

**PAC Board/ NPS Sped Admin Meeting Summary notes:
Feb 10, Tuesday, 12:30 pm**

Attending:

C. Brumbach, C. Heller, V. Flynn, M. Zwieback - NPS
K. Rogers, T. Stock, S. Cisternelli, D. Springer - parents

Disability Awareness: Newman VP Mark McInenery has experience w/disability awareness in his prior Brookline position and would like to lead the district wide efforts of implementing a DA program in Needham. M. Zwieback confirms that they (Sped Admin) and Mark want to rollout a district wide program here, but that next year we shall probably only be able to get one other school on board. (not Newman -- looking at a smaller school).

C. Brumbach suggested a literature-based program year round. D. Springer was reminded that there are disability awareness kits at Broadmeadow. T Stock corrected that there is some disability awareness material in those kits, but they are primarily diversity bookbags, yet they could be a resource for starting literature based support. T confirmed that the literature based approach would be in addition to the current plans in motion to use the DA program already in place at Eliot and Hillside. CB affirmed yet is raising the idea of how to support the individual presentations ("the show") throughout the year.

C. Brumbach would like to have someone, perhaps Linda Conneally in Media to p/u up this movement and help expand it to include teachers and not just parent volunteers. De asked if anyone has actually seen the DA presentation. No one had.

There is a current display up at Eliot.

Megan and De shall try to go see this year's DA speaker.

Camp Fair: S. Cisternelli gave update on Camp Fair. Approximately 150 attendees and approximately 35 presenters. Presenters desired more table space. It was suggested to look at the H.S. cafeteria. Sandy will do this. Chris asked if there was any feedback in terms of overlap with Framingham Sepac Fair. Sandy reported that we overlapped about 50% of vendors and 50% were different than F-Sepac. Sandy reported the vendors liked doing it during the week and that the evening time is good for many families vs. a weekend afternoon. Co-hosting with other towns was a positive in terms of bringing in more vendors and attendees.

June PAC Talk: is going to be handled by Alisa Skatrud. Cathy Heller will liaise with Alisa (askatrud@hotmail.com) re: getting a panel of speakers for the topic. Valerie had originally proposed George Maranakis, but will use his time elsewhere this year. She may invite Tom Denton for guidance after speaking with Alisa.

Inclusion talk for April 13th. Chris is going to secure herself, Heather Murphy, Dan Gutekanst, 2 principals and a school committee member to discuss the district's inclusion mission. Chris will talk about the history of inclusion. Heather Murphy will talk about responsive classroom and 2nd step and perhaps teacher support teams.

The principals will discuss within their respective bldgs. professional development, anti bullying programs.

It was mentioned that specifics be addressed within the individual bldg and parents to examine the school improvement plans and follow up with school councils for individual questions on inclusion.

The H.S. science curriculum was discussed. Students must pass 3 years of HS science and 1 Science MCAS exam to get a diploma. Order is Biology, Physics, Chemistry and then a science elective. CH urged any parent with a question on this kind of thing call her and she will set up an appt with herself, the parents/student and the science curriculum leader to sort out.

High Rock transition: Kori raised some concerns about enough information about this esp. for Sped children. CB reports there is to be up and running next week a High Rock website. An Insider's Guide to High Rock, like the Insider's Guide to Pollard will be ready closer to summer that will be very helpful. VF believes that the transition plans in action for High Rock are the best: advisory is in place. Cluster models are in place. There will be Sped liaisons, though who is yet to be determined. There is no looping. George Johnson is overseeing the transition and his contact info is on the website -- contact him with concerns/questions. Glen Brand will be meeting at each elementary school discussing/preparing 5th grades for the transition. Both Chris and Valerie assured that the web of transition work has been huge. Best year yet for transition work to MS/High Rock yet.

KASE/EASE transition program: Some preschool families have asked about and KASE/EASE transition program (similar to what they offer for kids going to Pollard) for kindergarteners. CB advises that parents contact Amy Goldman to further this.

RE: EASE Social Games Group, MZ is looking to train some more staff to run another program @ Newman.

Communication: S. Cisternelli reported to CB and MZ that not all parents received letter notification/communication of their child's specialists at the beginning of the school year. Broadmeadow parents asked did not get the information on their child's service providers. Newman was inconsistent: some parents got notification others did not. CB found this information helpful and will be following up.

Professional NPS staff trainings: RE: List of professional trainings for the year. MZ will write up the list and get that to us.

Interim Elementary Sped Director: RE: the new interim Sped Director. It is Dan Needham of Norwood. A retired sped director.

Meeting ended at approximately 1:45 pm.