

PASE Meeting Minutes

October 17, 2022

Virtual via Zoom

Members Present: Marcia Black, Erin Davis, Kassie Franklin, Jennifer Gard, Kristine Hardy, Ronda Kaechele, Laura Kenyon, Sarah Kugler, Aryn Manni, Maria Mora-Bowen, Robin Morehouse, Emily Perton, Renae Port, Erin Richardson, Karen Schwedler, Joanne Six, Nate Steinberg, Sarah Szuminski, Megan Wacker, Sarah Whitaker

Guests: Sheree Harmon, Raechelle Huston, Ann Jackson, Jodi LaFeldt, Sara Larkin, Toni Moore, Kirsten Myers, Joanne Platt, Jamie Venema, Deb Whitford

Excused: Heather Bright, Dawn Hodgkinson, Heather Kalafut, Lindsey Kloeckner, Mary Smith

I. Welcome and Announcements

Kirsten Myers welcomed the group and began with introductions. Each parent took turns introducing themselves and shared some basic info about their special needs child. We had 18 in-person participants and 12 virtual.

II. Approve Minutes of April 18, 2022

Minutes were provided before the meeting. Sarah Kugler made the motion to approve the minutes and it was seconded by Laura Kenyon.

III. Superintendents' Advisory Committee Update

Jennifer Gard gave an update from the last meeting on September 9th. The topics covered as part of State of the County were: LRE, Strategic Planning and Count Day (timely data submission; Superintendent only authority to decertify). There were also budget updates shared. These meetings have representation from all regions.

IV. PASE Purpose

Nate Steinberg gave an overview of the purpose of PASE: To positively impact educational opportunities for children with special needs through parent collaboration and education. Kirsten added that our meetings are required under MARSE rules. There were no changes in the PASE leadership as they were all voted in last year for a two-year term.

Chair: Nate Steinberg (two-year commitment)

Vice-Chair: Megan Wacker (two-year commitment)

Superintendents' Advisory Rep: Jennifer Gard (three-year commitment)

Secretary: Lindsey Kloeckner (two-year commitment)

V. Strategic Planning and Goals for the Year

This was launched in the fall of 2022 – a 3-year plan. It aligns to the Kent ISD Plan (expended upon goals commensurate to SE). Goals were built around the staff, admin and parent input from our survey results.

- Goal #1 – High quality program; increase results. Focus on: dropout & grad rate improvements, assessment proficiency, disproportionality of black and brown with CI eligibility; removals, LRE, General Supervision Monitoring, Coaching, ECSE programs – increase inclusion, Center Programs, MiPSE, Medicaid, Finance

- Goal #1 – IEP Development & Tools
- Goal #1 – Retention & recruitment/Equity
- Goal #4 – Community & Partner Engagement

VI. Brainstorming for PASE

We reviewed our PASE wish list from last year and the topics – only Assistive Tech and Understanding Eligibility were not addressed. We worked in team to develop a list of PASE topics to consider for 2022-23. Someone from each group shared their topics.

- Services
- Eligibility Criteria
- Sib Shops
- Diploma vs. COC
- FBA/PBSP
- Role of GE teacher
- IEP at a Glance
- Summer Enrichment
- Medicaid Waiver Program
- Community Resources
- LRE – and then what
- Parent/Staff Partnership
- Accessibility Awareness
- Educator Training
- Awareness of Resources
- Language; What’s Correct

VII. New Position and Initiatives

Kirsten introduced Jennifer Gard (a PASE parent) as our Special Education Parent Liaison. Jennifer gave a brief bio – MSW, Clinical – family reunification. She shared her vision for this new position and the areas that she will be focusing on this year.

- Help facilitate communication between LEA and parent
- Professional Development (IEP training)
- Parent Newsletter (Parent Pulse)
- Parent Resource Guide – just updated

Kirsten also shared that we just received a \$25,000 endowment in cooperation with KDL to create a video library.

VIII. Public Comment and Closing

Our next meeting is November 28th @ 6:30 and will now be held in-person with a virtual option. We took a quick poll and most parents would like an in-person option.