

## **Special Education Ad Hoc Subcommittee**

Thursday, December 1, 2022 at \*6:15 \*Please note change in the start time of the meeting.

New Fairfield Community Room, 33 Route 37, New Fairfield, CT., 33 Route 37, New Fairfield, Connecticut 06812

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

### **II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

II.A. October 6, 2022

### **III. ACTION ITEMS**

### **IV. INFORMATION ITEMS**

IV.A. Independent Educational Evaluation (IEE) Process

IV.B. Budget FY 24 – ESSER-Funded Positions

### **V. OTHER**

### **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

**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: 10/6/22 Minutes submitted by: Kimberly LaTourette  
Members present: Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, Ed Sbordone, Stephanie Strazza  
Member absent:  
Other attendees: Ken Craw, Katherine Matz, Melissa Busnel, Tim Blair, Amy Johnson  
Place of meeting: New Fairfield Community Room

Stephanie Strazza called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. August 4, 2022

**Motion:** To approve the minutes of the August 4, 2022, meeting

Made by: Samantha Mannion

Seconded by: Stephanie Strazza

**Recording of Vote:** All in favor

**III. ACTION ITEMS - none**

**IV. INFORMATION ITEMS**

**A. Special Education Update -** Katherine Matz and Melissa Busnel provided a couple of updates. We have had an increase in the number of identified students. We had seen this prior to COVID (similar to the state trend), and it has continued to escalate. This impacts our SPED system and processes. The number of PPT meetings and referrals has increased. We have increased the number of direct providers to be able to service students. More staff is equal to more evaluations as well, and outplacements have increased. We have had an increase in BCBAs from two to three. Our initial referrals and outside evaluations have also increased.

There was a discussion about the families who have hired an advocate because the IEP and PPT process can be overwhelming for a variety of different ways. It may be beneficial for parents to have a workshop on how to read and process the IEP document. Salary, tuition, transportation, and outside evaluations and consultations are big drivers of the district costs. We are still in need of three to four paraprofessionals. There was discussion about trying to build programs within our district for some pockets of students with specific needs.

CT-SEDS - The state replaced the former IEP format to what it is now. They meant to make it simpler for people to look at and understand. The state created a document comparing the two documents as well. The state has not provided any training and there is not any window period for deadlines. The software has been glitchy and difficult at times, as well as time consuming for staff. PPS is asking families to be patient. New Fairfield requires the minutes section.

**V. OTHER – none**

**Motion to adjourn:** Made by: Stephanie Strazza

**Seconded by:** Samantha Mannion

**Recording of vote:** All in favor

**Meeting adjourned at:** 6:53 p.m.