

SPECIAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

FROM

MEETING DATED: 9/8/15

Meeting Commenced at 6:37pm

The following topics were discussed:

- 1. Frank Caliguiri and Steve Moran along with Mary Reynolds gave us an overview of the successful opening of school. Minor issues dealt with and resolved.**
- 2. New teachers are acclimating well and 10 new Teaching Assistants have been hired. Another 2-3 T/A's will be hired over the next several months.**
- 3. Summer school was very successful from a staff standpoint and student/parent standpoint. Students participated in one trip a week to locations such as: Children's Museum, Patchogue Theater to see Peter Pan, Harbes Farm, Swimming and an end of the summer Carnival.**
- 4. Island Harvest provided snacks, beverages and lunch for the summer school students every day free of charge.**
- 5. West Islip students participated in our summer school program and it was staffed by our youth workers, graduates and volunteers from the Deer Park community.**
- 6. District Food Pantry located at the Lincoln School will be up and running within the next couple of months.**
- 7. Falcon Academy apartment also relocated to the Lincoln School should be operational in October 2015.**
- 8. SEPFC meetings shall be held three times during this school year. October 22, 2015, January 6, 2016 and May 5, 2016.**
- 9. SEPFC major fundraiser "Fun Night Out" will be held at the Changing Times on January 29, 2016 from 7pm to 11pm, flyers will be distributed throughout the District prior to the event.**
- 10. Special Ed dances will once again be held this at the Robert Frost Middle School this school year - dates are noted in the school calendar and the first dance being a "Halloween Dance" that will be held on October 30, 2015 at 7pm.**

- 11. Building Use forms shall be submitted by Mr. Moran prior to dance dates. Out of District students will be invited to these events as well.**
- 12. Social Group will be starting up in October 2015**
- 13. September 29, 2015, Open BOE Meeting, Frank Caliguiri and Steve Moran will be presenting the District special education information and State reporting.**
- 14. IEP Provider letters were sent out to all parents of special needs students prior to the start of school as requested by the special education committee in previous years.**
- 15. Possibility of providing a “Drug Awareness” lecture at an SEPFC meeting for parents to attend.**
- 16. Discussion around developing a “Peer Mentor” group within the secondary buildings to help our special needs students be supported by their peers throughout their school day. Further discussion will take place to speak about how we will develop this group and what students shall be chosen to be part of the peer group. The goal of devising this support system will be to foster acceptance and to help combat bullying of any student with special needs.**
- 17. Further discussions will take place on setting up a “night out” one time a month at the Deer Park Bowling Alley or similar.**

Committee Members Present:

Chairperson, Donna Marie Elliott – Chairperson, Keith Rooney

Frank Caliguiri

Mary Redden

Mary Reynolds

Yvonne Henn

Stephen Moran

Christine Sokol

Tammy Rogers

Karen LaPorte

Lisa Barnikel

Mickey Barnikel

Meeting adjourned at 7:28pm