

# SEA Planning Meeting Minutes

**November 30, 2020 7pm**

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

## **New business:**

- **Inclusive Schooling event - collaboration with the special ed parent groups from Lower Merion, Radnor and T/E School Districts featuring Dr. Julie Causton and Kristie Pretti-Frontczak**
  - They got together to bring in these speakers and have now included us.
  - It would be a 1 hour session for \$1000 and we would all split it.
  - We agreed that we want to be included and will offer \$250 to start and up to \$500 if needed.
  - Sandy will go back to the group and offer to help pay and find out what the plan is now that there is more money available.
  - Possibly ask MEF to help too.

## **Old business/Updates:**

- **Presentations/Events:**
  1. **Mindfulness and how to create a peaceful home even in these stressful times - Jacquie O'Malley - Project Mindful - 11/19/2020 - Peg**
    - What went well?
      - Liked the bell
      - Liked the mindfulness activities
    - What could be improved?
      - I messed up the recording so it won't be sent out
      - Jacquie commented that she tried meds and therapy and it just doesn't work - Was very personal about her story at the beginning
      - Was tough if you weren't in the right mood for it
      - Wasn't billed accurately - was different than expected
      - People were thrown by the breakout rooms and didn't come back
      - Breakout rooms were hard since we weren't prepared
    - Sent in request for check with an invoice for \$150 for Jacquelyn O'Malley - it will be mailed directly to her
    - Evaluation results:

The presenter is knowledgeable about the topic.	I understood the material as it was presented.	This presentation will help me with my child.	I learned strategies I can implement right away.	I would recommend this session to others.	Other comments and/or suggestions for future topics or speakers:
5	5	5	5	5	5 ccc
5	5	5	5	5	5 I loved this! Calming .... Thank you, I will start some of these! Helpful!
5	5	5	5	5	5 Very relevant and useable material
5	5	5	5	5	5 Great energy and topic
5	5	4	5	5	5 Jacquie was fantastic!

2. **Executive function - Sandy - Sarah Ward**
  - MCC is giving us \$1800 to bring her in for a 2 hour Zoom meeting for SEA
  - Sandy will contact her to schedule for SEA
  - Will look into whether we can get MIAC credits for the teachers who attend
3. **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
  - Arcola did a fall virtual festival with scavenger hunt, bingo, and trivia -
4. **Parent social event -** will look at this at a future meeting - possibly an outdoor, in-person event- fire pit with s'mores (Zenia's yard), movie night - possibly March 18th
  - Possibly a Zoom game night or a social with breakout room chats by school or by topic
5. **Transition Coordinator Role at Methacton with Nikki Brislin - Colleen**
  - Sandy approached it regarding the SEA page on the website but hasn't heard back yet - possibly due to administration being tied up with the hybrid opening - will follow up after 11/9
  - Colleen has approached Nikki but feels that Nikki won't be able to present until next school year because she is working on the hybrid opening too
6. **Career Counselor K-12 - Michelle**
  - Kimberly Kulp has started - she agreed to meet with the planning committee so we need to pick a date then later, she can do a presentation
  - Michelle will ask for a meeting on a Wednesday or Friday, 2-3
7. **Follow up presentation by Ann Marie Licata**
  - Hold on this while we see how the collaboration inclusion meeting goes

**Possible dates:** third Thursdays: 1/21, 2/18, 3/18, 4/15, 5/20

**All virtual, all evening**

- **SEA page on Methacton website-** Karen, Sandy
  - Check out the updates by Sandy and Karen
  - There is now a shortcut to the SEA page on the District home page

- **Best Buddies - Thank you to all who supported** Dominic and Dana Meoli, Champion of the Year Nomination. They raised just over \$5,000 on Friday, November 13, 2020
- DEI update - Ramona
  - Talent night went very well
  - T-shirt fundraiser went well
  - Next fundraiser - Cahoot game night - possibly MLK weekend - multiple games with prizes - for adults and kids
  - Recipe book - coordinate from entire Methacton community
  - Merchandise shop - print to order - possibly going live this week

**Budget:** Michelle, Treasurer

- Budget: \$4321.77 (includes the \$1800 for Sarah Ward)
  - Received \$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
- **Planning meeting dates:**
    - 1/25, 2/22, 3/22, 4/26, 5/24, 6/28
    - 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