

## **Westwood Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC)**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**August 25, 2020**

1. Megan Brenk did an introduction of what SEPAC is, what the entity does, the role of the committee and how to access any of the board members.
2. Voting and Approving of the SEPAC Board Members for 2020/2021 School Year:  
  
Megan Brenk & Kerry Aglugub, Co-Chairs; Aravind Movva & Liz Polin, Co-Secretaries;  
Jennifer Ellis & Jared Jones, Co-Treasurers
3. Introduce school liaisons and their roles:  
Integrated Preschool: Asanka Moehring  
Martha Jones-Megan Brenk  
Sheehan-Sue Kagan  
Downey-Liz Polin  
Deerfield-Doris Forteith  
Hanlon- Stephanie Finegold  
Thurston Middle School-Kelly Anderson  
High School-Tracie Charland  
Out of District- We are still looking for someone
4. Introduce SEPAC's School Committee Liaison:  
Amanda Phillips  
  
School Committee Meeting  
Thursday, August 27, 6:30pm  
<http://www.westwood.k12.ma.us/district/live.cfm>
5. SEPAC Survey  
A survey will be sent out in the next few weeks to determine the best schedule for meetings, what parents are looking for: trainings, workshops and speakers.
6. SEPAC Events for 2020/2021 School Year  
Continue with bi-weekly Zoom meetings  
Fall-District Overview & Autism Parent Training (11/12)  
Winter-Basic Rights Transition & Advocacy Workshop  
  
Please send any ideas for the spring, please email [westwoodsepac@gmail.com](mailto:westwoodsepac@gmail.com)
7. District Administration Report-Fall Reopening
  - Overview of the re-opening for fall related to specific schools

- Everything they discuss tonight is comments based on students in the school hybrid for September 14<sup>th</sup>. Teachers and staff are coming back August 31st.
- The preschool has a classroom that runs 5 days a week and will continue to run 5 days a week.
- DESE COVID- CCS  
Actions August 31, all teachers will return and receive training/instructional/planning and preparation.

Special Education teachers will call all families on their liaison list. They will be checking in and obtaining the parents/caregivers priorities and will review your students schedule for the 9/14 start.

From 9/14-end of Sept schedules will run twice for elementary/middle school and once for high school. The school is asking for the family's patience for the beginning of the school to determine the amount of time students will receive for specific services on the students IEP/504. After the schedule runs twice for elementary/middle and once for HS, liaisons will revisit the plan.

High School students will receive a paper schedule and services will be listed on the schedule. You can reach out to the Special Education teacher or Robin with any questions or concerns.

Middle School students will receive a paper copy schedule sent to them as well as high school. The total minutes for service might look different but they are hoping to keep consistent to the IEP.

Expectation is they will provide all the minutes for a student based on their IEP. They will provide remote, in-person and hybrid model.

DESE Guidance for the fall is to provide your child service grid and needs to match the grid.

DESE has given guidance on compensatory services for students. Teachers will be collecting data starting 9/14 and determine if a student has regressed. There is a process that the team will review and determine what services need to be provided to remedy the gap. Types of data they will be collecting is academics from baseline data. They will be collecting ELA, Math, writing, social, emotional and communication. They will be having the BCBA collecting the data and collaborating/input from families.

The Student Services Department has allocated money for compensatory services that they will present in the 8/27 school committee meeting. There is a date in December (12/15/20) that the school needs to have the conversations with families. They have a strategy and plan.

There will be a 2-way communication between families and the school.

Questions:

1. Testing will begin 9/14 for students who need to be tested and re—testing. They will be hiring some outside vendors for testing. They will prioritize the students who missed testing.
2. Services will be a mix of in-person and remote. Some providers will be remote based on ADA approval.
3. All concerns and questions based on school re-opening need to be addressed to the School Committee
4. Orientation will be planned for 9<sup>th</sup> graders. There are some discussions happening as well as middle school students too.
5. Face shields – kids can wear a face shield as well as a face mask. They need to wear a mask as well.
6. They are working on the wording for high school students about social gatherings.

Next meeting, Tuesday September 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm.