

Special Education Parent Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

September 28, 2016

6:30-7:30 pm

Special Education Office

- **Introductions/ New members**
 - 4 parents attended from middle school and high school
 - Kathy Zwonitzer- District rep
- **Establishing group as a non-profit organization**
 - We need to get the paperwork started? Who wants to lead this?
- **Create brochure: IEP MEETINGS 101**
 - Create a mock IEP meeting- video possibly
 - Agendas are REALLY nice to have at meetings
 - Name tags for staff would be helpful!

Possible Sections:

- Acronyms for each level (elm, middle, high)
 - What is the role of the parents?
 - What is the role of the school staff?
 - Who can be invited to an IEP meeting?
 - What is the purpose of an IEP meeting
 - Questions to ask
 - How to be a productive advocate for your child
 - Help parents know what to expect at each level (EC, Elm, Middle, High, Transition) and who to contact regarding their child's education. *(Lead Special Education Teachers for each building are listed on the ISD12 website under special education- they are great resources!)*
- **Outside agency resource lists for parents (OT, Speech and Language, Mental Health)**
 - Advanced Therapy- Circle Pines and Shoreview OT/PT
 - Frasier
 - **Presentation ideas/topics for parents and teachers (PACER, etc.)**
 - Twice Exceptional
 - Dr. Mary Wandrei- Executive Functioning (60 minute presentation)
 - Send out Survey Monkey/Doodle Poll on best times for evening presentations

- **Other**

- Start collecting helpful books/blogs for parents and post the list on the website
- Kathy will send out a google doc to the committee to start generating lists of books/blogs/websites etc.
- Education opportunities for general education teachers
 - What is the role of the gen ed. teacher at the IEP meeting?
 - What is helpful information?
 - Increasing understanding of a child's capabilities and being conscientious of what you say about a child's performance at meetings. Putting yourself in the parent's shoes!