

PASE Meeting Minutes

October 04, 2021

Virtual via Zoom

Members Present: Ashley Adams, Heather Brand, Danielle Churchill, Jeremy Churchill, Rachel Eggleton, Romulo Garcia, Jennifer Gard, Hector Guillen, Dawn Hodgkinson, Rhonda Kaechele, Heather Kalafut, Laura Kenyon, Lindsey Kloeckner, Sarah Kugler, Maria Mora-Bowen, Karen Schwedler, Julie Scott, Mary Smith, Nate Steinberg, Sarah Szuminski, Ann Thompson, Megan Wacker, Sarah Whitaker

Guests: Amanda Angel, Wendy Dubuisson, Jason Hoogenstyn. Lori Matthews, Laura McCloud, Dorothy Meier, Toni Moore, Kirsten Myers, Joanne Platt, Lisa Runyon, Karen Schwedler, Erin Tacoma, Ann Thompson, Angie Thornburgh

Excused: Darcia Black, Sandy Doornbos

I. Welcome and Announcements

Kirsten Myers welcomed the group and began with introductions. The Special Ed Directors and Supervisors that were present introduced themselves. Each parent took turns introducing themselves and shared some basic info about their special needs child.

II. Approve Minutes of April 26, 2021

Minutes were provided before the meeting.

III. PASE Purpose and Elections

The purpose of PASE is to positively impact educational opportunities for children with special needs through parent collaboration and education. We were pleased at the number of PASE reps that volunteered to fill a committee position. We used a zoom poll for members to vote on positions that yielded the following results

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)

IV. Superintendents' Advisory Committee Update

Kirsten reviewed the topics shared at the last meeting on September 10th.

V. Kent ISD's Why & Motto for the Year

- Difference Maker

- #countonme #weleadlearning #raisethebar #improvingoutcomes

- Specific focus to reduce the moderate risk for suspension/expulsion for students of color

VI. Mission & Vision of Kent ISD

- New strategic plan coming in 2023
- 11 areas of focus
 - *Ongoing & priority June 2020
 - *Long term goals June 2022

VII. Kent ISD Initiatives for the Year

- Supporting equity
 - Lack of growth & progress for black/brown students with disabilities
 - Need for culturally responsive departments
- Improving outcomes for students
- Staff & student mental wellness
- New strategic plan for 2022-2025
- Kent ISD Special Education Website
- Looking at skills-based treatment
- How do parents engage more collaboratively in IEPs?

VIII. Topics for Meetings/Discussion

Full group participated in a Google jam board to determine the topic list for the coming year. The compiled list will be shared with the group at our next meeting and will help us in planning future meetings and correspondence.

IX. Public Comment and Closing

Our next meeting is December 6th @ 6:30 and will be held virtually. Toni Moore shared that GRPS and other districts are facing a vacancy crisis. Please consider and refer to your networks. Maria Mora Bowen asked how other parents use their position as a PASE rep to help other parents. Sarah Kugler shared that there used to be PAC groups but now she just shares with other parents that she knows.