SEPAC Meeting 9/27, 2016

Error in agenda should be Tues March 28th

Meeting called to order at 6:05 pm in the Morris library

In attendance, Robert Fuster Jr., Erin Hart, Jodi Drury, Brooke Kaminski, Vickie Holt, Ellen Farris, Priscilla France

Intros and children in district

RFuster : Minutes from May meeting were amended to add Jr to R Fuster. BKaminski seconded. All in favor.

Discussion about how to note attendees. Are there confidentiality concerns? Covered by open meeting law.

We need a secretary. Sole responsibility is notetaking. Jodi volunteered.

RF Moved to nominate. Vickie seconded. All in favor. All in agreement.

PF: Reviewed handbook for SEPACS - includes information on the role of a SEPAC... working with director and school committee.

SEPACs typically have an end of year report. Can give to Ellen/Tim or straight to school committee.

RF we are here to help parents/steer/guide

EF all call did not go out. Sorry. Agenda was posted to the website and blog feed.

PF: finances – we have about $1500 raised by previous advisory’s fundraising. We are an advisory and can’t have funds per se. Could have a separate group to “hold it”. Or it could be turned over to the town treasurer, or PTO could keep it on their balance sheet. Brooke offered to speak to Deb Rimmler regarding having PTO hold it.

RF Move to authorize BK treasurer to talk with the PTO treasurer about using this structure.

JD Second. All in favor. None opposed.

PF next meeting of PTO in Oct. They may need to vote. Total in account: $1505.24

RF will look into having a “friends of SEPAC” nonprofit if need be.

PF other suggestions: how to make SEPAC info available to parents

Book fair, screening,

Discussion

JD How to network with special ed teachers EF: They are aware of sepac but we could have an event to encourage collaboration. Teachers not required to attend.
Discussion about parents’ rights and understanding of procedures. Need for annual parents’ rights workshop. Could be done by Mass PAC. Ellen will talk with other directors about networking with other districts for parents’ rights event.

Other topics parents could benefit from: How to prepare for an IEP meeting.

PF: SEPAC could have offshoots/subcommittees to accomplish tasks.

JD Expressed a desire to discuss clarifying SEPAC’s purpose and addressing specific parent frustrations.

PF: We can’t advise per se. Can provide information not advice. Focus on educating a parent not advocacy.

RF: Advise them to talk with director. Pass along info to director. i.e. teacher X isn’t accommodating numerous children.

PF: SEPAC is an advisory. Can’t take on the particulars of individual families and students.

Discussion about website- Can we have sample IEP and 504 online? What to expect at the first IEP meeting- brochure

Reminder about open meeting policy: Not supposed to have in depth discussions outside of open meeting.

Discussion of Parents’ Right Event 11/29 at SEPAC mtg.

All Call, Send email to all parents, post on website

Discussion of other activities. Hold

PF: New business?
Move to adjourn 7:04

RF Second
All in favor.