

ASHPAC Monthly Meeting Minutes
February 6, 2019

Attendees: Kathy Silva, Kathy Bates, Kristine Kaveney, Anna Bukina, Jill Fulhan, Diana Davis

Topics with Kathy Silva and Kathy Bates:

OSS meeting update – focused on preschool changes (below)

Preschool changes and community response – Preschool continues to work towards fully integrated status. Open house was held in January, it was a positive event and attendees liked new format which included info directly from various providers and a collaborative effect was felt. Next step is to assess registration numbers after changes made to preschool structure.

Mini-workshop- Bob to lead MCAS Accommodations and MCAS Alt presentation at start of March monthly meeting. DD to add to OWL and send info out for principal emails.

Parent Coffees co-hosted by OSS and ASHPAC – All coffees start at 9am. Dates set:

Mar 5 – Pittaway, Mar 11 – Mindess, Mar 12 – AMS, Mar 15 – AHS, Mar 19 - Warren

Parent Questions brought to ASHPAC:

1. What is the process to access a medical monitor for a student on the bus? – To date, very few medical monitors have been utilized in Ashland. This would require a doctor's order that specifies the need. KS recommends parent talk to team coordinator as first step.
2. When and how can need for RTI advance to an IEP? When/how are students reassessed if parents(s) are concerned that student is not making adequate progress through RTI? - Tiered support occurs through general education. If a teacher suspects a student is having difficulties, they bring it forth to a team who recommends strategies through RTI. At 3 weeks team looks to see if interventions are helping. At 6 weeks if progress is not being made, student may be referred to special education where presence of a disability can be further assessed and then determined if IEP is needed. If parents are concerned about their child receiving RTI strategies, it is recommended they contact the RTI team first. If concerns remain, they can then contact the education coordinator about formal assessment/re-assessment. Anyone can ask for an evaluation or re-eval. It was noted that certain tests cannot be repeated within a certain frame or their reliability/validity is affected. Different tests at a re-eval can help determine needs for support. It was reminded that teams seek and appreciate collaborative approach with/from parents.

OWL News: Question about MCAS to be forwarded to KS for Feb OWL. DD to also send upcoming events info.

Town Social Worker contact: KS to talk with Jennifer Wuelfing tomorrow.

Special Olympics: Set for Friday, March 22nd at Holliston with hockey theme. Chipotle fundraiser in Milford on February 26th, JF to email listserv with flyer. Hats-for-a-Cause set for Friday March 1st at all APS schools. Eight hockey stations to be set up. Details for volunteers to follow. Best Buddies at AMS and Friendship Club at AHS trying to get involved. Bus to be given sign with ~ "Go Clockers" theme. There is a new Special Olympics of MA (SOMA) coordinator per KS.

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Advocate Scott O'Donnell – Mr. O'Donnell provided ASHPAC with an overview of his personal experience with Special Education that prompted him to become an advocate for children with special needs and their families. He lives in Framingham so does not practice there but is open to work with families outside of Framingham. He provided his contact info, his website www.advocacy4kids.com and offered to provide a workshop for ASHPAC next year about advocates.

January minutes – vote initiated by KK to approve without changes, DD seconded it. Jan 2019 minutes approved unanimously.

Fundraiser – Flyer pending for spring publicity of ASHPAC bags.

Website – DD logged in and states navigation seems relatively easy. Goal is for it to be ready over the summer to prepare for next school year.

PT iPad donation – ASHPAC sticker and photo pending.

Scholarship application – revisions made, return date of April 26th set, application to be emailed for final edits to board then given to CK to forward to AHS by end February, awards to be determined by May 1st.

Child care/AHS resources – deferred.

Treasurer's Report – final 2018 scholarship settled. Vote initiated by JF to send 5 Town Special Olympics \$100 donation. Seconded by KK. Unanimous vote in favor of this donation. AB to facilitate. Returned check for locker organizer not yet received. JF to send a second notice via certified mail.

Educator Resource Library – deferred, possibly until next year.

Outreach and Collaboration –

WAITT – n/a

Preschool PTO – deferred

DAET – KK to email DAET with ASHPAC support/collaboration of Courageous Conversations. JF motioned to vote to donate \$50, AB seconded it. Unanimous vote in favor of donation. DD to send logo for their flyer.

Next Workshop – Anxiety workshop is March 14th. KK states W-9 is still needed from speaker which is required for check to be written from APS for her payment. She emailed speaker again today. AB to follow up with APS business office. DD to make flyer.

Next monthly meeting – March 5th, 7pm, AMS Activity Room

Adjourned – 9:30pm.