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## ***Virgil Browne Glencoe Charter School***

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### **Special Education Advisory Council Meeting April 4, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

Alyce Gianfala, Chairman  
April 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: Present - Alyce Gianfala, April Payton, Maritza Adams, Joanie Bowie, Sommer Francis, Loren Decuir; Late: Crystal Williams; Absent: Caroline Sullivan

An update on Special Olympics was given by teacher members. It was a great experience for all, and we are looking forward to participating next year. Ms. Peyton brought ribbons for students. It was suggested to send a thank you note to Steve Harris at SMPSB.

Ms. Gianfala presented and explained the differences between 504 and IDEA and the SBLC process followed for both. Parents were asked if what information would be useful to be included on the school website. Parents responded information on the differences between 504 and IDEA, along with things to look for in their children. Ms. Decuir also suggested that we include our Child Find letter on the website in addition to sending it home with report cards.

Ms. Gianfala presented and explained a list of accommodations available for SPED students. Questions about specific accommodations were answered.

Ms. Gianfala presented the process for parents to request a special education evaluation. Parents have the right to request an evaluation in writing at any time. The evaluation process starts with an SBLC meeting where parents will be given information regarding the concerns and gives permission to complete the evaluation. It is important for parents to be advocates for their children and to keep asking for help if needed. It is also important for parents to support their child at school and home, and to work with them at home to maintain skills.

There were no questions or concerns. Items suggested to be addressed at the next meeting were inviting a representative from Community of Friends or ARC to attend; transition processes for students, and information regarding support groups.

The next meeting will be on May 2, 2023 at 6:00 PM in the V. B. Glencoe Charter School Library.

The meeting was adjourned by Ms. Gianfala.

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