

ECASD Special Education PTA

September 14, 2017 minutes

1. WELCOME by Heather Cole-discussed how and why the group started and kicked off with a positive story from a parent of something that went well with their child that week.
2. OLD BUSINESS-Karen Peikert reviewed the meeting last May. Goal is to send the minutes via email for now as they are not currently pursuing a Facebook page.
3. COMMUNITY EDUCATION TOPIC
 - a. Sue Kishel from the Family Resource Center discussed their services.
 - b. They are located in Oakwood Mall in the Sears wing.
 - c. They feature a playroom open to public when they are not running a class, run playgroups, parenting classes, family events, and home visits for kids to age 5 working on development issues.
 - d. Offered discounted memberships (\$10) to the Eau Claire Children's Museum for kids with special needs.
4. NEW BUSINESS
 - a. Interim officer elections at next meeting
 - b. President, VP (makes the agenda, contacts speakers), treasurer and secretary.
 - c. Committee work
 - i. Fundraising committee-money raised will fund SEPTA memberships, insurance, speakers, and equipment/other needs.
 - ii. Advocacy committee-leadership conferences, advocacy training, Pip, YIPPE, WI Facets, Keys for Success Conference November 4 at UW Stout. WSPEI 2017 Leadership Conference Sept 23, WI Dells.
5. SPECIAL TOPICS
 - a. Lauri Malnory, ECASD Parent Facilitator, came to discuss resources, especially the Special Education website and Parent Handbook (new edition coming soon), and her role in assisting families.
 - b. Kelsey Tichey (from ECASD) went over the 5 step process and change to Results Driven Accountability (RDA). In summary, not just "checking the boxes" but seeing if their "boxes" are actually producing real results.
 - i. A bigger push with reading/literacy. Only 20% of students in Wisconsin with IEPs are performing at or above proficiency in reading.

- ii. RDA in WI has been now termed “READING Drives Achievement”
 - iii. Focus on College and Career Ready IEPs
 - iv. 5 Beliefs: High expectations, culturally responsive practices, student relationships, family and community engagement, and collective responsibility.
 - v. 5 step process: Identify effects of disability→develop goals→align services→analyze progress→understand achievement
 - c. Also available to answer questions about the new approach from ECASD was Mandy Van Vleet (ECASD Special Education Director), Amber Krall (Elementary Special Ed), Jim Schmitt (Director of Curriculum) and School Board Member, Joe Luginbill.
6. BREAK OUT GROUPS BY SCHOOL AGE
- a. Answering 3 discussion questions
 - b. ECASD members divided themselves amongst the groups.
7. WRAP UP and NEXT MEETING: October 12, Memorial HS at 7 pm