



The Methacton Special Education Alliance Home and School Association

1001 Kriebel Mill Road
Eagleville, PA 19403
seamethacton@gmail.com

Wednesday, January 24, 2024 7:00 pm - MHS Library

Attendees: Dr. Jamie Gravinese, Corina Todd, Reba Mann, Sandy Katz, Jodi Kohar, Amy Smith, Julie Stephens, Michelle Jackson-Greenawalt, Zenia Ardeszna, Andrea Lopez, Kelley Ludwig

1. Motion to Open Meeting: 7:08pm
 - a. Motion to approve by: Amy Smith, 2nd by: Sandy Katz.
2. Motion to Approve Meeting minutes from:
 - a. Motion to approve by: Reba Mann, 2nd by: Amy Smith
3. Motion to Approve Agenda with flexibility
 - a. Motion to approve by: Amy Smith, 2nd by: Reba Mann
4. Reports
 - a. Administrator's Report - Dr. Gravinese
 - i. The Facilities Department needs to present to and work with the Property Committee of the School Board for the **Communication Boards**. The district is covering all the costs.
 1. Four Elementary schools on the playground (permanent) – already started research and pricing
 - a. considering adding Skyview - Dr. Gravinese will discuss with Dr. Berical
 - b. Skyview/Arcola – maybe a mobile one – Dr. Gravinese would like a visual from SEA; Jodi Kohar provided a visual
 2. MHS Commons /Cafeteria – mobile one
 - ii. Update on Inclusive Practices model at MHS - Corina Todd
 1. Support team organization chart attached.
 - a. All the Special Education teachers have a caseload and also teach.

- i. Caseload is typically 15-20 students per teacher (300 students total)
 - ii. 5 classes + duty + prep + lunch / 6 classes + prep + lunch
 - iii. Beneficial for students to see their case managers throughout the day
 - iv. In the spring the case manager decides whether to keep the student on with the case manager with input from the parents, teachers and admin
- b. Co-teaching
- i. The goal is for every 7 students with an IEP that needs co-taught, then 14 do not ($\frac{1}{3}$ class population requires co-taught; remainder are computer populated based on scheduling)
 - ii. Supplemental "Literacy" is available for Math and English in addition to regular education classes
 - iii. Direct Instruction English is a pared down gen ed class available for those with a specific disability in that area or an increased need
 - 1. slower pace allows for time to check understanding and the ability to address specific needs of students
 - iv. Adaptive English is a skill-based class driven by the student's specific needs (IEP goal based using IEP Team strategies)
 - 1. smaller class sizes
 - 2. still doing vocab and novels like academic Eng.
 - v. Three-year requirement for math
 - 1. Alg I → Calculus B/C
 - 2. typical path is Alg I, Alg II, Geometry
 - a. "remediation effect" from immediate movement to Alg II helps with Alg I Keystone outcomes
 - vi. Same Direct Instruction class for Math as in English

- 1. Instructional Assistants will push in
- vii. Adaptive Math (similar to Adaptive English)
- viii. Science & History – Three-year requirements
 - 1. Co-taught offerings for usual 9-11 grade classes
 - 2. No supplemental classes because there are not any specific “Science / History disabilities”
- ix. Skills Management – like a study hall where students work on executive function skills
- x. Itinerant Support Study Hall - study hall where special education teachers are present to assist students with work
- xi. Emotional Support Classroom students with Emotional Disturbance IEPs
- xii. Curriculum Support Room (CSR)– English and Math teacher there all day for support
 - 1. for any student who might need help
- xiii. Testing Center next door to the CSR – quiet place for students with specific testing needs as outlined in IEPs /504s
- xiv. Two nurses
- xv. Six Guidance Counselors – students remain with same counselor all four years
- xvi. Career Counselor
- xvii. Contracted Services
 - 1. Central Behavioral Health provides Mental Health counselors in the building everyday (support students with IEP)
- xviii. REACH Program– currently capped at 20 students (10/clinician)
 - 1. any student can be recommended to program
 - 2. Working on a solution to provide REACH to Vo-Tech students - *Mental Health is the priority
- xix. Related Services

1. OT, PT, Speech, Hearing and Visual
 2. Can get pulled out for services or they will push in with the gen ed classes (try to hit Study halls first)
 3. Hearing & Vision Support provided for K-12 through MCIU
- xx. Behavior Supports
1. Surpass (formerly Chancelight) and First Children Services
 - a. RBTs & BCBA's
 - b. some PCAs
 2. Some PCAs are MSD employees
 - a. where PCA comes from based on student's needs and behaviors and training & certifications of PCA
- xxi. Inclusion support from the MCIU Project
Consultants – support the teachers and train them to the students needs
- xxii. Wilson Reading intervention - currently the only program the high school is offering
1. placement/ screening tests
 2. offerings based on incoming students and the programs they've successfully used in the past
 - a. students from other districts/ schools will be assessed upon enrollment. Specific Interventions will be compared to current practices at MHS to determine any parallel offerings
 - i. students from out-of-state receive automatic re-evaluation.
- xxiii. Program Support Specialists
- xxiv. Transition Coordinator will begin to sit in IEP meetings Jr. & Sr. years to help determine best plans post high school

1. can be contacted at any time before then to discuss options and plans as well
- xxv. Extended School Year
 1. ideally NOREPS ready to go out by the end of February
 2. MHS students at Skyview 7/8-8/1
 3. IEP team can agree to other programs for ESY
 4. Variety Club offers Summer Vocational Program at age 16
 5. Mental Health Counselors are accessible via telehealth throughout Summer
- xxvi. English Language Development students are given access testing each January to determine continued need for programming
- c. Gifted
 - i. strengths-based (as opposed to needs-based)
 - ii. GIEP case manager
 1. parents can waive annual GIEP meetings and still maintain students' GIEP goals and access to programming
 - iii. Gifted Seminar offered, though many students prefer to meet independently with case managers instead
 - iv. Advanced Placement classes
 - v. Independent Studies
 - vi. GIEP students have access to Mental Health counselors
- d. Supervisors of Special Education in MHS and Arcola meet regularly beginning in Spring to discuss each student moving up
2. Pupil Services & Curriculum Office meet every two weeks
 - a. current discussion is about actual vs. explicit instruction
 - b. Principals meet with Pupil Services for monthly data meetings
- iii. Every three years a Special Education Plan needs to be updated.
 1. Points of interest this round:

- a. Post-secondary Transition
 - b. Increase participation in state tests for IEP students
 - c. Try to bring back the students that are out of district back to the district
 - d. Stakeholder Meeting on February 22nd 6-8pm MHS Library
 - i. registration link on flyer
 - iv. National School Counselor Appreciation Week Feb 5-9th – send an appreciation note
- b. President’s Report - Reba
 - i. Community & Building Updates
 - 1. ESY applications for teachers and staff at Variety Club
 - 2. Right to Education Local Task Force 23 Meeting 2/6 “Is My Child Making Progress?” with Diane Perry
 - 3. Buddy sign ups for a Night to Shine – Feb 9th (need peers to be with the students)
 - a. rumor of need for professional volunteers for hair and makeup as well
- c. Vice President’s Report - Jodi / Sandy
 - i. Committees
 - 1. Fundraising - Jodi / Amy
 - a. Reading Phils
 - b. Pizza Kits – Colleegeville Bakery – Pickup at Eagleville March 7th Venmo only
 - i. note to email if prefer cash /check option
 - c. Chick-fil-a - awaiting confirmation on a date
 - d. dress storage - hoping Arrowhead can find some space
 - 2. Social Events - Julie
 - a. March - parent social
 - 3. Presentation updates - Sandy
 - a. Kris Koberlein - “Unlocking the Door to Success After High School” -
 - b. Dr. Erik Carter - “From Barriers to Belonging” 2/6, 2/13, 2/20
 - 4. Communication Boards - Erin / Zenia
 - a. MSD to take over getting boards for all elementary school playgrounds!

- 5. Post Prom - *Inside Out*, Space picked out (hallway), pick a scene
- d. Treasurer's Report - Michelle
 - i. Kendra Scott - \$789.40
 - ii. Balance - \$2943.36 (not including KS; one reimbursement check to write)
 - iii. Best Buddies / Unified Sports updates
 - 1. BB event cancelled for weather
 - 2. BB needs volunteers for Special Olympics bowling event in Limerick 1/28
 - 3. US won their Bocce game
- e. Secretary's Report - Julie / Amy
- f. MCC
 - i. Motion to add Bylaw to reiterate language in Treasurer's Guide regarding maintaining 3 board members on record as signers for checks – Motion: Reba Mann 2nd: Sandy Katz Motion passes 6-0
 - ii. Elections
 - 1. building H&S: open in Feb, announce in March, vote in April
 - 2. SEA: open tonight, announce in March and vote in May
 - a. 2-yr terms - no elections this year
 - 3. MCC: open in March, announce in May, vote in June
- g. MSD Board
 - i. new members sworn in in December
 - 1. Jenn Cancro & Semira Perdue Pres & VP
 - 2. Ms. Perdue is new MCIU rep from MSD
- 5. Old Business
 - a. Handouts from the presentations at H&S meetings are attached to minutes on our website.
- 6. New Business
 - a. Special Education Comprehensive Plan Stakeholder invites are coming soon

Mark Your Calendars

Meeting dates: (Moved to Wednesdays)

- ~~September 27, 2023~~
- ~~November 29, 2023~~

- ~~January 24, 2024~~
- March 20, 2024
- May 22, 2024

Presentation dates: (Thursdays, Dates subject to change depending on availability of presenters and District events)

- ~~October 19, 2023~~
- ~~November 16, 2023~~
- ~~January 18, 2024~~
- February 6, 13, 20 2024
- April 18, 2024
- May 16, 2024

7. Adjournment: 9:17pm

Motion to approve by: Amy Smith, 2nd by: Reba Mann.

Service	Staff	Email: first initial + last name @ methacton.org							
Special Education Teacher / IEP Case Manager	Gabby Arthur : Emotional Support and Science	Heather Sepulveda: Itinerant; History; English	Meghan Brogan: Emotional Support and English	Kelly Ebert: Itinerant and English	Pat Fite: Math	Terry Grossman: Lifeskills/ Autistic Support	Paul Lepre: Lifeskills/ Autistic Support	Sara Markley: Math	Denise McCre: English
Special Education Teacher / IEP Case Manager	Tracy Murray: English and Itinerant	Alexis Otto: Science	Karen Maher: English	Jen Specht: English	Jessie Stanwick: Math	Dara Tuteur: Science and Skills Management	Jenna Wetzel: Science and Emotional Support	Melissa Wychunis: Math and Emotional Support	
Gifted Support Teacher/ Case Manager	Brian Robbins								
Gifted Support Case Manager	Elizabeth Francisco	Bruce Outland	Jodie Pitt	Sarah Quintos					
Nurses	Kathleen Thompson	Kim McDonald							
Counselor	William Peck A – B	Roxane Henning C – Fp	Lianne Langan Fr – Ki	Dave Ruminski Kj – Nf	Robert Howard Ng – Sc	Lauren Wells Sd – Z	Shab Maffei K-12 Career Counselor	Alexis Washington K-12 DEI & Climate Counselor	
Speech	Andrea Borgman								
OT	Alexandria Cygan								
PT	Kelly DeWan								
Vision Support	Michael Troilo								
Hearing Support	Ahri Agyapong								
ELD Teacher	Melissa Lopez								

Central Behavioral Mental Health	Cody Peck	Ashton Evans							
REACH Counselor	Chelsea Lee	Rebecca DeCarlo							
Behavior Support	Surpass: Jessie Brown Kerry Saulino	First Children's Services: Devon Garifo							
BCBA	Surpass: Marybeth Harmer Kristen Stankiewicz	First Children's Services: Bailey McLaughlin							
Inclusion Support	MCIU: Erin Barry	MCIU: Lauren Benfield							
Wilson	Lindsay McHugh								
Program Support Specialist	Surpass: Mike Pasternak								
Transition Coordinator	Niki Brislin								
Assistant Principals	Dr. Karey Kochenour Gr 9 A-GO and Gr 11	Mr. Dan Bontempo Gr 9 GP-O and Gr 10	Dr. Paul Spiewak Gr 9 P-Z and Gr 12						
Supervisor of Special Education	Mrs. Corina Todd								
School Police:	Lt. Joe Valdes	Officer Chris Teehan	Agent Sandra Riveria						
Unified Bocce	Sarah Quintos	Heidi Alderfer							
Unified Track	Sarah Quintos	Jennifer Kaplan							
Best Buddies	Sarah Quintos	Andrea Borgmann							