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## TOWN OF BURLINGTON

### Meeting Posting

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Notice of Public Meeting – (As required by G.L. c. 30 A, c. §18-25)

DEPT./BOARD: Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC)  
DATE: April 6, 2021  
TIME: 6:30pm ET  
PLACE: VIRTUAL MEETING using WebEx



- Review/acceptance Minutes/Q&A from March meeting (available online)
- Financial update
- Hiring of SPED Director
  - Format
  - Interview Questions
  - Review of Interview Case Study Rough Draft
- Burlington Equity Coalition
- Subcommittee updates
  - Dyslexia
  - Bullying proposed
  - PR proposed
- Review timeline for awards
- Review Board Nominations that have been submitted by posted due date of 4/2/21.
- Open discussion time

#### WebEx Meeting Information

##### JOIN WEBEX MEETING

Meeting link:

<https://townofburlington.webex.com/townofburlington/j.php?MTID=m7f53f468f937b454cfdc21b577b75324>

Meeting number:

129 971 9082

Password:





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Join by phone

+1-408-418-9388 United States Toll

Access code: 129 971 9082

Burlington SEPAC  
Minutes of April 6, 2021  
Recorded by Becky Norum

Meeting was called to order at 6:38pm on WebEx. Present were: Ms. Elizabeth Melo, Ms. Megan Nawoichik, Ms. Beth Colburn, Ms. Becky Norum.

<b>Meeting Minutes</b>	<p>Edited meeting minutes to include the following QnA:</p> <p><i>Parents asked when there is remote learning but a child has a 1:1 he struggles to access curriculum can he go to space in school with just his 1:1 if it was safe?</i></p> <p><i>Dr. Conti said this shouldn't be a problem as long as it isn't a safety issue.</i></p> <p>Approved 4:0:0</p>
<b>Financial update</b>	<p>Ms. Nawoichik indicated there are no changes to our financials or bank account. She noted that the next expected expense is the SEPAC award.</p>
<b>Burlington Equity Coalition</b>	<p>The Burlington Equity Coalition has invited the SEPAC to join its coalition. Mission statement here. SEPAC board and participants agreed that they agree with the mission but would like more information. Ms. Melo volunteered to go to a meeting and find out more.</p>
<b>Subcommittee updates</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Dyslexia</b> - Ms. Nawoichik and Ms. Peckham met and decided some things to work on. First to work on awareness and some social media campaigns and use those to share different literature and resources we've found helpful. They are sourcing other districts to find out what is going on there.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Ms. Janusis asked who is coordinating this in Burlington and said she may be able to give input on this professionally. Parents are concerned that "we are</li></ul></li></ul>





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	<p>monitoring” doesn’t explain exactly what is going on and whether or not they should be concerned for their kids.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ms. Janusis pointed out that most districts will not diagnose dyslexia, but will specify otherwise learning disability; she isn’t sure how this works in Burlington.</li> <li>○ Systems are important to ensure equity across the district, regardless of parental and familial resources.</li> <li>● <b>Bullying</b> sub-committee and <b>PR</b> sub-committees were discussed             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ms. Colburn asked if we could expand SEPAC participation if people could sign up for short-term projects like working on PR or bullying subcommittees.</li> <li>○ Ms. Melo said the question is if the district is recognizing it, doing it enough to support people being bullied and help the bully change.</li> <li>○ Ms. Nawoichik said she was told it is just part of the whole school curriculum, not a specific curriculum, and the district responds to specific instances. Social Thinking and Everyday Speech curriculums are available in Burlington for SLPs to share.</li> <li>○ Ms. Janusis has always seen this reactionary, not proactive, professionally.</li> <li>○ Ms. Nawoichik pointed to the district bullying policy and the difference between bullying reports and incident reports. She asked if this was an area that the Burlington Equity Coalition could help support making changes in the district.</li> <li>○ Ms. Janusis has some ideas that can help teams better understand if a child is equipped to handle bullying and will draft a checklist of questions for review.</li> <li>○ Motion to create bullying subcommittee approved (4:0:0)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>SEPAC Awards</b></p>	<p>Ms. Colburn reviewed timeline for SEPAC awards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● April 30: Nominations Due</li> <li>● May 5: Vote</li> <li>● May 25: School Committee Meeting to announce winners and recognition awards</li> </ul> <p>Ms. Colburn asked how to publish this request - recommendation is to publish through Aspen to reach all families in addition to posting on social media as many families do not use social media.</p> <p>Board asked if board members can nominate people for awards - team wasn’t sure.</p> <p>Ms. Melo suggested republishing the winners from last year.</p>
<p><b>Board Nominations</b></p>	<p>Review Board Nominations that have been submitted by posted due date of 4/2/21.</p> <p>Ms. Melo suggested extending the deadline for the board nominations. Nominations should be in by Friday, April 23rd and published online by Monday, April 26th for voting on May 5th business meeting.</p>





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<b>Hiring of SPED Director</b>	<p>Ms. Nawoichik described the hiring process as Dr. Conti communicated; he has asked for help with parent interview preparation, including case study / scenario questions, and list of parent participants.</p> <p>Ms. Melo described how the hiring process was last time when Ms. Houde was hired.</p> <p>Ms. Nawoichik described two potential scenarios she and Ms. Colburn worked on for the group and the team discussed interview questions.</p>
	Meeting adjourned at 9pm.

