

**ESE Parent Advisory Committee
Board Meeting Minutes
November 14th, 2018
6PM**

**Flagler County Government Services Building
1769 E Moody Blvd,
Training Room 3, 3rd Floor
Bunnell, FL 32110**

Board Members:

Voting Parent Members (12 Total)

Present: Joanna Hughes, Shirley Ortiz, Joan Whittemore, Astrid Figueroa, Amanda Royer, Stephen Furnari, Kristi Furnari, Lisa Peterson

Absent: Josephine Scott, Jennifer Paterno, Jody Ward

Voting Admin Members (3 Total)

Present: Diane Bixler, Durand Brown, Stacia Collier

Non-Voting Admin Members (4 Total)

Present: Janet McDonald,

Absent: Tim King, Lynette Shott, Latoya Lockhart

Proceedings

- Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Diane Bixler
- Last month's meeting minutes were approved

Members volunteered for Officer positions and were elected by a vote:

- Stephen Furnari – Chairperson
- Lisa Peterson – Vice-Chairperson
- Kristi Furnari – Secretary

By-Laws reviewed:

- Motions to ratify by-laws based on acceptance of two minor changes to correct typos.

Review of Instructions on how to submit an item to be included on the agenda.

- Items for agenda will be submitted by a form on the following page:
- <http://flaglerschools.com/district/exceptional-student-education/ese-parent-advisory-council-epac>
- Requests will be loaded by the form into a google sheet, and given to Chairperson for consideration
- Diane Bixler is working on the webpage. Discussion of listing EPAC board members contact info on the site? Currently no.

Review of Public Comments

- Sign up sheet to be created
- Current meeting was used as brainstorming session for agenda ideas on how to improve ESE.

- Kristi Furnari
 - Improving inclusion, differentiation and communication
- Steve Furnari
 - Transition to new schools, carryover of what works
- Joanna Hughes
 - VPK to Kindergarten transition
 - Transition between schools, procedures and paperwork are different, consistency
 - New Staffing Specialists may help create consistency
- Steve Furnari
 - Making sure teachers are fully informed on IEP's before school starts. Anecdotally hearing that teachers haven't read IEP's before class starts.
- Joan Whittemore
 - Improving Graduation Rates
- Stacia Collier
 - Start improving student's situation before they get frustrated and drop out. Long before senior year.
- Astrid Figueroa
 - Bullying
 - If child is dismissed from services, no communication with parent
 - Waiting too long to add services when grades are suffering.
- Shirley Ortiz
 - Person first language, emotional support for kids with diagnoses, de-stigmatize diagnosis. Fear of judgement from peers
- Lisa Peterson
 - Emotional support for students working in groups. Anxiety, management of emotions, fear of rejection from peers
- Durand Brown
 - Evaluate support facilitation/inclusion at each school.
 - If schools are aligned in implementation transition will be easier
- Steve Furnari
 - Para professionals – how hired, trained, at iep meetings
 - Parent training offered by district and how it is communicated
 - Behavior specialists – not a sufficient number of them in district to support students or teachers
- Astrid Figueroa
 - What requirements must a child meet to get a para? Classroom para's within inclusion classrooms?
- Diane Bixler
 - How do parents want to be communicated with? Parents don't always attend, would like more to participate. SF request to table for larger discussion.
- Heather Dorries
 - Transition at all levels
 - Teachers having IEP's before meet the teacher
- Wendy Lee
 - Inclusion training for teachers who have not had students with IEP's before

- Stacia – 20 hours in ESE Continuing education for state license requirements.
- Gina Bower
 - How can teachers prepare in advance?
 - Accountability for accommodations, how to show they are actually being implemented in ways that are NOT logs with x's on them
- Dawn Atkins
 - Technology for high schoolers – Every typical student has a computer, but her son's class at FPC only has ipads for 5 out of 14 kids.
 - ESE being shorthanded on technology.
- Christine Gaspar (Not sure if I heard name correctly)
 - More info for about transition from iep to 504 and back again.
 - Not enough communication
- Catherine Hudson
 - How to talk with child about IEP and help them advocate for themselves
- Lisa Peterson
 - Rights and responsibilities – understanding the terminology
 - User friendly information for decision making
- Durand Brown
 - IEP's are team meetings, remove intimidations
 - Help parents feel comfortable to ask questions
- Catherine Hudson
 - Create pamphlet to give to parents as to what to expect during eligibility meetings

Team hopes to pick topics that can make biggest impact first.

Meeting adjourned at 7:03

Minutes submitted by Secretary, Kristi Furnari