

**Boyertown Area School District  
Curriculum Committee  
March 17, 2015  
Minutes**

Dr. Christman called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm in the Board Room of the Education Center.

**Board members in attendance:** Dr. Christman, Mrs. Dennin, Mrs. Neiman, and Mr. Landino

**Administration in attendance:** Dr. Miller, Dr. Woodard, Mr. Scoboria, Dr. Faidley

**BASD Staff in Attendance:** 7

**Members of the Public:** 2

Everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and observed a moment of silence.

The minutes from the February 10, 2015 meeting were accepted.

**Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

**Presentation and Discussion**

Dr. Christman introduced Dr. Woodard who introduced the topic for this evening. Specifically she explained that we would be seeing a presentation on the Special Education Plan which is one component of the Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Hayes and Mrs. Bartman were introduced to present on the Special Education Plan. The two shared a power point presentation which contained the highlights of the plan. The state requires that this plan be developed by districts every three years and must be approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

Mrs. Bartman shared that the state no longer requires a planning committee but they chose to still utilize a steering committee consisting of parents, teachers, and administrators. Additionally they utilized a survey for parents and teachers to gain additional input to help identify strengths and needs of the department. Finally, they utilized a parent focus group with representatives from each building to gain final insights and to discuss possible outcomes of the plan.

Mr. Hayes shared the main components of the plan include sections on demographics, legal requirements, programs, contracted services and support services. Additionally, there was information presented in the plan related to the method being used to identify students for special education as well as behavioral support. Finally, the plan includes strengths and highlights of the department as well as the professional development of special education personnel.

Finally, Mr. Hayes explained that the state requires the plan to be presented for public review which is being done this evening and then it will be available for 28 days for the public to review via the district website.

Mr. Landino asked what we are required and what the state requires in reference to least restrictive environment. Mrs. Bartman shared that these decisions are made on an individual student bases. She went on to explain that the plan includes the steps we go through and that the state only requires that we provide education in a least restrictive environment.

Mrs. Neiman asked if Pennsylvania Department of Education ever denies a plan submission. The group shared they tend to make recommendations for changes or additions and request a resubmission.

Mrs. Dennin asked about the identification methods that we utilize. Mrs. Bartman explained that all students are identified through an evaluation process with a school psychologist. The process involves mutli criteria testing as well as input from parents and teachers to determine if there is a need or not.

Mrs. Neiman asked who determined which parent participated in the focus groups. The group shared that the building principals provided names.

Dr. Faidley shared his thanks for putting the plan together and for going above and beyond the requirements by including a focus group, surveys, and steering committee. This input obviously provides us with valuable information to ensure that we are creating a valuable plan.

Mrs. Neiman asked if we could have had a parent with more than one student would they have participated only once. The group shared that the survey was designed to allow for multiple responses.

### **Committee Comment**

No comments

### **Public Comment**

Mrs. Curry asked what process is used to determine if a student needs an IEP. What happens to those students who may not need an IEP?

Mr. Scoboria shared that the evaluation report is still shared with the teachers, parents, and administrators. This team then uses this input to develop a plan to support the students. Certainly our use of the response to intervention and instruction process helps to support all students not just those with an IEP.

### **Announcements**

March 17, 2015 Finance Committee Meeting, Education Center Board Room, 7:00 PM  
March 24, 2015 Board of School Directors Meeting, Junior High East, 7:00 PM

Dr. Christman adjourned the meeting at 6:33 pm.