

# GEA/SPED Committee

October 24, 2022

**Attendees:** Brooke Peckham (chair), Jessica Dunn, Michele Jones, Bryce Day, Kenzee Besler, Shannon Garner, Jessica Wassink, Kelly Collett

Agenda will be sent out one week before each meeting

Dates on calendar for year: Dec. 13, Feb. 14, Apr. 11. All in person

**Purpose for committee:** help problem solving district wide SPED issues that are patterns across the district. This is like SPED's building committee.

How do we let people know this committee is here and how to submit concerns?

- Ideas: Google form? Anonymous to look for patterns? Link on the Compliance Tips monthly newsletter – No, equal access from other associations would be required
- **GEA to make form, Jessica and Michele build form, include description of what it is and isn't for at the top (i.e. not personnel issues).**
- **Send form draft to committee before publishing**
- Where will it be available? - GEA website, provide to ARs, GEA Network leads, possibly Teacher Leaders?
- Once published, GEA will look for patterns to discuss with district

How are we communicating at large what comes out of this meeting?

- Publish meeting notes on GEA website after each meeting, along with form

## **Celebrations:**

- Stamina, professionalism, stick-with-it-ness of teachers this year
- Many new teams doing well
- Psychologists – new teachers working with: doing well and trying hard as ARL
  - o Student emotional well-being seems equivalent as last year
- 1<sup>st</sup> year teachers district conference, pulled in pre-service teachers from SUU to sub for those teachers. Pre-service teachers (3<sup>rd</sup> year of college) were encouraged with the experience as well as some eye-opening experiences
- Para training – received positive feedback about the first one. Next one is on Friday 10/28, topic is behavior and de-escalation strategies
  - o Data found with SUU as partner – need paras, can't do job without them. Some schools are completely staffed, others can't fill positions.
    - Found the culture within school building and classrooms effect recruitment and retention of paras.

## **Current Concerns:**

- **APE follow up – Need to buy new equipment.** Bryce meeting with Noelle in Curriculum this week.

- Would it be best if equipment goes directly to special class teachers? Yes!
- PE teachers – Jason Johnson, Whittier PE teacher, great at adapting for special classes, could be great resource
- Collaboration between SPED and Curriculum for proper training for special class teachers and PE teachers
  - Structures of lesson plans based on skills; **Kelly find the testing page to identify skills (send to Bryce)**
  - Decision tree for how to determine if APE is needed, share with all SPED teachers.
    - Share through Teacher Leaders, Compliance Tips
- Tried to get U of U to help with a training, reach out again possibly. Or reach out to other districts that might have APE still
- **Compliance Tips – need to be sent to Related Service providers as well as teachers**
- **22-23 Stipend** – submission reminder and form sent out
- **Easy Trac** – money that we get reimbursed for a student through Medicaid. Submitted quarterly. Cost of doing business. We've opted to do 80%, so we are claiming the services provided. Do claims meet or exceed the dollar amount. If we don't meet – they give us the balance. If we exceed, then we get the other 20%. Teachers worried it falls back on directly on their salary. It does not. **The reported service is in line with the plan of care determined by the IEP team.**
  - **Clarify this for teachers (confusion comes from a slide from fall institute)**
- **SPED PLC** – Desire to have time together with like groups. Microsoft Teams for submitting questions or posting things for Teacher Leaders.
  - **Set up Microsoft Team for each network/ special class type**
  - No standard format for attendance other than what is in the professional agreement: 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays
- **Concept Resources for Secondary SPED** teachers – Padlet sent out for directed studies, has PBL standards, good resource. Difficult to pull materials for various concepts (i.e. directed studies, explicit reading, writing goals). Any specific curriculum available? Vertical alignment of standards (Cyprus team did over the summer)

**Future agenda items:**

- Curriculum for various teacher subgroups (resource, special class, elementary, secondary)
- Full-day Kinder for SPED too?
- Special classes: Class sizes, caseloads