

SEA Planning Meeting Minutes

September 28, 2020 7pm

Attendance: Peg Herbison, Sandy Katz, Colleen Kutz, Karen Lutz, Tommy Avelar, Michelle Greenawalt, Reba Mann, Julie Stephens, Ramona de la Rosa, Jodi Kohar

New business:

- **SEA page on Methacton website-** Karen, Sandy
 - Met with Amanda Kelly - she gave us access to our page on the website and we can update as we like - program is Blackboard - Gerry will help as needed
 - will add Mission, Upcoming events, Social gatherings, contact info, resource page, meeting minutes, Committee members with school affiliation, connections to other resource pages
 - Suggest to visit the FaceBook page often to see all the great posts
 - Will have shortcut on Methacton home page and on each Home and School page
 - Amanda offered to help connect with principals
 - Need to send her a thank you
- **Transition Coordinator -**
 - Nikki Brislin
 - Ramona asked that Nikki reach out to the Warrior District transition coordinator because she has amazing resources
 - Possibly make Transition an SEA critical initiative because our high school parents don't know what the role of the Transition Coordinator is and what she is doing
 - Will ask for a meeting with Jaime and Susan and Nikki - need to decide who from the committee will be at that meeting, and how we're going to approach the meeting
 - Ramona will draft an email and send it to the group first
 - Chris Koberlein - Transition presentations

Old business/Updates:

- **Presentations/Events:**
 1. **Inclusion for K-12 and Beyond** - Ann Marie Licata, Ph.D., Director, PA Inclusive Higher Education Consortium - 10/15/2020 Ramona

- flyer is done and out
 - 20 people signed up already including 3 board members, BUILD chair from North Penn
 - Ann Marie is providing the Zoom link
 - Ramona will follow up to see if we need to do an intro or moderate and how to handle questions, can we get the handout ahead of time to send to participants
2. **Stress, Anxiety, and Mindfulness (not sure of exact title yet) - Jacquie O'Malley - Project Mindful - 11/19/2020 - Peg**
 - Speaker form was sent to Jacquie - Peg will follow up
 3. **Executive function - Sandy - Sarah Ward**
 - MCC is giving us \$1800 to bring her in for a 2 hour Zoom meeting for SEA
 - Sandy will ask if the district wants to coordinate bringing her in for the staff at the same time
 4. **Virtual Event Ideas: dance/joke parties, crafts, show and tell, geocaching, games (separate by age group)-** possibly try to help our kids in the events that the H&S's are doing
 5. **Parent social event** - will look at this at a future meeting - possibly an outdoor, in-person event- fire pit with s'mores, movie night
 6. **Transition Coordinator Role at Methacton with Nikki Brislin** - Colleen
 7. **Career Counselor K-12 (Judy Schmidt retired; replacement to be named soon.)**
 - Michelle will follow up with Che Regina

Possible dates: third Thursdays: 10/15, 11/19, 1/21, 2/18, 3/18, 4/15, 5/20
All virtual, all evening

- **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Task Force**
 - **SEA and DEI** - alignment of goals; suggest collaboration as it relates to inclusion
 - **Advocacy group** - looking at providing more resources and a reporting mechanism to assist with accountability - the policy at the school is good and just needs a few changes but it isn't being implemented
 - **Working on website**
- **Best Buddies** - Dominic and Dana Meoli, Champion of the Year Nominees support fundraising effort, Friday, November 13, 2020
 - Aim High - work out and some of the money goes to the fundraiser - posted flyer on Facebook
 - Looking for a big sponsor - let Sandy know if you have any ideas
 - Can just donate - Sandy will make the link available
 - Raffle basket to donate to their event - Tommy will solicit gift cards for a kid's day out basket

- **Budget:** Michelle, Treasurer
 - Budget: \$2515.43
 - Will receive \$1800 from MCC from the student loan fund to be used for a speaker - Sarah Ward to speak on Executive Function
 - Virtual Fundraisers
 - Clothing collection - Tommy - will talk to Peg and Colleen
 - Fruit sale at holidays
 - Corropolese - dine and donate - Peg
 - Design a t-shirt or other items and sell them- kids submit art to use - maybe do a mosaic of all of the art submitted
 - Ask at MCC or each H&S for a calendar of H&S fundraising events - Sandy and Peg

- **Back to School nights**
 - MHS - Peg, Ramona, Karen, Kellie, Colleen*, Tommy, Michelle - Our video was mentioned in an email and a video.
 - Arcola- Tommy, Mimi, Reba*, Sandy - Our video went out in an email
 - Skyview- Tommy, Reba, Zenia* - our video was hidden in an email, Smore and our video was in the principal's video
 - Eagleville - Jodi*- our video was shown by the principal - wasn't well attended
 - Arrowhead - Zenia*
 - Woodland - Sandy*
 - Worcester -Julie* - The teachers showed our video.

*lead person to contact school about BTS nights

- **ELD Orientation** (Stephanie Sawyer, English Language Development Specialist)- Zenia
 - Ask about translators for the parents
- **Planning meeting dates:**
 - 9/28, 10/26, 11/23, 12/28?, 1/25, 2/22, 3/22, 4/26, 5/24, 6/26
 - 7-9pm, all Zoom

Our Mission:

The Special Education Alliance provides a **network of support** for parents and caregivers of students with developmental or physical disabilities. The SEA offers **access to relevant information and education** while **providing opportunities to connect with other parents/caregivers**. We **advocate for the collaboration** among families, school administrators, educators and professionals to foster successful educational outcomes.

Critical Initiatives for 2020/2021

More family events

Collaborate more with district to drive awareness of our committee/events

Collaborate with the district on development of plans for inclusive practices k-12