

## ***District 49 SEAC Meeting***

**4/15/2024**

### **Meeting In-person, Creekside Success Center**

- I. Welcome/Introductions – Samantha Hollister – Parent Co Chair
- II. Special Education Director – Rhonda May
  - a. It's been very busy. Hiring is going well! We've had more candidates apply this year than in the last 2 years. We are still in need of teachers. Overall district wide hiring has been better.
  - b. We've added a 4<sup>th</sup> Instructional Coach position to the team for next year – we don't plan on filling unless it's the right person.
- III. School to Work Alliance Program Coordinator – Deon Cobasky
  - a. SWAP is embedded in the High Schools working with young people. The focus is students ages 15 – 24, getting jobs, building skills for these students on an IEP or 504.
  - b. The Department of Vocational Rehab working with SWAP Coordinators to customize the needs of each individual including those students with significant needs.
- IV. Open Items/Discussion
  - a. Parent Co-Chair –Samantha Hollister has been the parent co-chair since 2017 and is ready to step down. She has promised to help the incumbent as well as stay involved with SEAC. If anyone is interested, send an email to <mailto:d49SEAC@gmail.com>.
  - b. Next in-person SEAC meeting will be held September 9<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will start at 6pm. An email will notify everyone whether this will be in person or virtual.
  - c. New programming model –Rhonda explained this was now year 1 and the model is going very well minus the staffing shortages. Currently in the Sand Creek Zone there is SSN programming in every building. The Power Zone is focusing on Moderate needs – Independent support and. Has 1 building left without SSN.
  - d. Joy Kovanda proposed an event that would nominate Special Education Teachers and Paraprofessionals. The event would take place in the spring of next school year.
  - e. There is a need for written materials to be translated in other languages – Peak parent center would be a good resource to reach out to.
  - f. Military Families liaison from Peterson AFB mentioned they are willing to work on grants including the application process and expressed a willingness to partner with Peak Parent Center to get this done.

- g. Resource Fair – The group was asked if they thought SEAC should continue holding a resource fair and what date? Skyview seems to be the best option as far as location and availability. The last weekend in September looks to be the best option. Samantha will check with Skyview Middle School and will confirm if available. It was noted the collaboration with D20 and D11 made the fair a success last year. Samantha thought she could reach out to both districts again. It was suggested vendors have QR codes that visitors could scan that would take them to more information, connecting directly to the resource the vendor offers. It was also suggested to have interpreters for those families speaking other languages. Samantha will reach out to the high schools and see if there are students who can help with this.