

Special Services Committee Meeting Notes

Friday, February 7, 2014, 1:15 PM

Attending:

Board Members: Chiung-yin Liu (Chair), Barbara Garrity, Mike Sockol, Ana M. Vander Woude,
Administrators: Barbara Duncan, Meryl Gill,

1. Welcome New Members

The Special Services Committee welcomed two new members, Ms. Garrity and Mr. Sockol.

2. 2013 Special Service Committee Annual Report

The Special Services Committee reviewed the annual report drafted by the Chair.

3. Special Education Statistics for February, 2014

Village:	120 students with IEP's (December 2013 - 129 students)
Indian Hill:	104 (December 2013 - 99)
Satz:	76 (December 2013 - 76)
HHS:	139 (December 2013 - 139)
Out of District Service:	18 (December 2013 - 18)
<i>Total:</i>	<i>457 (December 2013 - 473)</i>

4. Preschool Changes for 2014/2015

An Information session took place on the morning of February 6th. Applications are due on February 21st. Ms. Gill reported, after analyzing costs and information regarding tuition charges from the local preschools and other districts provided by the District Early Childhood Program Consultant, Mrs. Susan McGinty, it was decided that the tuition was to be increased from \$300.00 to \$350.00 per student per month. The Special Services Committee accepted this recommendation.

Advertisements will continue through the district website, school newsletters and local media.

5. Special Education Planning Committee Updates

- **Life Skills Room**

Currently, Indian Hill School has a Life Skills program to help students with IEP's. Participants are recommended by the teachers, and parental consent is needed. Currently, 9 students are participating in the program. Holmdel High School will be offering the Life Skills program beginning September 2014.

- **Donation Wish List**

The Special Ed Planning Committee has recommended a wish list for the Special Services Department. Ms. Gill indicated she will post this list on the department webpage and send more information through the newsletter of each school.

6. Sports Expo—Update

Date of event: Tuesday, June 3rd.

Location: Holmdel Cross Farm Park.

Besides the districts which participated last year, Union Beach School District has shown interest in participating. The Special Olympics Organization of New Jersey has pledged a \$5000 non-monetary donation to the event. The next planning meeting has been scheduled for February 25th.

7. *Professional Development Update*

- The Regional Professional Development Academy (RPDA) Catalog is available throughout the year (available to parents as well).
- “Enhancing Student Opportunity in an Inclusive Setting Workshop” will be offered to various teachers through the remainder of the year.

8. *New Consultant*

Ms. Gill recommended Dr. Alison Smoller, Developmental Behavioral Pediatrician, to be added to the district list of contracted providers. The Special Services Committee accepted the recommendation. The appointment will be on the next BOE meeting agenda for approval.

9. *Item for the Good of the Order*

Mr. Sockol inquired about professional development and how it benefits our students.

*Next Meetings: March 7th, 1:00 p.m., Central Office Conference Room

April 4th, 12:45 p.m., HHS Upper Library Conference Room

Sincerely Submitted,

Chiung-yin Cheng Liu