



SESAC Chairs: Marjorie Guldán (Parent)
Pamela Talley (Parent)

SESAC Vice-Chairs: Sheila Billups (Parent)
Dawn Greenberg (Parent)

SESAC General Meeting Minutes

May 17, 2023

Attendees: Carmen Brown, DEI/SES & Staff to SESAC; Pam Talley, parent/Co Chair; Sheila Billup, parent/Co Vice Chair; Neil Lichter, parent/agency; Chiara Jaffe/parent; Jade Gingrich, agency; Natalie Miller, agency; Brook Schmidt, agency; Dorie Flynn, agency; Karleen Spitulnik, parent/agency; Tashawna Miller, agency; Patricia Julianelle, agency; Rachel London, agency; Martha Goodman, parent; Ginger Wilson, agency; Leanne Carmona, parent; Marge Guldán, parent/Co Chair; Diane McGowan, agency

Guests: Rich Cerulo, Liz Zogby, Buzzy Hettleman, (members of the public); Dr. Deann Collins, Justin Dayhoff, Dr. Sylvia Lawson, Kelly, Meissner, Ken Hudock, Marny Helfrich, Shannon Egan, Erika Sellers, Jennifer Williams (MSDE)

Welcome/Introductions/Approval of Minutes – Carmen Brown welcomed the members and introductions were facilitated.

Public Comment – Carmen Brown, had three members of the public introduce themselves and gave each the opportunity to provide public comment. Only one participant wished to do so, Ms. Zogby who also submitted her comments in writing.

Blueprint Special Education Listening Sessions – Dr. Deann Collins introduced the Blueprint Special Education Listening Sessions and provided the framework for the breakout sessions, as well as context for the question-and-answer session facilitated by staff within the Division of Early Intervention and Special Education Services. Each group met for 90 minutes with members of the SESAC equally divided into each group to allow for input and feedback.

Debrief – All members returned to the full group after completion of their listening sessions. The SESAC members debriefed. Of note were comments regarding the need for consistency of implementation among school systems, accountability, the implementation of evidence-based practices across systems, equality and elevation of pay scales for all level of staff, and the critical importance of transition and transition prep. Also discussed was the importance of educating our educators, early identification with focused intervention, inclusion, and teacher support.

Reflection and Next Steps – This final portion of the meeting was for reflection on the past year of SESAC meetings and to begin planning for next school year. The group agreed to close and email the Chairs and Carmen with thought and suggestions for the upcoming school year.

Next meeting in fall 2023.