

Special Education Parent Advisory Group (SEPAG) Meeting

June 3, 2021

9:30-10:30am VIRTUAL

Bedminster Township School District

Lauren Zugale- Director of Student Services, Bedminster Township School District

Agenda/Minutes

- ❖ Purpose of SEPAG
 - Every school district in NJ is required to have a SEPAG
 - Opportunity to provide direct input to the school district about policies, programs, practices and services that have an impact on students with disabilities and their families
 - Should be parent-driven and often is parent-led
 - Starts with creating a mission statement, annual goals and objectives, developing meeting schedule, and establishing ground rules
 - Link to information from NJDOE:
<https://www.state.nj.us/education/specialed/resources/SEPAGManual.pdf>

- ❖ NJDOE Office of Special Education Survey regarding strategies to improve rate of return: <http://www.state.nj.us/education/specialed/info/spp/survey.shtml>

- ❖ Reflection of this school year
 - Optimized opportunities for in-person instructional time for all students very early in the school year, while respecting family decisions to remain virtual
 - Arranged for students with IEPs and other needs to access more in-person time if desired
 - Students are making progress!
 - Addressing the social-emotional needs of our students while holding high academic expectations
 - School-Family Partnership Series→ links found on district website, including but not limited to topics regarding speech-language, behavior, technology, and upcoming PTO meeting with school counselor presentation (6/8 7pm virtual)
 - Wednesday afternoon professional development for current and new programming/services, including elementary math curriculum
 - ESY and BTS Summer Academy

- ❖ Initiatives moving forward
 - Preschool curriculum: The Creative Curriculum
 - RBT training for our paraprofessionals
 - Increased collaboration for staff with common planning time

- Growing our self-contained programs with trainings for ABA instruction, updating classroom layouts, life skills opportunities
- Continually improving and increasing inclusive opportunities
- Anticipated new master schedule for the school as a whole
- Focused trainings and plans for using data to drive instructional decisions for our resource rooms at elementary level
- Staff professional development about instructional practices and strategies for ICR (in-class resource) placements
- Continued opportunities for families to be part of school culture → attending in-person events (as permissible), meetings like this, parent clinics for our youngest learners, School-Family partnership series

❖ Parent input/ any questions?