minutes and agenda on the PWCS website. This will be the job of someone in the office of special education and it will be the job of the secretary of SEAC to get it to this person. We will provide the APPROVED minutes to this person. Also, we will provide the agenda approximately two weeks PRIOR to the scheduled SEAC meetings.
- Approve Report to school board.
 - Member discussion. vote to approve and send to OSE for distribution to School Board.
 - Shelly moves to accept and Beverly seconds the motion after Jaime has reviewed it for everyone.
 - SEPTA update www.pwcsepta.org : No one here from SEPTA, they have a ceremony on Sunday, 2 more book readings are coming, one from a student and one from Dr. Parish from Colgan. The reading will be on May 25th at 6 p.m.
 - Parent Resource Center: Rhonda Tabor: <https://bit.ly/PWCS-ParentResourceCenter>. Parents as Partners will be on May 10th: Will have registration, that information is located on the SMORE newsletter
 - Rhonda is in a class and Dr. Roper updated everyone on Parents as Partners earlier. Rhonda surprised Jaime and arrived to the meeting just now to hear Jaime say wonderful things about her. There is a summer camp list on the Parent Resource Center website. Starting in September SEAC training will be on the VDOE website for people to access at their will.
 - New Business: - Discussion regarding presentation to the School Board. Options are to provide written report only or written report and 3-minute presentation to the School Board.
 - Jaime motions to send a written report only, seconded by Shelly.

Member Time:

- Kristie Bowie-Young: This is not a goodbye; she will still participate in one way shape or form and wants to thank us for letting her participate. She has been a sped teacher and is a parent to three amazing boys. She lost a family member to covid this week and is having a hard week.
- Yukiko Dove- At-Large: did not know this was the last meeting, advises that she will still be coming to future meetings, son was diagnosed, and she tried to navigate through and ESY brought her here... so she came here to talk about it. Talking about ESY and not



PWCS SEAC

knowing about it brought out passion. She earned a master's degree and became a teacher during her time here on SEAC. Thanks, us all.

- Beverly Hicks-Brentsville District appreciates everyone and thanks us.
- Sarah Pitkin- Coles District: enjoyed the year
- Deborah Tekampe-Gainesville District: absent
- Angela Comisky- Neabsco District: thanks everyone
- Brandi Workman-Potomac District: absent
- Shelly Witte-Woodbridge District: update on covid status, thanks for voting for me
- Consultant-Rhonda Tabor: nothing to add
- Consultant-Joi Funches : been a pleasure to serve, will love to return to normal and to head back to brixx for pizza, seac is a wonderful place to network and meet other parents who support you and become part of your village, started this journey when son was 4 and now he is 12, has gained a wealth of knowledge, work that we are doing speaks volumes and work here impacts a lot of people
- Jaime Van Echo-Superintendent: nothing to add
- Representative: Guidance document from VDOE, new section for Families and Students <https://www.doe.virginia.gov/families/index.shtml>
- Vacant-Occoquan District (Justin Caron fill-in)
- Vacant- Teacher Representative
- Vacant-Superintendent Representative
- Vacant-Superintendent Representative

Closing

- Motion for adjourn by Beverly at 2027 and seconded by Shelly
- The SEAC is organized and functions in accordance with state and federal requirements. The Committee's functions include the following: monthly meetings with the 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.