

Holmdel Township Board of Education

Special Education Committee

Meeting Notes for February 10, 2009

Present: *Board Members:* Ana M. Vander Woude–Chair and Mary F. Hartnett

Administrators: Mary Beth Currie, Meryl Gill and Ron Rosenberg

Absent: Michael Collins, Jim Shelton and Barbara Duncan

1. **Meeting Schedule:** This meeting was previously scheduled for January 28th, but was postponed due to the school snow day closing. All present were in agreement that this meeting would serve as this committee's meeting for both January and February.

2. **Self-Assessment Update:** Ron updated the committee on the January 27th meeting of the Steering Committee. He expressed a very positive outlook about the members of the committee and their anticipated collaboration. Discussions included:
 - Reviewing the outcomes of the Public Meeting and identifying areas of non-compliance;
 - Conducting a compliance review of the first area for self-assessment : Section 1: Transition to Adult Life;
 - Discussing committee member responsibilities:
 - i. The Child Study Team (CST) and related service providers will meet with Meryl and/or Ron to review confidential documents.
 - ii. Parent members will review Section IV: Parental Involvement and respond to each related area for the next meeting.
 - iii. Committee representatives from each school will meet with their building administrators and review Section II: Statewide Assessment as it relates to their respective schools.
 - Concluding that after the review of each of the 7 areas subject to self-assessment, the committee would develop an improvement plan; and,
 - Setting the following meeting schedule: February 17, March 17, and April 1 at 9:30a.

3. **Preschool Integration Program:** Meryl and Mary Beth updated the committee on the more solidified plans for the Preschool Integration Program. The YMCA program for 3 and 4 year olds will be phased out at the end of this school year. (The YMCA 5-year-old program and Kindertime will continue to exist.) Our current Preschool Disabled program will be merged into this new program to create a new inclusion preschool program. Students with special needs would enter the program via their Individualized Education Plan (IEP). Nonclassified children will be required to submit an application.
 - Program Structure: Half-day program.
 - Tentative Schedule: Tuesday through Friday. A.M. classes from 9:00-11:30 and P.M. classes from 12:30-3:00.
 - Location: Village School
 - Curriculum: Letter People
 - Staff: In-house.
 - Eligibility: Only Holmdel residents who are at least three years old, but no older than four years old by October 1, 2009.
 - Class Size: Approximately sixteen (16) three- and four-year-old children: seven (7) of whom are classified as having special needs and nine (9) who are typically developing.
 - Tuition: \$3000.00 for the school year (\$300.00 per month) for this program.
 - Transportation will not be provided.

4. **Extended School Year Program (ESY):** Meryl and Ron are currently reassessing the ESY program based on their observations and feedback from last summer's program with the goal of improving the quality of instruction.
5. **STRIVE (Student Transition Readiness Independence Vocational Experience)**
Program: The programs at both Village School and the Brighton Assistive Living facility will continue over the summer.
6. **Policy 5141.21: Administering Medication:** The committee was asked to review the draft of a new policy regarding the administration of medication in life-threatening circumstances. Members are expected to provide feedback at our next meeting.

Next Committee Meeting: March 25, 2009
Place: Satz: Main Office Conference Room
Time: 2:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Ana M. Vander Woude