

DCSEAC Parent Staff Board Agenda

Wednesday November 4, 2020

6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting

“DCSEAC is an advisory committee who believes in a positive, collaborative and troubleshooting relationship with the district to best support all families with children receiving special education programming. Advisory board members should leave personal agendas at the door and advise in a manner that best supports all children with different abilities. In doing so we appreciate respectful discourse, the use of Person First language and discretion around confidential topics.”

Attendance

Linda Niemann

Sarah Cannon

Marta McGovern

Jeni Cassidy

Lisa Graham

Nancy Ingalls

Aleia Mastroianni

Janis DeBaca

Robin Evans

Melina DePasse

David Ray

Kerriann Tompkins

Brittany Zellmer

Caryn Becker

John Shukie

Scott Sarver

[CDE SEAC Guidebook – The Power of Partnerships](#)

Shining Star Update: (Kerriann)

All baskets were delivered (thanks Marta!). Certificates were delivered to schools with a cover letter from Nancy.

All certificates were delivered to all schools and staff. Lisa Graham shared how the certificate had quotes about the nominations for the specific work they were being recognized for.

2021 plan – We will try to get community donations like we have in the past to continue with Shining Star.

If we are not able to get donations, we can still have nominations and recognize teachers and staff for their hard work and the difference they make for their students.

Nancy to print certificates for schools.

Janis has requested pictures, if possible, to share on the Developmental Pathways website. Nicole and Marta have pictures and she will get them to Janice.

Treasurer Update: (Jeni)

Assessment fee from the Foundation this year 1.5% which was \$35.

Balance \$1,547 on November 4, 2020.

A request for funding has been sent to Developmental Pathways.

Janice shared that the check is in the mail for DCSEAC. Janice has requested that any pictures for the school inclusion award be shared with Developmental Pathways as an additional way to recognize these schools.

Kerriann will share the list of schools with Nancy and Janice.

Website: Update (Scott):

- Scott has been trying to push out positive posts to increase followers.
- Nancy suggested that in the next parent communication that the DCSEAC website be shared.
- Aleia shared an idea of getting teachers to share the wonderful things happening in their classrooms for us to post and share on our website.
- Nancy continues to send Scott information, which he uploads to the website.
- If there are parents who reach out for additional help, we can redirect them to Nancy so additional help can be set up to support the parents.

Support Group Updates

Support Groups Update: (Melina, Robin, Aleia, Caryn)

Mild/Moderate

- Caryn shared that the group has met twice. Parents were sharing experiences with eLearning and hybrid models.
- Next meeting is the following Wednesday.
- Caryn has a list of speakers that she will look through to set up for the December meeting.
- Many parents have twice exceptional students who have attended the support group. Additionally, many had students in middle and high school.
- Mental health was brought up as a possible future topic for a presentation.

SSN

- Melina and Robin shared that SSN had their 2nd virtual meeting. Robin Carmack, SSN, was able to participate and answer questions from the group.
- PASCO, home health, participated in the November meeting to answer questions.
- ESY will be the topic for December. When do they anticipate ESY in person will take place? Sarah Cannon shared that a contingency plan will be made with the goal to always go in person.
- Janice offered Developmental Pathways has some intake speakers who can present and answer questions. Melina will email Janice to set up a time.
- The second Bridge presentation will be tomorrow night for parents.

AN

- Aleia brought back questions back from the first parent meeting to Marta, Sarah, Becky, and Nancy.
- Next AN meeting is next Thursday. Aleia asked parents for questions ahead of time so they can come prepared.
- There were many concerns from transportation as well as suspension.
- Many parents shared how the AN program has been going very well once they were placed into the program. The group discussed how they can support parents through the difficult transition of being transferred schools/programs.

Unified Sports: (John and Nancy)

- Unified elementary day with Special Olympics tentatively scheduled for spring. Ben from Special Olympics and Mary Caricato are working together on this.
- Basketball will be starting the first of the year. How this will impact Unified has not been discussed at this time.
- Derek did not provide any updates on Unified sports when speaking with Nancy.

Subcommittee Work (proposed in February 2020):

- Focus Areas – [Autism](#), [Communication](#), and [Principals](#)
- Proportionate autism this school year.
- There will be a town hall format, with collecting parent questions ahead of time around autism programming. Nancy suggested forming a group to address some of the topics suggested.
- After the Autism programming session we will convene a work group based on questions and feedback in the session.

Parent Engagement: (Marta, Linda, Lisa)

- [Parent Engagement Sessions](#) webpage on district website
- 9/29/2020 – topic was [Progress Monitoring](#) – had over 100 parents attend
- 11/17/20 12:00 – 1:00 – Autism programming in DCSD – There will be many guest speakers. EC Education to Bridge. There will also be questions at the end of the presentation. The questions will have been submitted ahead of time so the district can answer questions parents submit.
- 10/27/2020, 11/5/20 7:00 – 8:00 – 18-21 Bridge Program Information Night for Parents

- 1/12/21 6:30 pm Guardianship Night – thanks to Developmental Pathways for their support of this event – this is virtual on Zoom
- Preschool to Kindergarten Virtual Transition Information Events:

Tuesday November 10, 2020

Hosted by Douglas County Early Childhood Council (DCECC)

6-7:30 pm

Here is the [flyer](#)

Monday November 16, 2020

Hosted by DCSD Early Childhood Education

TWO SESSIONS (information will be the same for both sessions – no need to join both)

- 10-1130 am
- 6-730 pm

Join with Google Meet: meet.google.com/hua-gfyq-zko

Join by phone: (US) +1 601-840-3039 PIN: 537 469 798#

- We can ask schools to share this in school newsletters.
- This can also be shared with communications to get to parents.

Having the virtual meetings has increased attendance allowing more parents to participate. We also discussed the importance of having the presentations for parents to reference later.

Spring conference – will be virtual. Some sessions will be recorded for later reference.

Other District Updates: (Sarah)

*Decision process related to when programs or schools move to remote learning – There are multiple reasons on why groups go remote. If we get concerns we can always reach out to Sarah to connect with parents. These decisions are discussed collaboratively on a case by case basis with the safety of students in mind.

CDPHE – There is guidance for schools for cases and outbreaks. 5% or more of staff/student positive with COVID would be a reason for closure. However, we will not get close to this number because we will not have substitute teachers to continue instruction. Also, 5 or more classes with 2 or more positive cases together is also a criteria, however, we have not come close to this.

Early Childhood – there are licensing guidelines related to staffing which can impact in person learning.

*SWAP – What is it? Who benefits? 15-24 students who can benefit from assistance with resume writing, job application, etc. There are vocational rehab opportunities for students and can be discussed at IEP meetings.

*Preschool updates with return to full in person – Lisa – EC families were offered in person learning for after Fall Break as of October 19. The early childhood students are excited to be together and engage with play and development.

*eLearning updates: families had until 11/1 to update their child's learning preferences (eLearning or hybrid) for the 2nd semester. There will be shuffling of staff to accommodate these students.

eLearning K-8th grade will continue through next semester. There will be shuffling of staff to address those requests.

Preschool families will receive the in-person survey next week to switch their learning preferences for a January return. 12-15% return of preschool families back into in-person learning.

Prior Written Notice – It is a district communication tool to communicate a change to the IEP.

We are looking to fill an Executive Director of Schools representative for DCSEAC.

Upcoming Parent/Staff Board Meetings:

January 6th

March 3th

May 5th

Parent Only Board Meetings:

Our parent-only board meetings are currently set for the first Friday of the month (August, October, December, February and April) – subject to change.