

District 49 SEAC Meeting Agenda

03/13/2023

- I. Welcome/Introductions – Tina Vidovich - Staff Co-Chair
- II. Special Education Department Update – Rhonda May – Special Education Director
Nothing to update since last month’s meeting. Hiring and Professional Development are still the main priorities.
- III. Board of Education Update – Lori Thompson - SEAC Board Liaison
Nothing new to report. The Board is looking forward to SEAC’s presentation on April 20th.
- IV. District Update – Dr. Nancy Lemmond/Peter Hilts – Not present
- V. Discussion Items
 - a. SEAC Focus Groups
Focus Groups met last week. The outcomes focused on communication, support – including resources and training. Overall, a positive experience which proved good for staff. Rhonda mentioned the survey sent out by Special Education which returned a high participation rate. The top remarks in the survey related to the need for more staff, more communication, and professional development –not “what” but “when” to make it accessible. The groups were honest, positive and hopeful.
 - b. Increased SEAC engagement
Suggestions started rolling on the various ways to increase engagement for SEAC. Bring a Friend, Hybrid meetings with an occasional in-person meeting, business cards including printing some for itinerants to hand out, sending evites, passing business cards out to Sara Brockberg’s Adaptive PE events. Include SEAC meeting information in school newsletters and facebook pages. A suggestion was made to pass out brochures at school events. Another suggestion was made to host an in-person meeting on May 8th and make it a potluck
- VI. Comments/Questions
 - a. “Bright Spots” and Building updates
Lori shared VRHS has 2 new course offerings – “Functional Fashion/Costume Design” for Special Education Students/Student Mentors. Students will learn how to sort/laundry/fold/mend clothes as well as dive into costume design. Another course that could fit students with disabilities is the “PE Alternative Walking” class where the main competition is oneself. The class would be outside weather permitting but will come inside when weather is not so good.
 - b. Sarah Brockberg was recognized for her Adaptive PE Basketball Tournament with over 150 students (both Students with Disabilities and PE partners) participating. Lots of smiles.
 - c. Jill Adler was recognized for her Autism trainings. Staff from all over have had positive things to say about the training and looking forward to many more