

Summary of ZSEAC meetings for 2022-2023 school year

During our first meeting Scott Devillier, our superintendent gave greetings and introductions of team members for the 2022-2024 school years. He gave the general responsibilities of the council and appreciated their volunteering. He indicated that he was appointing Aeneid Mason, Director of Student Support, as the chairperson. Charlotte Delatorre volunteered to be note taker. Members had been provided welcome packets prior to the meeting which included job descriptions of members, ethics guidelines, SEAC handbook, explanation of OML (Open Meeting Law) and SASSY organizational chart.

Guidelines for future meetings were set. Future meeting dates, time, and place for meetings (5:30pm-7:00pm at the main school board office). Items for the agenda would be recommended at the end of the meeting. Any other recommendations for the agenda will be sent at least 4 workdays prior to the meeting, so they will be included in the agenda that is posted for the public.

Goals for the year were set at the first meeting. They were:(not in order of priority)

1. Explanation of SASSY department and an overall preview of what is currently happening in the Special Education department including any plans,
2. Suggestions of ways to promote better communication between parents, schools, and community,
3. The need to update our website to be more family friendly, and
4. Ways to keep parents updated on Laws and resources available.

Discussions at each meeting focused on addressing the goals set. Discussions, comments, and recommendations for each goal are as follows:

1. An explanation of the SASSY department was provided, questions were answered, and suggestions were given that department functions be explained clearer on the website and who to contact for specific questions Also add. Q & A on website. Input of questions would also be provided by SEAC members. Other discussions were held about cameras in the classroom. Cameras have been installed and parents affected have been notified. Those members who received their notice indicated so. Discussions were held relative to SEL programs in the schools; AEM has been in our Sped classrooms; programs planned for the fall to address behavior and co-teaching were also discussed.
2. Discussions were held on better ways for parents, teachers, and the community to communicate. Members recommended that they be assigned specific schools so individuals would know which council member to contact for guidance for their child's particular school rather than using social media. It was decided that this would be noted on the website under ZSEAC for the 2023-2024 school year. Members also recommended that an open forum be set up with Mrs. Mason periodically throughout the year, so parents could come and talk about issues. This would be called Mocha with Mason. It was agreed to try and work out the logistics for this for the 2023-2024 school

year. It was also felt that the Q & A on the website would help assist lines of communication.

3 and 4. Specific suggestions for updating the website were made. Mrs. Chesterfield from Families Helping Families shared numerous resources they had available. It was suggested that we place their link on our website under programs and services, so individuals could access. Some specific resources they would like to include are updates on Laws, financial support; like waivers available, understanding the IEP, and how parents can help their child(ren) at home. Available workshops will be discussed with FHF, other agencies, and resources, so that some could be set up for the fall.

At the final meeting of the year, everyone was reminded that we would have a summer meeting to discuss progress and future steps. The meeting will be held between July 10th - 14th. Notifications will be sent.

School orientation dates for the new school year were shared as well as a reminder to look for our link on the website.

completed by Aeneid H. Mason