



## Special Education Parent Advisory Committee January 18, 2023 Minutes

**Present:**

PAC Representatives: Brian Hagler (Lansing), Cathy Blatnik (Okemos), Latina McCausey (Waverly), Jennifer Pace (East Lansing)

ISD Staff: Crystal Cutler, Greg Molenda, Rhiannon Schindewolf-DeShais, Amber Dale

Guests: Krista Voss (Mason Director of Special Education)

**Absent:** Brandy Tinkey (Leslie)

Meeting called to order at 6:36pm

- I. Welcome
- II. Minutes from November 16, 2022 meeting were reviewed and approved. Cathy moved. Latina seconded.
- III. Administrative Reports –
  - a. Crystal Cutler, Ingham ISD Executive Director, Student Support Services
    - i. Update on new special education management system. Received five bids. Four met the criteria. In December brought in four vendors to present to a representative group from Ingham County. Brought two vendors back for more in depth look. Meeting with Directors tomorrow and after tomorrow will make a recommendation to each district's boards. Hope to move to one common system. Hope this will address some compliance issues across the county with the new system. Will also help if students transfer to a different district, no delay for services for students when they transfer. Districts and vendors will have some say in timing of roll out. Goal will be everyone on the same system by August 2024.
  - b. Greg Molenda, Ingham ISD Director, Technical Assistance and ASD Programs
    - i. Districts will be receiving a pdf report at the next Directors meeting to give them statistics about their districts. Reports include graduation rate and personal curriculum usage for special education students and general education students, stats on Alternate Assessment usage and number of initial IEPs year by year. Districts will be able to see their own data and other districts' data too.
    - ii. Introduction to Personal Curriculum presentation. Shared data that shows that if a student with an IEP used a PC at any time, even for one class, that the graduation rate jumps from 53% to 85%. Shared a Personal Curriculum Fact Sheet from the Michigan Department of Education. Describes a PC as a tool that can be used to modify the rigor of the MI Merit Curriculum. This can change what a student works on in their class to take into account their disability. Next month we will have a speaker to talk more in depth about personal curriculums.

- c. Krista Voss, Mason Special Education Director
  - i. Families who started an IEP during the pandemic had less time with teachers and staff to help learn about the IEP process. Want to make sure families are supported and have the information they need. Want to make sure the process is inclusive of all students and adults. The district is developing a document related to IEP Meeting Norms to share with families and staff. It will potentially be included on the back of the IEP invite, on their website, and used at the student's first IEP meeting. It will help parents as they prepare for the meeting, set the tone and expectations for the meetings, and ensure all voices are heard. It will help staff be mindful of how to conduct IEP meetings which can be stressful and intimidating for families.
  - ii. Shared the working document with the group and asked for feedback.

IV. Action Items – none

V. Business Meeting

- a. Amber Dale, Transition Consultant, Ingham ISD
  - i. Transition College Tour will be held March 3 at LCC West. There will be a virtual option available later for people who cannot attend. Clinton and Eaton County will be hosting their events in early February. Ingham County will have about 100 students. The event is available to juniors with IEPs or 504s. Students will tour six tech and career programs. Info has been sent to districts.
- b. Follow-up on trying to coordinate with other area PACs for events. Crystal talked to the director at Clinton County who is interested in collaboration. Still working to get in touch with Eaton director. Most likely will arrange a virtual meeting with the chairs of the three PACs.

Next meeting Wednesday, February 15, 2023 at 6:30 pm.

Meeting ended 7:16pm