

May 10, 2010

Needham Sepac General Membership Monthly Meeting
7:15-7:30 Farewell presentation for Dr. Valerie Flynn

Meeting called to order at 7:32 pm

T. Stock and M. Callahan, co-chairs. De Springer, recording.

Attending from Needham Public Schools: Administrators: Mary Lammi, Cathy Heller, Dr. Valerie Flynn, and Susie Biagini, Newman School, OT, Jill Oetheimer Middle School and High School OT, Terre Newbert, Newman PT.

Announcements – M. Callahan

Please fill out survey re: special education services in Needham emailed to all Sepac families. Let us do our part of this job to help admin do their job. Survey closes May 14th. Survey doesn't take longer than 15-20 minutes. T. Stock noted lots of literature for the taking (unless copy specifies Sepac) for a variety of special needs issues. Monthly coffee this Wednesday a.m. with M. Chieppo.

1st order of business is the election of candidates standing for the Sepac 2010-2011 Board:

Co-Chairs: De Springer and Tee Stock

Programming: Diane Novick and Margie Sockol

Co-Secretaries: Cathy Aikman and Margaret Gray

Treasurer: Dan Maranci

School & Other Parent Liaisons

Early Childhood Center (Preschool): Raven Register, Shannon Shavor

Broadmeadow Elementary School: Tee Stock and Open

John Eliot Elementary School: Marie Chieppo and Open

Hillside Elementary School: Cathy Corbett, Kim Marie Nicols, De Springer

Mitchell Elementary School: Cathy Aikman and Chris Powers

Newman Elementary School: Sean Taylor and Diane Marget

High Rock School: Sandy Cisternelli and Kori Rogers

Pollard Middle School: Jen King, Diane Novick

Needham High School: Betty Waterman and Karen Julien

Out-of-District Placements: Beth Orifice

PTC Presidents Council: Maureen Callahan

Hospitality Chair: Sheila Eisenstadt

School Committee: Open

Disability Commission: Open

SHAC Committee: Open

Parent Translators open to any parent fluent in another language to help other parents

None of the positions was contested; a general voice vote for all was taken. By a unanimous vote of “yay” all candidates were confirmed.

2nd order of business: Sensory Integration Speaker

Introduction of Lisa van Gorder, OTR/L Ceis

Lisa@ictconnects.com or www.integratedchildrenstherapies.com

Ms. van Gorder has 15 years experience in school, clinic and home settings working with children with SPD (Sensory Processing Disorder). Opened her own clinic 1.5 years ago.

Presentation on What is SPD and how to deal with it.

SPD while often seen in combination with other conditions: ADHD, NVLD, PDD and ASD, is also its own challenge and may be in the DSM V manual under its own entry. The sensory system is the nervous system and when we talk about SPD we are talking about the 5 senses: taste, touch, sight, hearing, smell and how those senses react to stimuli. SPD is where the person’s nervous system is not able to get the info into the body to participate in an appropriate way. SPD is an inability to modulate and/or discriminate the stimuli via the body’s senses. We can help the body by practicing all day long a “sensory diet”.

Please see handouts or link to slide presentation for further information.