

May 10, 2022 SEAC Minutes

* Welcome & Introductions:

* Attendance:

Mike Wagner

Katy Compel

Stephanie Hicks

Shonnet Brand – VIA speaker

Nicole Group

Joyce Cooper

Kevin Kirst

Laura Strauss

Mike Armstrong

Jen Beard

Jessica Allen

Irene Krone

Alice Fox

* Approved April 12 minutes

* VIA speaker Shonnet Brand presents:

- Question for Shonnet – How is student accepted into program, is there a waitlist? How to get outpatient services? - Contact sbrand@viaservices.org placement determined by school and IEP team.
- Adult services start at 18 years of age.
- In-home services require autism diagnosis, all other services do not require it. Can pay out of pocket for services. Day program, psychology services, etc.

* Parent Resource Center update – Mike Armstrong

- Transition fair – great success! Held April 30th
- Mike is getting more calls and the word is getting out

* Committee updates – Alice Fox

- Ablemarle county Public schools developing a foundation to support the schools, maintain ability of school division to stay flexible and fund projects. Establish scholarships for example.

More information to come next school year. Would be good to have a SEAC member attend their meetings. Alice will keep the committee updated. Can SEAC present?

- No significant updates from Dr. Haas

* Update on SEAC letter to School Board

- Link posted for letter to school board
- School board was very excited to be back in-person. Nicole Group presented SEAC letter, the board asked many more questions than ever before. Asked about accessibility items, several questions about placement of students and how they are moved, to include parents more in collaboration. Looking to reduce the movement of students. One member (Judy Le) asked about representation in the SEAC group. Not very diverse. Summer school, zero follow up.
- 9 families impacted this year by moving students to other schools. Communication with families to start earlier rather than in the summer, - Kevin

* Nominating and Electing Officers

- Joyce Cooper nominated Jessica Allen
- Jessica Allen contingencies – need someone to volunteer as co-chair, vice-chair, needs help with contacting and organizing guest speakers, along with family engagement. Increasing diversity.
- Irene volunteered to help, she would be vice-chair
- Joyce volunteered to help without a title. Would feel pressured. Can help to recruit new members
- Mike volunteered to be secretary to cover.
- Officers nominated for 2022-2023 school year
 - Jessica Allen – Chair
 - Irene Kron – Co - Chair
 - Mike Wagner and Joyce Cooper as Co – secretary

* Katy brought up volunteers needed to speak as part of the VDOE audit currently happening at the SPED department.

- Jessica – question – VDOE audit, what is the timeline? Audit is publicly disclosed and can be brought up the in the fall.

* Speaker requests for next year:

- I'm determined project
- Post High
- Charlottesville Parks & Rec

Issues brought to SEAC attention/future action items:

- Jen Beard – school absenteeism letter wording was off-putting. Felt defensive after reading especially because absenteeism due to medical issues. Can SEAC address this in the fall? Wording of the Draft letter. Maybe include a call from the principal. Letter should be an invitation to communicate.

- Jessica – Summer school, is there anything additional SEAC needs to know regarding IEPs or representation. No response from the people who are running the summer school program and the school board.
- Recap requested on status of VDOE audit for ACPS SPED department
- Reminder to poke about SEAC member appointment on Health Advisory Board
- Stephani Hicks (?) SOL testing; follow-up on banning certain items that may be helpful for kids (example: gum, snacks, candy) > K. Kirst suggested India Hahn as contact person to follow-up with about this item

* No public comments

* Announcements

- Alice Fox – Parent council meeting 5/18 6:30pm. Alice can present questions to Dr. Haas.
- Stephanie Hicks – can sign up for the VDOE newsletter for upcoming programs. Mental Health month

* Adjournment.