

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: 4/11/18 Place of Meeting: Central Office Conf. Rm.
Members present: Dominic Cipollone (7:07), Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion
Member absent:
Other attendees: Alicia Roy, Andrea Einhorn, Katherine Matz, Lauren Pessin, Rick Regan (7:10), Ed Sbordone
Minutes submitted by: Kimberly LaTourette

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.
Ed Sbordone was elevated to voting status.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. February 14, 2018

Motion: To approve the minutes of the February 14, 2018, meeting

Made by: Kimberly LaTourette

Seconded by: Ed Sbordone

Recording of Vote: All in favor

III. ACTION ITEMS - none

IV. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Enrichment Programs – The enrichment programs for Gifted and Talented students were outlined by school:

- New Fairfield High School – theater, honors and AP courses;
- New Fairfield Middle School – The students meet once weekly, and there are plans to start a STEAM Club and Theater/Tech Club;
- Meeting House Hill School – Reading twice a week and monthly makerspace workshops that students can sign up for during lunch and recess, with additional enrichment opportunities available;
- Consolidated School – Makerspace, STEM activities and grade level lessons on Wednesdays.

Testing to identify students to enter the Gifted and Talented program is changing.

There will be global testing in 3rd grade and parents can opt in for 4th and 5th grades. Criteria include STAR scores and 95th percentile on COGAT screening.

B. Early Learning Center Enrollment - There is no lottery and eleven students are on the waiting list. Friday, April 13th is the deadline, and there are some spots available for special needs children. There are 46 new students with 12 students (combination of special needs and typical) per session, eight sections, ten full-day students and four full-time teachers.

C. Extended School Year Overview – About 92 students are expected to attend the five-week program this summer. Participation is IEP-based, and last year there were eleven staff members, including teachers, social worker, BCBA and paraprofessionals. Students who are transitioning to a new school will receive ESY at the new school.

V. OTHER –

The following question was asked: How is the gap between typical and high needs students being addressed? Responses included a discussion of Student Learning Objectives that are set to support the neediest students, identifying students who need support and then providing it, and using data from state assessments as appropriate.

Motion to adjourn:

Made by: Samantha Mannion

Recording of vote: All in favor

Seconded by: Dominic Cipollone

Meeting adjourned at: 7:50 p.m.