

ASHPAC Monthly Meeting Minutes 1/15/19

Attendees: Kristine Kaveney, Jill Fulhan, Diana Davis, Elizabeth Souppa, Anna Bukina, Kathy Silva, Leah Suarez

Welcome/sign-in: Done

7:00-8:00pm - Topics with Kathy Silva (OSS); Kathy Bates (School Committee) – absent
OSS Update:

1. There was no joint meeting in December, next is January 28th.
2. Staffing update – Colleen will be out until March 4th. Erin Paolini will be helping out, especially with time lines, IEP meetings, ESPED. An out-of-office reply is on Colleen's email to make people aware of her absence.
3. KS will work with Jodi to schedule Spring Parent Coffees co-hosted with ASHPAC

Mini-Workshops:

Bob Bergeron has agreed to speak about MCAS accommodations and alternate profile at March meeting. Parent MCAS question to be answered in February OWL.

Preschool changes:

Goal per KS is for preschool to become fully integrated along with teacher equality (dual certification) and recognition for skills/certifications and for teacher union representation. Recent town meeting(s) regarding changes to preschool structure (#/type/days classrooms offered and Wee Watch evaluation) happened without sufficient community awareness first. Parents were 'blindsided' with proposed changes, especially those with children already in the school. Town Facebook page erupted with many responses, many that were negative. Some parents not aware of how SPED factors into preschool already. Some parents think their GENED tuition payments pay for SPED students who do not pay. This is incorrect (the state pays for SPED). Information was then posted on preschool website and Superintendent Adams sent email regarding poor communication. Plan from APS is to keep up messaging to the community including that integrated preschool model is good for all and why that is so. Superintendent will be invited to preschool parent coffee again. Preschool Open House is next week, will watch enrollment numbers. Wee Watch daycare program at Pittaway Preschool to be discontinued as it did not bring hoped for overall program success and also lost money. ASHPAC to forward a slide for preschool director's open house presentation and ASHPAC board member to attend to present and greet preschool parents.

OWL newsletter:

DD will forward to KS the January OWL parent question regarding inclusion.

Town Social Worker:

KS is meeting her next week.

ASHPAC Website:

ES has been talking with Paul Carpenter and new website is moving along. Thank you KS for help in getting this started! ES has logged in and has access. Subcommittee to work on website was voted on (JF initiated, KK seconded, all voted in favor thereof) and will consist of ES, AB and DD. To ask Chad McGowen at AHS if a student can help (community hours could be given).

Initial goals include ASHPAC name consistency, transfer of maillist, and board having control over content.

New Topics: None.

8:00-9:00pm

Vote to approve December 2018 meeting minutes:

JF initiated, KK seconded, all approved the minutes.

FCSN Visions of Community Conference 3/9/19 opportunity:

JF expressed interest in going, other board members have gone and/or did not oppose. JF to go.

Fundraiser Update:

DD to make flyer to send out via maillist, Twitter and Facebook now. Plan to send out to the schools in the Spring.

Funding request to PT iPad update:

The order has gone through, it has an inventory tag, needs a 'donated by ASHPAC' tag. DD and KK to finalize and then send out a Tweet and FB pic of PT with iPad.

Scholarship Application:

Updated with first draft, shared briefly with board, CK (absent) to follow up at next meeting.

AHS Babysitters: Deferred

Treasurer's Report:

Donations received from WAITT, Hanto, Cirrus Apartments, Ashland Pet Concierge Corporation, and Nickerson Road Auto Body Repair and Service for total of \$72.16.

Outreach and Collaboration:

Donations as above, otherwise no new updates.

New Topics/concerns: None

Meeting Adjourned: 9:10pm

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 5th, 7pm