

## Special Services Committee Meeting Notes

Monday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014. 1:00 PM

### **Attending:**

Board Members: Chiung-yin Liu (Chair), Barbara Garrity, Ana M. Vander Woude, Mike Sockol (via phone)

Administrators: Barbara Duncan, Meryl Gill,

### **1. Special Education Statistics for September, 2014**

- Village: 117 students with IEP's (June 2014 - 140 students)
- Indian Hill: 97 students with IEP's (June 2014 - 100)
- Satz: 78 students with IEP's (June 2014 - 76)
- HHS: 133 students with IEP's (June 2014 - 137)
- Out of District Service: 12 students with IEP's (June 2014 - 18)

**Total: 441 with IEP's** (June 2014 - 471 students)

### **2. Recommendation for Special Education Social Skills Facilitator Position**

- The Special Services committee supports Mrs. Duncan and Ms. Gill's recommendation for our current District Social Worker, Mrs. Cheryl Tosk, to take this new position.
- This assignment change is on the August Board agenda for approval.

### **3. Recommendation for Monitor Position.**

- Ms. Gill reported there are two openings for the monitor positions.
- New monitors were identified, and will be on agenda for approval.

### **4. Establish 2 Special Education Classes for the 2014/2015 School Year**

Ms. Gill requested that two new classes need to be established. The classes are on the August agenda for approval. The Special Services Committee supports this request.

#### **Satz School -**

- Currently, there is no self-contained Autism Class at Satz School.
- To better educate the students coming from the self-contained Autism class at Indian Hill School, forming a self-contained Autism Class at Satz School is needed.
- A teacher position was approved in June.

#### **Village School -**

- Currently, there is no Multiple Disabilities Class for Kindergarten.
- To better educate the students with Multiple Disabilities for the Kindergarten level at Village School, there is a need to form a new Multiple Disabilities Class.
- One Indian Hill teacher will transfer to Village School to take this position after one Indian Hill resource classroom is closed.

### **5. Tuition students updates**

- Ms. Gill indicated 6 tuition special education students will attend Holmdel Schools in 2014/2015 school year.
- Five will be attending the Visually Impaired program
- One will attend the Multiple Disabilities program at Village School.
- The motions are on the August 27<sup>th</sup> Board of Education agenda for approval.

## **6. *Review of the Extended School Year Program***

- The program ran between 7/7/14 and 8/14/14
- The program took place at Village School for all participants
- The program was mandated and free to all participants
- A one-on-one monitor was provided
- The attendance rate was great except for the last week
- The Special Services Committee suggested that the Special Services Department continue to communicate with parents to improve notification from parents of planned vacations. This will, hopefully, maximize the efficiency of overall planning.

## **7. *Pre-School Program update***

As of the meeting date, there are

- 9 students attending the 3 year old program and
- 7 students attending the 4 year old program.

## **8. *SEPAG (Special Education Parent Advisory Group)***

- Ms. Gill reported that she and Village School Principal, Mr. Schillaci, met with Co-presidents of ARISE, Mrs. Vander Woude and Mrs. Conlan, on August 5th.
- The ARISE group showed high interest in being recognized as the Holmdel School District SEPAG group for the 2014/2015 school year.
- Mrs. Duncan and Ms. Gill will research the proper format for officially recognizing SEPAG
- To recognize ARISE as the Holmdel SEPAG group for 2014/2015 school year, Ms. Gill indicated that the following:
  - All ARISE meetings will take place on school grounds
  - Ms. Gill will draft each meeting agenda and share it with leadership for review
  - There is no budget funding for the ARISE group
  - Ms. Gill will recruit the volunteer speakers for the group
  - Ms. Gill will attend all ARISE meetings
  - There is no separate website set up for the ARISE group. All related information will be posted under the Special Services Department web page
  - All the meeting dates will be added to the district calendar
  - ARISE will draft meeting notices
  - Special Services Department will send out the meeting notices
  - A planning meeting between the two parties will take place in September to discuss the details for the meetings

\*Next Meeting: Thursday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 12:00 p.m., in the Board Conference Room

**Sincerely Submitted,**

**Chiung-yin Cheng Liu, Chair**