

Grafton SEPAC Meeting Minutes March 21, 2019

Every Day Heros

Mission statement? Want everybody to identify a person in Grafton that exemplifies inclusion  
Need focus on merit based. No exclusion on how they identify. A possible web presence?  
Could there be student of the month? Like a random act of kindness?  
Discussion about how it can be parents who support those with special needs. In order for  
EDH to be more inclusive- expand it beyond the school committee \$20 to nominate someone.  
They received 13 nominations so far. Cost is usually \$30 to print plus ink. Notifications on April  
4 and April 5. Receive an invite to ceremony on May 14th. A messenger bag 18.95 + tax.  
Expect to receive 70 nominations.

SEPAC contacted Grafton School Committee to present. Peter Carlson will get back to SEPAC  
for a date. Want to get together a power point.

Perhaps instead of doing and Abilities expo we could do something for child mental health  
week? Getting info from PPAL and NAMI. Possibly have an open house? Could ask the district  
to participate? 1st week of May?

Mr. Lundwall told the SEPAC that last week he met w/ Supt. Cummings about a new contract  
that the district has with Shrewsbury Youth and Family Services. It is 100-1030 wrap around  
services

YOu INC comes to all schools to provide counseling services. Wrap around ds are usually free  
to community. The SEPAC would like to know the information so hit can share the info with  
families.

At the high school on April 27th abilities expo vs. child mental health week  
May 31st conference PPAL- Worcester

SEPAC is looking for help to do the presentation for the school committee.

Mr. Lundwall was asked if he emailed every parent in the school district about EDH. He said  
"normally his email list is restricted to just sped parents."

It was asked if Mr. Lundwall has brought up the consultive service model to the district. He has  
not brought it to the district yet but he plans to in the future, right now he is in the thick go the  
budget season." 1st to 3rd week of Nov. is what he wants to add for the next budget season.

SEPAC members asked about what baseline data will be collected?

Mr. Lundwall said he is presenting to the district on mission, vision, values, child find,  
objectives, what earlier tiers look like."

ML: the SEPAC would love to help do that

Mr. Lundwall said it has to be done " fiscally responsibly"

Infographic of anxiety, how can teachers identify it?

Looking at data provided by Mr. Lundwall via handouts: SIMS data, dark data from DESE  
It was pointed out that students in the communication disability category have dropped since  
2005. Oct. 2012 #'s changes

It was pointed out that kids in SLD disability category has dropped dramatically.

Mr. Lundwall said that: "people were over identifying." (SLD)

It was asked if this was when the new SLD forms came out ( from the state)?

Mr. Lundwall said that he "thinks maybe kids w/ autism used to be identified under  
communication."

Autism, SLD/Communication

*9/2/2019*

What falls into SLD? Basic reading, writing, and math.

A parent pointed out that they noticed on the handout that NO students were identified as SLD in PK,K, I.

Mr. Lundwall said that it: " all goes to the need for early screening."

ML: "If social emotional disability, does it trigger a full evaluation for everything including academics?" That they need to look at early ID. Why are so many under communication when they were younger? 40 PK

Concerns that forms for parents incoming into the district are not thoroughly looked at and triggering evaluations.

On the handout from Mr. Lundwall N=North S=South M=Millbury Street

Do parents understand why their child is struggling? What category - what disability? If only school districts asked parents family history for screening?

Mr. Lundwall said that they are "sensitive to cultural differences. Grafton is fairly/pretty homogeneous. Super careful in hi9s dept. and building level- disability label."

Would have to do research as to how to present there is a concerns about a disability.

Mr. Lundwall said that in the future they would welcome a presentation about dyslexia to families and staff. That maybe Nancy Duggan from Decoding Dyslexia MA would come to present? Mr. Lundwall said that: "he can't make it a mandatory training."

Reading scores in the district, there is a downward trend in the district for the past 5 years. Mr. Lundwall said that "there weren't a lot of people offering WILSON training. There was seeing stars and visualizing and verbalizing. They were tracking who was to get it (the teachers) 1 yr training and practicum w/WILSON. Time incentive for teacher/ \$ for district  
Bit of survey sped teachers K-6 knowledgeable about reading programs?, big thing that their is no road map, who is trained in what. " We need to map this better. He wants to know what the district has.

Mr. Lundwall said that "there is only 1 reading specialist in special education in Grafton -Leah Towler." He said that he is trying to grow K-6 professionals. Part of the work they didn't do at the meeting- split across buildings. He pulled them aside for 3 hours.

Mr. Lundwall asked: " How do you diagnose kids? How do you look at it as symptomatic through the sped dept.? The project will continue to next year. 1st thing last session in Feb. was they did exit tickets for the staff, it asked what reading programs are you interested in? In September it started as a voluntary literacy committee, now it's a mandatory literacy workshop. He wants to do something for math and written language.

Mr. Lundwall said he can look to see if he has the literacy committee survey- the SEPAC asked if he could provide a copy of the survey and the answers.

ML: Question for the teachers- What do you need to support literacy in their classrooms? What do they need?

Mr. Lundwall said he doesn't have breakdown of the MCAS scores

ML: "Why do we have such low reading scores? There are concerns the SWEC report- possible negative tone." "Could there be a program review of reading?" "Has the district thought about that?" "Has he not thought about that?"

It's not just the special educations students reading scores.

Future Agenda Items? Continue reading next time. April 11th is the Basic rights workshop presented by Elaine Rabbit for the Federation for Children with Special Needs.

May 9th EDH. June 6 Sepac meeting. Voting to happen in April.

Mr. Lundwall was asked if he has the old meeting minutes from prior SEPAC chairs/boards. It was asked where are the old meeting minutes? Who has them? No, Mr. Lundwall says that he does not have them.