

Special Education Ad Hoc Subcommittee Meeting

Thursday, February 5, 2026 6:00 PM

New Fairfield Community Room, 33 Route 37, New Fairfield, CT. In the event of inclement weather, this meeting will change to remote, and a virtual link will be provided on our website and distributed. , 3 Brush Hill Road, New Fairfield, CT 06812

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ELECTION OF CHAIR

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

III.A. December 4, 2025

IV. INFORMATION ITEMS

IV.A. Bridge Program: Overview and Next Steps

IV.B. In-District Transitions: Benefits and Practices

V. ACTION ITEMS

VI. OTHER

VII. 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: 12/4/25 Minutes submitted by: Kathy Baker
Members present: Kathy Baker, Samantha Mannion and Peggy Katkocin
Members absent: Sue Huwer, Kimberly LaTourette, Ed Sbordone
Other attendees: Kris Woleck, Monika Krepsztul, Michelle Demeyer, Theresa Fox, Alex Lambert
Place of meeting: New Fairfield Community Room, 33 Route 37, New Fairfield, CT

The meeting was called to order at 6:25 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. September 30, 2025

Motion: To approve the minutes of September 30, 2025, as presented

Made by: Kathy Baker

Seconded by: Samantha Mannion

Recording of vote: Aye – 2 - Kathy Baker & Samantha Mannion

Abstained – 1 - Peggy Katkocin

III. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Structured Literacy: Overview of what it is and how it is implemented in New Fairfield

Monika Krepsztul and her team talked about the structured literacy program and how staff is trained with different approaches to children. We are able to better meet students' needs by having different approaches. Orton-Gillingham and Wilson/Heggerty are the main programs that we use which allow us to track how students are doing and provide direct instruction to those who need it. We have nice continuity across all grade levels (ELC to 12th grade).

B. Update on Parent Events

Family Resource Center - Open House held on Nov 18th - had about 35 attendees. It was held to help parents with the child find process and understand the differences between ELC and Birth to Three. They will also be holding three additional info nights:

Jan 28th and May 21st Coffee Nights.

Jan 28th - Understanding the IEP Process and Para Support.

May 21st - Assistive Technology.

Feb 18th Info Night.

Feb 18th - Transition from School to School.

C. District Obligation for Child Find: Explanation of the District's Responsibilities

Monika talked about Child Find. It is a key responsibility of the district to identify, locate and evaluate every child in the district from birth to 22 to see if they may require services. The SPED Department is putting together a website to help parents find information and to consolidate all resources in a central location.

IV. ACTION ITEMS – none

V. OTHER

The STRIDES program was discussed, and it was reported that we have students working at Lesser Eve, L'Achune, Johnny's Food Center, Biscotti's Ristorante, the Ice Rink and a nursing home.

Motion to adjourn: Made by: Samantha Mannion

Seconded by: Kathy Baker

Recording of vote: All in favor

Meeting adjourned at: 6:51 p.m.