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Meeting Notes for SEPAC 2021-05-05 at 6:30pm

<b>Open Meeting</b>	Meeting opened at 6:40 Board participants present: Elizabeth Melo, Meghan Nawaoichik, Beth Colburn, Becky Norum Heather Murphy was absent
<b>Meeting Minutes</b>	Approved 4:0:0
<b>Public Participation</b>	No topics brought up
<b>Voting Board 2021-2022</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● J. Ortiz asked about responsibilities for PR/Membership Chair; said were discussed</li><li>● Attendees voted via google form ballot</li><li>● 7 people voted; results:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Co-Presidents: Elizabeth Melo, Meghan Nawaoichik</li><li>○ Treasurer: Meghan Nawaoichik</li><li>○ Secretary: Becky Norum</li><li>○ Membership: Beth Colburn</li><li>○ PR: Jennifer Ortiz</li></ul></li></ul>
<b>Mary Houde Update</b>	Updates from M. Houde, SPED Director  <b>Dyslexia</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Dyslexia screening belongs in General Ed, RTI which is led by Susan Astone (<a href="mailto:astone@bpsk12.org">astone@bpsk12.org</a>)<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Mary will share link to RTI handbook</li><li>○ <a href="https://www.burlingtonpublicschools.org/departments/office-of-teaching-learning/multi-tiered-system-of-supports-mtss-rti">https://www.burlingtonpublicschools.org/departments/office-of-teaching-learning/multi-tiered-system-of-supports-mtss-rti</a></li><li>○ Renee Sacco is literacy lead in district</li></ul></li><li>● Mary invited Susan to the next SEPAC meeting in June</li><li>● Changes in district: adding preschool screening (D. Clarke of BECC investigating options; have one for older preschool but doesn't work for 3-year olds), gathering family history to questionnaires</li></ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The answer of whether all screening data is shared with parents is open - Susan should be able to speak to that</li> <li>● M. Houde suggested to Dr. Conti that discussion of dyslexia screening be presented in a school committee meeting</li> <li>● G. Janusis asked how progress during RTI is being communicated to parents; many parents are confused on what progress monitoring data means and how. We need easy to understand language here and training help, information about what parents can do and what the teacher adjusts to help student. M. Houde to bring up issues and ideas.</li> <li>● HP: Adding dyslexia screening for all preschoolers or for just students at BECC? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ M. Houde: Not sure what happens in private or home setting if we have to reach out or wait for someone to reach out to us. Will bring to D. Clarke</li> </ul> </li> <li>● HP: Don't over-index on family history; many are not known</li> <li>● HP: Can you describe current process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ M. Houde will send RTI Handbook</li> </ul> </li> <li>● HP: Concerned that kids screened for dyslexia can live a long time in RTI process which isn't using Orton-Gillingham (OG) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ M. Houde suggested this is a good topic with S. Astone</li> </ul> </li> <li>● M. Houde: 14 special ed teachers are going to a morphology workshop this summer</li> <li>● M. Nawoichik: Who is supervising OG educators in district</li> <li>● M. Houde: 2 teachers are starting full year training in OG</li> </ul>
<p><b>Thank you to Mary Houde for her service</b></p>	
<p><b>Update: Hiring</b></p>	<p>Update for hiring of new SPED Director</p> <p>M. Nawoichik and B. Colburn are on the hiring committee to represent parents; submitted availability for dates and waiting for next steps. In addition to SEPAC, participants include Martha Simon &amp; Chris Monaco from the school committee, two team chairs, two principals (elementary), and two teachers will be on the interview committee.</p> <p>Process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Resume review</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First round interviews with group</li> <li>• Second round with Dr. Conti and Team Chairs</li> <li>• Final decision</li> </ul> <p>G. Janusis: will candidates go to SC before hiring? (Not planned.)</p>
<b>Remote Snow Days</b>	B. Colburn would like to keep this on radar because it will come up next year as to whether or not this will be done as it can be hard on SPED for services.
<b>Subcommittee updates</b>	<p>Literacy: No additional updates in addition to earlier discussion</p> <p>Bullying:</p> <p>G. Janusis started a document to try and figure out more specifically what skill gaps could lead to a slightly better idea of whether or not a child is vulnerable and, if so, how we could direct skill goals. Example is communication - can the student accurately report bullying? Is the student verbal? If not, does student have a goal related to this to practice on their IEP</p>
<b>SEPAC Awards</b>	<p>Nearly 30 teachers and staff were nominated! Recipient was selected.</p> <p>Winner will be announced at the May 25th SC meeting.</p> <p>M. Nawaoichik motioned to extend the SEPAC award from \$50 to \$150 to allow 3 winners for the award. B. Norum seconded. Vote 4:0:0</p>
<b>General Participation</b>	<p><u>Learning from Remote Learning</u></p> <p>J. Ortiz: have there been work on the good parts of remote learning and bringing it into the curriculum? Example: some kids learn better in small groups.</p> <p>M. Houde: there have been discussions of what we learn from technology and how to help remote students transition back into building.</p> <p><u>DESE Funding</u></p> <p>B. Colburn: How can we ensure that all students have access to new enrichment programs that may be provided using DESE funding?</p> <p>“As you plan for enrichment programs using DESE funding this summer, please ensure that the planning and timing for these is equitable so that all students, including special education students receiving ESY or compensatory services, have the opportunity to be included in these enrichment.”</p> <p>Address to SC Chair (Tom Murphy) and Dr. Conti CC: M. Houde and rest of SC</p> <p><u>Susan Astone</u> Literacy subcommittee should prepare for her attendance next meeting</p>



	<p><u>Snow Days</u> We will keep re-visiting that topic</p> <p><u>Middle School Schedule</u> Concerns that an intervention style block may be dropped returning to in-person this Fall 2021</p>
<b>Meeting Schedule new year</b>	<p>Meeting Schedule through Summer and plan to return to in person meetings</p> <p><i>Delay this topic</i></p>
<b>Meeting Closed</b>	Meeting adjourned 9:23pm

