

SECAC Meeting
September 15, 2022

In Attendance: Jeff Hoffman, Kathy Pitrat, Jeanne Erdley, Angelique McCoy, Kara Stone, Rachel Trovato, Tracy Masur, Marilyn Clarke, Peter Schlehr, Howard Quinn, Andrea Carter, Jamie Yeagle, Kim Heeter, Lo An Fine, Anna Delameter, Karen Jankowiak, Amy Colon, Cathy Bendis, Rachel Harbin, James Cunningham, Patti Hess, Joyce Tiger, Lu Zhang, Colleen Sasdelli, Carie Sadowski, Nicole Holsey, Suzanne Oshinsky, Christina Alton, Trevor Turner, Joe Harbert

- I. Welcome & Announcements
 - a. Welcome from SECAC / Meet the Board
 - b. Next meeting is on October 6, 2022 (Social Opportunities in the Community)
 - c. Join our email list and Facebook for Community Events.
 - d. Please leave comments and questions in the chat.
 - e. Bylaws Change Recommendation will be voted on next meeting. The change suggested is in the Member Section: Currently, members are not described fully. The change would entail describing it as “Members shall be parents, guardians or caregivers of children and youth with a disability, persons with special knowledge and/or interest in matters related to or concerning disability and students or persons with disabilities shall be encouraged to attend or participate in regular SECAC meetings.”
 - f. Zoom Norms
- II. Director of Special Education Colleen Sasdelli introduced herself and her work history in Special Education.
- III. Presentation
 - a. What/Who is new in HCPS Special Education by Colleen Sasdelli - She presented an overview of the Special Education Department. There are new safety liaisons in the middle and high schools. 9 Behavior Coaches have been hired. There are 3 Judy Centers.
 - b. What’s new in the IEP/Transition Section by Peter Schlehr – Transition Planning begins at 14 years old. It is for after high school planning and engaging parents more in the planning.
 - c. Partners for Success by Rachel Trovato – Discussed newsletter, contact information and student calendar.
 - d. Transportation by Cathy Bendis – Discussed the department’s functions, routing of buses, staffing, management of buses and support, GPS and cameras on buses.
 - e. Back To School Mental Health by Christina Alton – Routines, Exercise, Sleep, limit stress, and communication.
 - f. Homework Help by Peter Schlehr – Family involvement helps with self confidence of student. Establish routine and environment. Know assignment and expectations. Focus on strengths and learning process. Know where to go for help. Encourage and praise. Be a positive role model.
- IV. Q & A
 - a. Are there any services or counselors who would be able to help parents look at a student's abilities/ acumen and recommend tech or college programs that would be realistic? Careers that would be realistic/ achievable? List showed of each high school’s transition resource itinerants. Copy of presentation can be requested via Pete’s email.

- b. Who can I reach to help advocate in the school on behalf of my student? Call the school and ask for case manager. If having difficulty, reach out to office of special ed.
 - c. For snow day, if we have online learning, would Harford County offer a laptop or Chromebook to borrow? Technology Dept would be asked because of non-public placement schools.
- V. Closing remarks

Minutes recorded by Kara Stone, SECAC Secretary