Concord Public Schools
and
Concord-Carlisle Regional School District
Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC)
April 26, 2018
12:30-2:30 pm
Concord Main Library, Trustees Room

Attendance
Becky Robichaud, Technology chair
Joanne Jensen, Secretary
Tali Brunye-Ditman, Communications chair
Shaina Brito, Events chair
Helen McKinlay, Publicity chair

1. Open meeting at 12:35 pm

2. No public comments

3. March meeting minutes voted and approved.
   ○ Joanne will send copies to Becky and the town clerks for posting.

4. No report from Joint school committee meetings

5. Chair reports/updates
   ○ President:
     ● Tali shared a summary of her and Carol’s meeting with Jessica Murphy. Tali and Carol spoke to Jessica about inviting Marielle to present to SEPAC and give an overview of her role. The event could take place as a meet and greet.
     ● SEPAC’s end of year presentation to the school committee is tentatively set for May 22.
     ● Jessica will reach out to schools for more information on how each are accommodating school safety drills (ALICE).
     ● They also spoke about a new classroom at Thoreau (K-1) for social/emotional support. The classroom will expand to
higher grades as its students progress. Preparation is in place to open in the fall.

- Jessica gave an update on the WestEnd evaluation. Results from elementary and middle school evaluations will be available in the fall. Given the outside evaluation, SEPAC decided to postpone its member survey until next year.

  o **Membership**: No report from membership

  o **Events**:

    - May 14 Caroline McGuire, an Alcott parent will talk about friendship and social inclusion. The event is open to all and will be held at Williard.
    - April Coffee and Conversation went well, eight parents attended and asked about other sponsored events. Board spoke of the idea to add a social networking position to increase parent-to-parent connections.
    - Shaina attended the Federation of Special Needs conference and brought back several ideas for potential events. Topics include a workshop with Family TIES on how to organize and manage student’s paperwork, a meet and greet with Annette Hines, a special education attorney and some Federation talks on such topics as visioning and transition planning. Shaina is considering turning the mediation workshop into an annual event. She is also working on scheduling a talk on neuropsych evaluations. Becky suggested holding a family event at Great Brook Park where there’s no event charge. Tali would like to see a speaker talk on neurodiversity and inclusion.

  o **Technology**:

    - Becky is requesting articles to post on the website and social media. She is maintaining the website and open to feedback on how easy it is to navigate and its aesthetics.
    - Becky is requesting members send her wish list items she can use to create a welcome packet.
Communications:

- Tali recapped SEPAC award ceremony where 24 teachers and staff received appreciation awards. Recipients were nominated by parents for making a difference in their child’s lives. A suggestion for next year is to take photographs of the recipients. Becky would like to be able to nominate a teacher from an out-of-district school.
- May’s newsletter will contain a list of appreciation award recipients along with an announcement looking for new board members.

Publicity:

- Helen is working on publicity for the May 14 talk. Announcements in school bulletins will go out this week. External publicity will go out next week.

6. Board member update

- Tali and Joanne won’t be returning next year. Joanne will consider moving to a social networking role. Becky and Helen will continue with technology and publicity. Shaina wants to continue but is not sure in what role. Bettina and Casey’s plans are unknown.

7. Meeting closed at 1:58 pm