

Newton SEPAC Open Board Meeting
Tuesday, October 17, 2017
Panera; Newton Center

Present: Christine Carey, Rajeev Parlikar, Alyssa Cohen, Jo-Louise Allen, Kim Gallagher, Julie Swersey, Marian Rambelle, Lisa DePalma, Elizabeth deRivera, Sree Rapolu

Agenda:

1. Summary of 10/12 meeting with Karen
 2. Update on booking speakers
 3. Update on liaisons
 4. Website and List Serv changes; need volunteers to help re-design website
 5. December 19th Open Board Meeting - do we want to plan a social event?
 6. Other: Transition Meetings
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1. 10/12 Meeting with Karen
 - Christine waiting for Karen to edit and approve her notes from the meeting, so she can send them out.
 - Karen ok'd January 9th for Elementary to Middle School Transition Meeting; still waiting on another date for Middle to High School meeting.
 - Accommodations on IEP/504 for standardized testing (MCAS) don't automatically transfer to SAT/ACT. School or parent have to apply for them in advance.
 - Forensics mock-up at NNHS: Karen didn't know anything about it, and is following up with NN.
 - TA's in Co-Taught Classes at NSHS: Karen didn't know anything about it, and is following up with Melissa Gamble at South and Kate McCarthy at North.
 - Karen's newsletter: not possible to send out to IEP/504 families, but Karen is working with IT on it. SEPAC to ask Karen if she would consider sending it to the newsletters at each school.
 2. Booking speakers
 - Kim is looking into Sexuality speaker.
 - December 6th, March 15th and May 22nd are all still open/available.
 3. Liaisons
 - Kim gave updated list to Rajeev to post on website; still working on filling openings.
 4. Website/List Serv
 - Website is up to date.
 - Rajeev to send 'pain points' to AI (Cohen).
 - Julie Elhauge volunteered to help with resource page and commonly asked questions.
 - Need to stop using current list serv for discussions, per Leslie Leslie at FCSN.
 - Plan is to have 2 separate forums - one will be for posting meetings, announcements, etc (ie a bulletin board), and the other will for parent discussion.
 - One thought is to remove the PAC name from the current list serv, enable it to be run by parents, and allow discussion to take place there. The second list serv will be for announcements only, and parents will have to 'opt in'.
 5. December 19th meeting for Social Event?
 - We never actually discussed this; will address at next meeting.

6. Transition Meetings

- Discussion about someone taking over Pre-School to Elementary School Transition Meeting from Joan, but later discovered that Joan still wants to facilitate it.
- Discussion about how to handle parents who suggest things to SEPAC Board. We should encourage them to take initiative and become involved, or to email Board Members directly when they would like an issue brought to Karen's attention.