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Stacey Judice
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Special Education Advisory Council Meeting
May 2, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Alyce Gianfala, Chairman
Aprill Payton, Member
Joanie Bowie, Member
Sommer Francis, Member

Caroline Sullivan, Member
Maritza Adams, Member
Crystal Williams, Member
Loren Decuir, Director

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Gianfala at 6:00 PM. Roll Call: Alyce Gianfala, Sommer Francis, Caroline Sullivan, Crystal Williams, Loren Decuir. Absent: Maritza Adams, Joanie Bowie, Aprill Payton.

Mrs. Decuir motioned with a second by Ms. Francis to approve the April 4, 2023 minutes, motioned carried unanimously.

Mrs. Decuir, Ms. Francis, and Mrs. Gianfala presented summer activities available to special education students in the community. Information and flyers were distributed for Brittany's Project summer camp, St. Mary Parish library summer calendar of events, and day camp at the Civic Center. Mrs. Decuir informed that information will also be available on the school's website.

Mrs. Gianfala informed that special education scheduling is mostly during art and PE time, but the kids are routinely missing many activities that they would enjoy if given the opportunity to participate. Mrs. Decuir and the teacher members agreed to look for times to pull students for resource instruction during other times of the day so the students will not miss core instructional time and still be able to participate in art and/or PE at least partial time. Ms. Williams suggested taking partial time from different subjects so as to not take too much time from any one subject. It was mentioned that Mrs. Payton has been doing transition visits for students to experience a little time in the next year's class. This has helped the students to be better prepared for big changes, such as a new teacher or moving to another building.

Mrs. Williams asked the question: How do students get referred for speech? It was suggested that information regarding Response to Intervention and screening processes get added to the school's website, especially for pre-k students' parents to have access to.

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A parent from the audience asked: Is self-contained going to have science class in their setting with the self-contained teacher next year or will they go into the middle/high school science teacher's class? Mrs. Decuir and Ms. Francis informed that a decision will be made over the summer once schedules have been created. Ms. Williams asked a question: Does the school allow sponsors for the special education classrooms to get supplies needed for things like science experiments?

Tentative dates for 2023-2024 school year were agreed upon: September 12, 2023, January 16, 2024, April 16, 2024.

Mrs. Gianfala brought up member reappointment for the new school year. It was decided that an email will go out to ask if members would like to remain on this council and any open positions will be advertised.

There were no audience concerns.

At 6:49 PM, Ms. Francis made a motion with a second by Mrs. Decuir to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

