

**SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING ON JANUARY 24, 2018
MINUTES**

Call to Order: 7:30

Attendance:

Pat Porreca
Noelle Bisinger
Aimee Davis
Pennie Bigelow
Kate Gregoire
Cheryl Alvin
Melissa Falkowski
Mary Knoll
Larae Drinkhouse

Minutes:

1. Welcome/Introductions
2. Explanation of the Special Education Advisory Committee
 - Webpage
3. Goals for the committee:
 - Include parents and teacher representatives from each school, age group, etc.
 - explore high school students as future members of the committee
 - explore facilitating high school student involvement in special education projects or activities
4. Benefits of parental involvement in meetings:
 - Provide up-to-date information about special education in district, state, and community
 - inform others about advocacy groups
 - meet the faces of the CST
 - get to know what services are provided for your child now and in the future
 - share concerns and information in a positive, reflective way
 - Applications for new parent members to be shared at annual IEP meetings
5. Discussion involving parent request for expanded support for families in the community
 - Explore outreach combining high school student volunteers and pre-school/elementary students
 - Explore Extracurricular events as a community/district and invite parents
 - Disability awareness activities (information shared about elementary level activities)
 - Explore the coordination of activities between Haviland Avenue School and the Preschool program (i.e. "Moving up day")
 - Discussion of PTA at Haviland Avenue School and involvement with preschool parents
 - Discussion of positive aspects of the Preschool Program (staff, space/location)
6. Updates on Special Education and the Child Study Team
 - Transition of the Child Study Team
 - School psychologist posting; supervisor position posting; changes in personnel
 - High School as primary office location of CST Staff
 - Approaching Annual IEP Review season
 - New State Science test

- Field test this year
 - MAP testing
 - District Special Education initiative to update and revamp our IEP document
 - Special Education students represented and awarded "Student of the Month"
 - Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (DVRS) presentation (12/2017) at Audubon High School
 - Discussion regarding the importance of post-secondary vocational options
 - Information shared regarding Career Day at Audubon High School
 - Discussion about transitional supports and programs in district
 - Information shared about students who are employed
 - Parent feedback regarding the Child Study Team, including observable positive changes this year
7. Closing discussion:
- SEPAC is still a work in progress
 - Please reach out with questions, comments, concerns
 - E-mail Noelle Bisinger, CST Coordinator, nbisinger@audubonschools.org
 - Check website for updates and more information
- Future Meetings
- Next meeting, tentatively planned for the end of March
 - End of year meeting also discussed (May/June)

Adjournment: 9:00