

Mid-Valley Liaison Meeting September 26, 2025

In attendance: Lisa Palese, Melissa Mills, Jamie Consentino, Kari Ruh, Cara Chase, Sarah Nolan, Tanner Seal, Mike Ackerman, Melissa Groot

Celebrations: We took a few moments to celebrate some truly outstanding student and staff successes within our district and cooperative.

Enrollment & Classroom Capacity: We have welcomed 16 new students to our programs over the past month, with no student drops. Overall, our enrollment is down 22 students compared to our April projections. Thankfully, there are still openings in our programs that welcome students throughout the school year.

Final Tuition Bill for 2024-25: Overall, the money was spent as expected. Served more students than the year before, but came in slightly less than projected when it comes to total students. Budget came in \$130,000 under. What refunds look like will depend on how the business managers determine the best way to use the money gained from interest.

Transition Programming/Shelby Center: We discussed the numerous obstacles we face in our current space, including safety, wheelchair accessibility, limited classroom space, nursing and related services areas, etc. We are exploring other options in the area. Matt will outline this information for the Board next week.

EC Screening: Kari is seeking to partner with other districts in the area to ensure that we meet the needs of our multilingual families during the pre-school screening process. Several districts have volunteered to join Batavia in developing effective strategies to meet the growing population.

ACT Accommodations: We collaborated to develop an effective method for documenting in the IEP meeting notes the accommodations recommended by the IEP for ACT versus the accommodations accepted by ACT for each student. We came to the consensus that the IEP team should continue to recommend the accommodations that the student is using in the classroom setting, while also documenting the accommodations that will be recommended to ACT. We will be more explicit in the notes about the fact that ACT can deny accommodations.

ISBE Form Changes: We reviewed the recent ISBE Form changes and discussed formats for sharing this information with our teams. Melissa Groot also emailed ISBE on our behalf to request that the most recent changes be transferred to the Present Levels of Performance and Evaluation Forms.

Board Policy 7:040: We discussed the new trend of families requesting part-time attendance at school to participate in ABA Therapy or other outside interventions, and the concerns we have regarding ensuring FAPE. Batavia is exploring potential changes to its board policy, which would encourage families to plan for these requests by May 1 of each year. This would allow the IEP team to meet and be more purposeful with their planning and communication about how this part-time status could affect a student's access to FAPE.