

District 49 SEAC Meeting

2/12/24

Meeting via ZOOM

- I. Welcome/Introductions – Joy Kovanda – Staff Co Chair
- II. Special Education Director – Rhonda May
 - a. Special Education has started focusing on next school year, posting positions. We continue to have staffing struggles and are not yet fully staffed. The staff who are working amid the staff shortages are working hard and doing a great job.
 - b. We've added another instructional coach position to the team for next year.
 - c. Secondary reading instruction for Middle and High Schools is going very well, I am reaching out to principals for additional feedback and increased participation.
- III. Board of Education – Lori Thompson – Not present
- IV. District Update – Dr. Nancy Lemmond/Peter Hilts – Not present
- V. 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 on April 8th at Creekside Success Center, 3850 Pony Tracks Dr., 80922. The meeting will start at 6pm.
 - c. Kelli Green inquired about the new programming model – wondering how things were going. Rhonda explained this was now year 1 and the model is going very well minus the staffing shortages. The focus is still on training - scheduling, analyzing needs, and deploying resources
 - d. Joy Kovanda (FMS) spoke on Co-teaching at the secondary level and how well it is working. Students are also partnering with the General Education students in PE class.
Additionally (FHS) has an incredible SSN Instructional Coach who is doing a fantastic job.
 - e. IEP translation – There is a system currently in place for IEP document translation. If you need your IEP translated, contact your child's case manager to request this service.
 - f. Mental Health – Will the district be implementing the new law? Yes, we are already working with it. The staffing shortages are affecting the overall outcome. The shortages are on the outside as well. We are doing our best to work within

the law. We have upped our recruiting efforts, increased pay for school psych interns to help with the load. We are trying to be as flexible as we can to get the services.

- g. Sarah Brockberg, Adaptive PE Teacher reported on the community events she has helped organize which were a huge success. Last fall, there were 3 events for MS and HS Special Education students; Soccer, Cross Country, and Bowling. This spring she mentioned a field trip to the US Olympic Center as well as the upcoming spring activities; Basketball at SCHS on March 7th, Fishing (TBD), and Track and Field (TBD). Our Special Education Students will partner up with their General Education peers for these fun events.