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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: August 24, 2021
TIME: 6:30pm ET
PLACE: VIRTUAL MEETING using WebEx



Open Meeting	Meeting opened at 6:35 Board participants present: Elizabeth Melo, Beth Colburn, Becky Norum, Jennifer Ortiz Absent: Meghan Nawaiochik
Meeting Minute Approval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> June: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1r3q8yKEYeYoBAhVipugMVxtvajGVMpVm4z6lCnNkNck/edit?usp=sharing July: https://docs.google.com/document/d/12o6WllrqucEm4SaAYmrw4cDPypghMQ3aM9lHDNkYLN0/edit?usp=sharing <p>Approved 3:0</p>
Public Participation	<p>G. Janusis brought up masks for students with special needs. One family left the district last year because the district wouldn't work with a student. Does the district have a clear policy?</p> <p>L. Gauthier moted that there should be exceptions, but others were concerned that it didn't happen.</p> <p>G. Janusis suggests there be a clear process for exceptions as part of the policy as it's going to be an issue for some kids and some therapies (speech, hearing). Smile masks fog up and don't help for OG phonology, for example.</p>





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	<p>L. Gauthier suggests that the district permit teachers and therapists to remove masks during instruction as some post-secondary schools are doing to make the teachers' voices clearer and help more students.</p> <p>B. Colburn & G. Janusis agreed with L. Gauthier that this is an issue, but not sure there can be traction in the district.</p> <p>B. Colburn said a mask exemption policy could also clarify processes for when students can't be in-person.</p> <p>E. Melo suggested this is a E.Conti decision. How decisions are made is important to document.</p> <p>G. Janusis asked who is making a decision - nurse, team chair, principal?</p> <p>B. Norum volunteered to draft a letter of communication for E. Conti & C. Ciccolini</p> <p>L. Gauthier said perspiration builds up in SMILE masks and fog develops by an hour in. G. Janusis said it is hard to breathe in it. Face shields are itchy and a challenge for sensory kiddos.</p>
<p>Meeting Schedule and Topics 2021-22</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● J. Ortiz joined meeting● Reviewed and approved date updates<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/121qxRZqoZrABv1rllU4wUB-xOo9rwzzd9q3F-zYpj60/edit?usp=sharing <p>E. Melo and M. N met with interim director C. Ciccolini and changed from October XX to October 5 to have a virtual meet and greet with C. Ciccolini and the team chairs. This will have to be virtual; all IEP meetings will also be virtual. E. Melo asked if we should have breakout sessions.</p> <p>B. Colburn suggested having breakouts as people have enjoyed the potential for 1:1 with team chair but concerned it could get personal when this is intended to be general information. B. Norum suggests having the ability to ask questions anonymously before or during the meeting could substitute for some of the need for small group.</p>





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	<p>G. Janusis liked how people could privately message a board member during the meeting.</p>
Director of Special Education Updates	<p>C. Ciccolini in place for a year. Planning on posting in January for July 1 hire.</p>
Fall Preparation <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Approval for flyer for kindergarten registration● Flyer to attach to procedural safeguards communication (SEPAC awareness)● Fall activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● J. Ortiz is finalizing the SEPAC flyer. Once approved she can work with E. Melo to get this sent out to the district.● Truck Day: New event<ul style="list-style-type: none">● B. Colburn spoke with Emma about having a table at Truck Day on September 18th. SHE asked if we could have a small activity or take-away like temporary tattoos.● J. Ortiz suggested we collect contact information - emails with a laptop ideally to prevent misspellings.● L. Gauthier suggested driving people to the facebook group right then and there.● G. Janusis asked if we could co-host a table with therapeutic rec. B. Colburn will follow up. B. Colburn asked if we could give away earplugs.● B. Colburn noted we don't have a budget approved for 2021 - 22.● E. Melo motioned to approve up to \$100 for Truck Day event. Approved 4:0● L. Gauthier suggested a bubble machine. E. Melo has one we can use; we just need bubbles.
Subcommittee Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Extended School Year: Review ESY Survey questions and determine	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Bullying sub-committee has no updates.● ESY<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ B. Colburn noted the survey went out and had 14 responses.



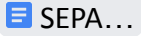


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<p>how and when to send</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">o  SEPA...● Literacy● Bullying● 2E	<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Several parents noted there are no individualization of services for summer and data was not given consistently for summer students programming to parents● No updates from the literacy committee as no members were present.● In regards to 2E, L. Gauthier has set up a town facebook page to start community discussion. She is hoping to have a kickoff meeting after the first few weeks of school to align people. She also emailed E. Conti, P. Larkin and a few other administrators. She asked for feedback on the approach.<ul style="list-style-type: none">o B. Colburn suggested getting on school committee agenda to raise awareness or bring up in public transo B. Norum to reach out to a contact at MSMS, Susan Rogers, who taught BEAM
<p>Any future topics?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● B. Colburn is following up with E.Conti on remote snow day policy● B. Colburn would like to review the month to month responsibilities at a future meeting.● B. Colburn can also give an update on communication boards. <p>Next agenda topics can be added here: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ttpmISQaniNYNfdS4ekrZAnoLUUzF0xDsKe4OPgvgPA/edit?usp=sharing</p> <p>Suggested inviting school committee special education members to September 21st meeting. E. Melo</p>
<p>Adjourn</p>	<p>B. Colburn motioned to adjourn, B. Norum seconded at 8:35pm.</p>

