

SEPAC Meeting Notes

April 20, 2004

Attendees: Karen Lynch, Chris Cline, Laure Schnackenberg, Susan Dexter, Diane D. DiChiara, Trish McCarthy, Susan Carr, Bonnie Marshall, Gina Andress, Johanna Hudak, Lloyd Jaeger, Jim Cardus, Ray Healey, Bratrice Moffett, Steve Boffoli.

Healey/budget

The cuts to the budget include reducing teaching assistants. Hudak has guidelines on recommending 1-1 for all CSE chair personnel. Study skills program being cut for sixth graders and replaced with reading instruction. Additions will include 7th grade language class at Van Wyck, enrichment teacher, guidance teacher at John Jay and part-time CSE chairperson.

Yaeger/response to questions

Program development/staff development: Working with Ray Healey and WCSD on program development/staff development (joint plan for differentiated instruction – link CPSD plan and GE plan.)

Instruction: Wants to see continuum of instruction across board. Will take time to accomplish. Is working with Ray on spring/summer training workshops.

Diploma issue: Explained how the advisory committee came up with Option #2 of having 55 for cohort student 2000-0004. Four options considered. Confirmed safety-net for SE still stands. The BOE will have an open hearing for public comment and is expected to have a decision by May on diploma issue.

Student Standard and Benchmark Program: A 14-month plan to commence 2005-middle school level.

- Universal access for more students
- Summer school
- Establish reasoning and performance benchmark
- Technology access
- Transportation

SEPAC Brochure

SEPAC brochure was introduced. Two changes were agreed on. Changes will be made by Gina and sent to Mary Ward to make copies. Copies will be available 4/21 at PRC. Ray will distribute to CSE chairpersons Friday 4/23.

Election Coordination

Nominations were collected by election coordinator Steve Boffoli. Three names were collected. Karen Lynch for chair position; Steve Boffoli for vice chair and Gina Andress for secretary. All three accepted nominations. Anyone wishing to vote prior to next meeting must send Steve Boffoli an email (has to be voting member – attended at least four SEPAC meetings this school year). If you are not a voting member than a request has to go to the by-laws subcommittee for approval to vote. Email Steve.

Other

Karen and Gina will draft letter for BOE supporting Yaeger advisory committee Option #2/55 diploma issue. Will follow-up with PTA Council decision. Will also include fostering/supporting remediation programs at high school level to aim for second test to achieve 65. Do not want to see decline of programs that encourage achieving higher standards.

Autism Walk 4/25

Steve Boffoli has booth for SEPAC. Gina and Steve will be available at booth promoting WCSO SEPAC with brochure. Volunteers requested. Some members will be there to help out.

Web-site

Web-site subcommittee met earlier today. Committee is looking at Topica for SEPAC as online communication vehicle for SEPAC members. Instructions will be provided to members.

SEPAC Report to Ray follow-up

Ray provided everyone with written answers to questions. Some items are being evaluated and others have been resolved. A copy of the report can be obtained from Sue Versace, Ray's secretary.