

**ESE Parent Advisory Committee
Board Meeting Minutes
February 11th, 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: Amanda Royer, Stephen Furnari, Kristi Furnari, Lisa Peterson, Joanna Hughes, Joan Whittimore, Heather Dorries, Lisa Sowers

Absent: Astrid Figueroa, Wendy Lee, Shirley Ortiz

Voting Admin Members (3 Total)

Present: Diane Bixler, Durand Brown, Stacia Collier

Non-Voting Admin Members (4 Total)

Present: Tim King,

Absent: Lynette Shott, Latoya Lockhart, Janet McDonald

Proceedings

Meeting called to order at 6:05 pm

Update on Removal and Replacement of members who have missed meetings.

- S Furnari reached out to parents who had been chosen for Council but could not ultimately make the meetings. Each of those parents voluntarily resigned. (Josephine Scott, Jennifer Paterno, Jody Ward)
- Introduction of 2 potential new members; Heather Dorries and Lisa Sowers.
- Heather Dorries has 3 children in district VPK – 6th, all with IEP's. Wants to use personal experiences to help improve ESE for district.
- Lisa Sowers has 2 sons. One has graduated, other in FPC, has autism / epilepsy. Hopes to help other families.
- K Furnari makes motion to add Heather Dorries and Lisa Sowers to EPAC, Lisa Peterson 2nd s the motion, all in favor.

Update on Creation of Sub-Committee to create "pamphlet" for parents new to ESE, or whose children are experiencing challenges that need to be further addressed.

- D Bixler: Google Docs created for collaboration, each member added notes and communicated by email.
- Sections, Content, FAQ will be included.
- Draft should be ready in 1-2 meetings.

SF: Thoughts on technology for communication between board members?

- Mighty Networks?

- Slack?
- Tabled

Discuss recommendation for recommendation of Procedural guidelines. A few parents provided feedback. Any further comments?

- Stacia Collier referred to statement that says all district personnel would have access. Is that too broad of a statement?
- Could there be a short form to distribute to security, kitchen staff, etc.
- T King: Distribute the recommendation to Dr. King, Mr. Tager and Mrs. Schott by pdf via email.
- T King: Will investigate union contracts for teachers to clarify what teachers may or may not be required to do, including professional development.
- S Furnari: Should we use this EPAC recommendation as a communication item to share with parents and public? – tabled.
- K Furnari: motion to distribute draft, S Collier 2nds, all in favor.

Reminder to EPAC members

- S Furnari: Keep discussions focused on problem solving for the district. Please do not use forum to talk at length about your child and your problems. You will be asked to cut it short.

Transition

- Introduction to Kim Halliday – Flagler Transition Coordinator
- Transition is the coordination of steps to align student to life after school.
- Goal is employment for all
- Work will look different for each individual
- Could include volunteering
- Where do you want to see your young people 10 – 20 – 40 years into the future?
- Transition IEP supports and services
- Use of Deferment flow chart – Defer graduation, (while still walking with peers) education would continue and IEP team would help plan next steps until student reaches 22 yrs. old. (Not 12th grade over and over again.)
- Waiver options through Agency for Persons with Disability
- What services do they need to be successful?
- Do your students want to go to college? Yes! With supports if needed
- If deferred, students can go to Trail Program. Do they have to stay till 22 if they learn job skills? No.
- Participation in dual enrollment: Collegiate HS Program; Industry Certification, Fire Academy, Cape certification
- Scholar designation – not waiver eligible
- Specialized instruction is part of IEP. (504 only accommodations, not services)
- Trail transition program started 6 yrs. ago. Setting is not on High School campus. It is functional academics, proactive vocational skills. 90 students have attended program.
- Focuses on adult outcomes for that individual in an employment like setting.
- Students use public transportation, teaches them to use services independently.
- Teach them to pack their own lunch
- Treat them like adults with adult expectations.

- Project Search – National program (Part of Free Appropriate Public Education) Students travel to Princeton Village which is an assisted living facility.
- They work with mentors to learn skills that will transfer to a job.
- Residents and staff notice when students aren't there, they do provide a real service.
- Can start connections to vocational rehabilitation at 14 yrs. old.
- New Program: STREAM – Structured Transition education courses and managed care/supports for those with disabilities with highest needs.
- Starting next year. Qualify based on IEP.
- Program supplies fading supports for people to become more independent.
- Start talking about deferral in 9th grade. Students "graduate" but they come back in a different setting.
- Thank You Kim Halliday!

S Furnari: Discuss transition from school to school, grade to grade.

- S Collier: Every school does something different that is informal. Happenstance, no set rules.
- T King: Suggests articulation meeting- sending school would send teacher to IEP at new school
- Flagler used to do this but has not in recent years. Need to bring it back.
- Perhaps we can formally reintroduce requiring articulation meetings after full year of adjustment with staffing specialists.
- Parents are recommended to request IEP articulation meeting between each transition – it is your right.
- April is when those meetings typically take place. Ask for what you need to school will be ready the next year.
- S Furnari: How do parents know what to ask for?
- T King: Staffing Specialist will know how to guide some of those questions. For example, what programs are offered here. What level of support is available and placement? For example, the support classroom for Intellectual Disability is located at Indian Trails.
- If there is another school with a program you want, select school choice.
- There are base programs, Flagships, both middle schools are comparable.
- Flagship info is listed on district website under community engagement.
- Schools have flagships on each website on drop down menu.
- Flagship showcase at Wadsworth Elem 10-1. Feb 23rd.
- All kids can participate in extra curricular activities. Info listed on individual school sites.
- Transition and meet the teacher, orientation. Use the articulation IEP meeting and request school tour as part of that meeting.
- If you already had an IEP, request another for this purpose.

Public Comment

Gloria Snack – How can we learn more about what activities are at the school?

- Website
- Facebook group
- Parents should ask.
- In elementary, flyers go home to students.
- HS – annual meeting with guidance to go over IEP and extra-curricular activities.

- They can change frequently base on teacher volunteering.
- D Brown: Best buddies, parents should ask.

Carissa Stafford:

- Why can't we have all teachers in IEP at the same time?
- T King: the requirements are: 1 Gen Ed, ESE teacher and LEA has to be at each meeting. Try calling a Parent teacher conference.
- C Stafford: The teachers don't come.
- T King: Go to the administrators to make sure it happens. All schools have common planning time

Rosalie Pena

- Is there an ESL transition program?
- K Halliday to look into.

Meeting adjourned at 7PM