

Holmdel Township Board of Education
Special Education Subcommittee

Meeting Minutes – August 15th, 2007, 4PM

Attendance: J. Burke, Chair, B. Duncan, R. Rosenberg, M. Gill, M. Hartnett, P. Pascucci, A. Vander Woude

Extended School Year

- Very successful. Program was 6 weeks (as it was prior to last year – 4 weeks) and that additional 2 weeks was very valuable to the children. 5 Student volunteers did an excellent job and received letters of recognition from the Administration. Cynthia in transportation was very helpful to the process. Some attendance was light and letters will go home emphasizing that advance notice of student absenteeism would be helpful.

Staffing

- Open position for a part-time PM pre-school class monitor due to second session being needed for increased enrollment. Several recent hires on-boarded: part-time Physical Therapist, Speech Therapist, Occupational Therapist (contracted 2 days per week), Indian Hill teacher, Temporary leave replacement for Village to cover various vacancies.

Professional Development

- Special Services will present at the New Staff Orientation on August 28, 2007. Memo going out from Barbara Duncan explaining Faculty's Roles and Responsibilities in the IEP Process.

New Students

- There is an increase in Special Education student enrollment. None require out-of-district placement. Although more students enrolled, no budgetary impact yet.

Orientation and Mobility Services

- Hired consultant for visually impaired children to spend 4 hours per week (3 direct, 1 indirect) with each student.

Student Portfolios

- New process implemented to supplement the IEPs. Collaborative effort between Special Ed and General Ed teachers. Will be very helpful for following a child's progress and eventually will become an articulation portfolio to follow the child through school progression.

Assistive Technology

- Currently taking inventory to ensure equipment in working order for start of school year. The State has requested our collaboration with Rutgers University to show how we use this type of technology in teaching. Probably use Indian Hill as the place to start due to Sound Field, etc.

Transition Services

- The Transition Committee is meeting to look for better ways to improve the process. Members will reach out to local business leaders to help secure meaningful experiences for the students.