

PASE Meeting Minutes

April 26, 2021

Members Present: Heather Bright, Crystal Delaney, Rachel Eggleton, Dawn Hodgkinson, Lindsey Kloeckner, Sarah Kugler, Carol Lippert, Stacey Manning, Brenda Miller, Elisa Rush, Julie Scott, Sarah Szuminski, Megan Wacker

Guests: Bill Behrendt, Laura McCloud, Toni Moore, Joanne Platt, Kindy Segovia, Jann VanAirdale, Sarah Whitaker

Excused: none

I. Welcome and Announcements

Bill Behrendt introduced himself and welcomed the group. Kirsten Myers had a conflict and was not able to attend tonight's meeting.

II. Approve Minutes of March 1, 2021

A motion was made by Carol Lippert to approve the minutes of March 1, 2021. Motion was seconded by Lindsey Kloeckner and approved with no opposition.

III. Superintendents' Advisory Committee Update

Bill Behrendt reviewed the minutes from our meeting in March. There was an update on obligations of FAPE during COVID and reviewed the number of CLPs that were implemented in Kent County (80%). That is an excellent number as some IEPs could be implemented without a CLP. Early Childhood Special Education shared data they are gathering from districts regarding programs and services in the county. Reviewed B13 requirements for transition services. Our new Speech & Language Guidelines were approved.

IV. Assistive Technology Update

AT has grown over the last few years. We now have Suzy Ruskusky as an AAC Consultant and Amanda Kanitz as a Support for SE Instructional Resources. Kindy reviewed the decision making process for Assistive Technology tools and supports. AT is a supplementary aid that is necessary for the student to participate and progress in the Least Restrictive Environment. A google doc was shared that included many assistive technology supports.

- There are many family friendly adaptive games available in our library (through your educational partners).
- Tar Heel Reader & Tar Heel Game Play offer many books and game opportunities.
- Bookshare is an accessible online library that have auditory support – sign up is free but a school referral is required.

- Storyline online & Unite for literacy tend to have books for younger kids (elementary and preschool). They are both free. The books are read by celebrities and include different languages.
- Read&Write is a digital text reader that will read aloud digital materials. This is free.
- Keyboarding practice is a great summer activity.
- Story Writing using Little Bird Tales or Story Jumper.
- Using Visual Task Lists or sticky notes can help with behavior.
- Connectability app helps to create free visual supports
- Move It Chrome Extension will pause a computer after a specific amount of time to encourage activity
- Apps for calming and movement: Smiling Mind and Sworkit Kids. Both free.
- Kindy shared the Communication Bill of Rights. Communication supports should be consistent between school and home.
- Communicate with your child's IEP team about the AT process.
- The PowerPoint and video will be sent to participants for more specific details that were shared during the meeting.

V. Transition Planning

Students that receive a Certificate of Completion are able to continue with transition services up to the age of 26. Many students are able to move on before that age. CTC is a center program that provides instruction and opportunities for employment and independent living skills for young adults. They have a continuum of service designed to meet a wide range of student needs: CTC Mayfield, CTC Straight and CTC Community Sites. CTC supports all districts and can be a postsecondary option for students seeking a Certificate of Completion. Lincoln Pines and Pine Grove serve students with special needs from K-age 26.

Region 1 has a transition program (R1TS) for students with special needs that live within that region of our district (Cedar Springs, Comstock Park, Kenowa Hills, Kent City, Northview, Rockford and Sparta.

Local district programs: Caledonia, Forest Hills, Grandville (serves Region III) and Kentwood.

Community Agencies:

- Network 180 is charged with meeting the public mental health needs of the community. They provide services to people who have mental illness, substance use disorders and developmental disabilities. They are funded through Medicaid. Services include: supports coordination, community living supports, respite, supported employment, skill-building, psychiatric services, ABA, behavioral services and residential. Network 180 and MRS will open up a case and work with vendors to provide supports and services.
- Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS) – Mission is to achieve quality employment outcomes and independence for students with disabilities. They support any student with a documented disability – not required to have an IEP. They offer vocational assessment, career exploration, counseling, job coaching, etc. They will work with adults at any age.

- Most likely your student will go through one of these organization for supports after age 18.

VI. PASE Member Elections for 2021-22

We are going to table this until our first meeting in the fall.

VII. Summer Camps/Programs

A document was emailed to participants that shares a non-inclusive list of summer camps and programs. Participants were invited to share with us any camps or programs that they are aware of.

VIII. Public Comment and Closing

This is the last PASE Meeting for 2020-21. No additional comments for closing.