



## Northern Lights Special Education Cooperative

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**Dena Hagen ~ Special Education Director**

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### Parent Support and Advisory Committee Agenda and Minutes

January 10, 2018

Carlton Co. Transportation Building

1. Welcome and Introductions

Attendees: Jodi Anderson, Stephanie Rock, Dena Hagen, Becky Erickson, Sherie Lillie, Annamarie Gutsch, Allison Dillon, Heidi Zegan, Harmony Price

2. Review and accept Nov. 8, 2018 meeting minutes- Minutes Accepted

3. Additions to the Agenda

- a. Are there specific topics you would like Dena to present on at future meetings.  
1. Paraprofessional Support

4. Director Report

a. St. Louis County Meetings

1. Dena reviewed what we have started to meet with St. Louis County to start discussing how we can better partner with them for the benefit of students we are working with.

- a. Some of the concerns that were discussed are how do we better support teachers who are working with our students, the continuous turn over in county case-management, facilitating ongoing collaboration, and not having enough mental health support for our students and families.

b. Staff shortages

i. ABS (Academic and Behavior Strategist)

- a. There has been a new law change regarding the ABS license. Teachers who went to through the initial licensure process for ABS, no longer have to go back to school to specialize in specific area of specialty. Once they receive their ABS license, they are able to serve ASD, SLD, EBD, and DCD students who fall under mild to moderate.

ii. Legislative Funding Cap

- a. There has been a funding formula change and there is now a cap on the special education funding districts can receive. Once you have utilize your special education funding, additional costs come out of the general education fund.

5. Budget Request

a. None

6. Old business

a. Parent Strand Ideas for Mentoring Day

- i. Transition and Parent Sub-Committee met to discuss a parent session in a larger classroom setting and then having some breakout sessions.
- ii. What are some topic ideas/breakout topics for the parent strand of mentoring day?
  - a. Policy, Advocacy, Parent Transition, Due Process, Guardianship, Vocational Rehabilitation, County Case-Management, etc.
- iii. How can we get the word out about Mentoring Day and the Parent Strand?
  - a. Facebook page

b. Parent Coaches/Advocates

- i. ARC Northland parent advocacy program and services: A meeting was attempted with Parent Coaches regarding an opportunity to get together, share information, and learn about ARC advocacy programs, but schedules conflicted. Another will be attempted this month.
  - a. Does ARC provide training for parent volunteer coaches?

7. New business

8. Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 14, 2018, Carlton Co. Transportation Building