

BOARD OF EDUCATION, NEW FAIRFIELD, CT
Special Education Ad Hoc Subcommittee Meeting

Name of Subcommittee: Special Education Ad Hoc Meeting type: Regular
Date of Meeting: 4/3/25 Minutes submitted by: Susan Huwer
Members present: Sue Huwer, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, Ed Sbordone
Members absent:
Other attendees: Ken Craw, Monika Krepsztul
Place of meeting: New Fairfield Community Room, 33 Route 37, New Fairfield, CT.

The meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. December 5, 2024

Motion: To approve the minutes of December 5, 2024, as presented

Made by: Samantha Mannion

Seconded by: Sue Huwer

Recording of vote: All in favor

III. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Certified Staff Professional Development for the 2025-2026 School Year—Monika Krepsztul discussed certified staff professional development for the 2025-26 School year, that it is discipline specific, and there are only a handful of paras not trained as of this time.

B. Modernizing Assessment Tools and Staff Training - Monika talked about modernizing assessment tools and staff training. Assessments are done to test for specific levels of reading disorders. Assessments enable staff to qualify or disqualify students for special needs assistance. Half of IEPs are requested by parents. Presently, we are at 17% prevalence rate, which is above the State level.

C. Nursing Structure Update - In her nursing structure update, Monika reported that we are fully staffed with nurses in the elementary, middle, and high schools. The new structure with Lead Nurse, Kim, is working well. There are two nurses in the elementary school, one in the middle school and one in the high school. There are two sub nurses in case more than one of the regular nurses is absent. These sub nurses are usually the same persons.

D. Wellness Committee Update - The Wellness Committee has met three times this year, Monika reported. It is discussing creating a website to communicate with families on subjects including procedures and guidelines re food allergies, vaccinations, and when nurses need to be present at specific school-sponsored events.

E. Transition Process Across the District - Monika talked about the transition process and movement of PPTs across the district which allows students to have a well-rounded schedule appropriate for them and that is also integrated with other students. We are adding Preschool through Kindergarten PPTs to this transition process.

F. Special Education Trends - Monika distributed information on special education trends in our district showing that the number of PPTs has grown significantly as has the number of complex cases and that the number of complex cases with learning issues and physical disabilities is growing as well. She spoke about the importance of expertise in planning PPTs and that multiple PPTs are sometimes required due to the multiple disabilities and medical issues of our special education students.

IV. ACTION ITEMS - none

V. OTHER - none

Motion to adjourn: Made by: Kim LaTourette

Recording of vote: All in favor

Seconded by: Ed Sbordone

Meeting adjourned at: 6:45 p.m.