

Special Service Committee Meeting Notes

Wednesday, January 24th, 2013, 11:00 AM

Attending:

Board Members: Chiung-yin Liu (Chair), Joseph Hammer, Ana M. Vander Woude, Robin Wetmore

Administrators: Barbara Duncan, Meryl Gill

1. Welcome and Overview of Special Education Services and programs

Ms. Gill welcomed the new committee members and provided an overview and description of special education services and programs.

2. Approval of Submission of Nursing Plan

The Special Service Committee reviewed the nursing plan provided by the school nurses from each of the four schools. The Nursing Plan will be submitted to the County Office.

The Special Service Committee recommends the submission of this plan to the full board.

3. Special Olympics Expo for 2013

During the 2012 school year, a number of students with IEP's participated in a sports expo held at The College of New Jersey. It was a successful and positive experience for those participants.

For the 2013 event, the Special Services Department would like to host this event in Holmdel
The current plan:

- Date: a one day event in late May or early June,
- Location: Cross Farm Park
- Sponsorships: The Special Olympics of New Jersey, local business and individuals.
- Plan to invite neighboring towns to participate.
- Main sport: Soccer (if there is a large number of participants, Track and Field activities will be considered).
- Ms. Gill will update the committee at the next meeting.

The Special Service Committee happily recommends this event to the full board.

4. Transition Committee update

- The Transition Committee consists of teachers, OT, PT, administrators, CST members and parents. The present mission is to assist in training staff and administrators on best practices when working with students with various types of disabilities as they articulate from school to school.
 - a) Sub Groups are presently meeting on the following topics.
Continued development of the Adaptive Physical Education and Health curriculum for students with IEP's.
 - b) Planning of the February 15th Professional Development Day for substitute teachers and monitors.
 - c) Life skills Curriculum
 - d) Next Transition Committee meeting will be on February 19th.

5. Non-Monetary Donation from the Special Olympics Organization

The District has been awarded with a Non-Monetary Donation up to \$5000 from the Special Olympics Organization of New Jersey. The Special Services Department plans to use this donation in the following way

1. Professional Development Opportunities for various staff in the area of Adaptive Physical Education.
2. Supplies to support the Adaptive Physical Education Program
3. Paid buses and activities for the Best Buddies Club
4. Tee-shirts, banners and other various items for the students and staff involved in the 2013 Expo Event

Susan Colacello, Education and Families Director and Project UNIFY New Jersey, Project Director of Special Olympics New Jersey, presented a workshop to district Occupational Therapists and Physical Education Teachers (one teacher from each school) on January 16, 2013. The first hour was an overview on how to include students with IEP's into the large group setting. In addition, there were information accommodations and modifications. The second hour included actual activities to use when working with student with IEP's in APE classes. This Workshop was well-received.

6. Item for the Good of Order

- Ms. Gill and Beth Lieberman will provide an overview of a new curriculum "Re-Think Autism" training, which was done over the summer. Full implementation of this program started in September.
- Dr. and Mrs. Gershenow of Eyes first Vision Center has notified Ms. Gill that their annual fundraising supporting the district autism programs will take place in April.

*Next Meeting: February 28th, 11:00 AM.

Sincerely Submitted,
Chiung-yin Cheng Liu