



Northern Lights Special Education Cooperative

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Dena Hagen ~ Special Education Director

Parent Support and Advisory Committee Agenda and Minutes

Sept. 27, 2017

Carlton Co. Transportation Building

1. Welcome and Introductions
Attendees: Dena Hagen, Allison Dillon, Jody Anderson, Sandi Davis, Victoria McMillen, Heidi Zegan, Sherie Lillie
2. Review and accept May 16, 2017 minutes
 - a. Minutes approved from previous meeting held in May 2017 (second: Sandi Davis)
3. Additions to the Agenda
 - a. Discuss speaker for next IC meeting
 - Becky Lourey will be coming to speak, but only to our sub-committee
 - MDE Reps for Dream Catcher project?
4. Director Report
 - a. Dena discussed training format changes for the upcoming year (i.e. Coordinators attending child study meetings to deliver updates for special education and provide mini trainings on various topics. This would be in place of offering Communication Committee Meetings bimonthly.)
 - b. Dena gave an overview of what a Conciliation Meeting entails within Special Education. This is a process that occurs when parents/guardians are in disagreement with their student's proposed IEP plan. A team meeting, with facilitated support from a Coordinator or Director, is scheduled to discuss concerns, collaborate, discuss potential changes, and develop a plan that can best meet the student's needs.
 - c. Dena also provided information to the group on what a facilitated IEP is and how it can help the team work together to form a best plan for the student.
5. Parent Welcome Packets
 - a. Parent Welcome Packets are still a work in progress.
6. Budget Requests
 - a. None
7. Old business
 - a. Parent Information Center for Northern MN
 - i. Sherrie Lillie update- Pacer is not currently in favor of starting a PACER

Advocacy group in Duluth. Pacer has many remote ways to provide support and training to people across the state, so this is not needed at this time. Sherri did seek out ARC Northland regarding their parent advocacy program and services. ARC is looking for parents that are willing to become parent advocates to support families in our community. As a next step, the parent support committee discussed having our parent coaches, within the cooperative, meet with ARC Northland to discuss this opportunity. An email will be send regarding this opportunity with tentative dates for a meeting.

- b. Homeschool and Private School Parents Attending Parent Advisory
 - i. MN statute guidelines-125A.24-the committee needs to find at least one non-public parent of a child with a disability or an employee of non-public school to serve.
 - a. The group is still looking for a parent/employee from a non-public school to join our committee.
8. New business
- a. Victoria shared more information about Project Dream Catcher. The group discussed inviting a presenter to the next IC meeting to present on this new initiative.

Next Meeting: Wed. Nov. 8, 2017, Carlton Co. Transportation Building