

Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC)

A Special Education Advisory group

District Office: Thursday, September 13, 2018

AGENDA:

1. WELCOME/ INTRODUCTIONS

- a. Nicky Sorenson, parent
- b. Kelly Wencl, parent
- c. Nicole Arvidson, parent
- d. Katie Schur, parent
- e. Dana Christianson, Elementary Principal
- f. Brooke Sievers, parent
- g. Katrina Dietz, parent
- h. Benji Schoenrock, parent
- i. Tara Hansen, parent
- j. Cindy Fleming, parent
- k. Molly Baune, parent
- l. Jennifer Johnson, parent
- m. Michelle Bethke-Kaliher, Director of Student Support Services and parent
- n. Heidi Ratajesak, parent
- o. Lori Gibson, parent
- p. Sara Richards, Assistant Director of Student Support Services and parent
- q. Michelle Steele, Coordinator of Early Childhood Special Education Services
- r. Ashley Maijala, parent

2. SEAC Introduction

- a. The Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) shall advise Alexandria Public Schools on the education of children with disabilities. The Essence of the Council's purpose is to provide a broad base of input to Alexandria Public School policies, practices, and issues related to the education of children and youth with disabilities who are between the ages of birth to twenty-one. The SEAC shall be comprised of volunteers with a majority of the members being parents of students with disabilities or individuals with disabilities. Membership on the council shall be composed of individuals involved in, or concerned with the education of children with disabilities.

3. Community Resource -- Windmill Project (non profit)

- a. Connect parents with services
 - i. Facebook www.facebook.com/Windmill.families/
 1. The page is not private - Could DM someone -
 - ii. Website <http://windmillproject.org>
 - iii. Special Needs Support Group
- b. Activities
 - i. *October*
 1. Sensory friendly trick or treating

- ii. Due process education
- iii. *August* - Douglas County Fair
 - 1. Free admission
 - 2. No lights/music
 - 3. Food vendors
- iv. *September - December*
 - 1. Young Athletes - Woodland Elementary
 - 2. 4 - 12 year olds
 - 3. in partnership with Special Olympics
- v. *December* - Grand Arbor
 - 1. Sensory santa
 - 2. Movie
- vi. *Monthly* - Family Support Group
 - 1. Meet somewhere for supper and support
- vii. Would love suggestions from parents

4. District Technology Information

- a. Alex Schools app
 - i. ParentVue
 - ii. Where's the bus?
- b. Website - <http://www.alexandria.k12.mn.us>
- c. Speech website link

5. Feedback- Advisory

- a. 18-19 scheduled meetings will be held at Alexandria Public Schools District Office at 6:00 pm
 - i. November 8, 2018
 - ii. January 10, 2019
 - iii. March 14, 2019

6. Other - Discussion

- a. Extended School Year programming
 - i. Wasn't so overwhelming to her son
 - ii. Easier transition from small school to DMS
 - iii. More 1 on 1 time with the sped teacher
 - iv. Didn't care for 1 hour at 8 am - was not beneficial for the student/family.
 - 1. Can't get in and out to have value for this short amount of time
 - v. Option for parents to ask for materials to be done at the home - get materials to be done at home instead of coming into the school in the summer
 - vi. Would like interactive activities - not a piece of paper (not only in the summer but through the school year as well)

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS: The next SEAC Meeting is
November 8, 2018**