

Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)

Minutes: February 2, 2023

Meeting Date and Time: 2/2/2023 6:00 pm

In person meeting referencing Mandate dated July 1, 2022-Norfolk Public School Board Meeting Room 1202 Central Administration Building 800 East City Hall Ave Norfolk, VA 23510

Members Present	Christopher Keyes, Melissa Garman, Vicky Manugo Greco, Diane Outlaw, Shantae Brown, Tasha Washington, Vashti Washington, Rita Bell, Sarah Bailey, Nikia Bassett, Matthew Moynihan, Nathan Whitlow (Co-Chair)
Members Absent	Nicole Anthony, Katelyn Conway, Marysol Flores, Mildred Goolsby, Michael Hester, Renee Howard, Tynikia Johnson (resigned), Gilda Northern, Aniki Reid, Susan Williams
NPS Consultant	Dr. Glenda Walter (Senior Director)
Guests	T.E. Okafor, Tiona White

The meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) was held February 2, 2023, 6:00 pm at Granby High School. Dr. Nathan Whitlow, presiding.

Welcome/Introduction/The Purpose of SEAC: Dr. Whitlow welcomed members and guests. SEAC members and guests introduced themselves.

The meeting's agenda was presented and there were no additions.

Dr. Whitlow read the purpose of the SEAC.

Review/Adoption of November SEAC Minutes: Minutes from the meeting of December 2022 were shared. Editorial corrections and spelling errors were noted. The minutes were motioned and seconded; the motion was carried.

Announcements: Ms. Bailey, Endependence Center, will host the Youth on Saturday, 2/18/2023 from 1-3 pm.

Public Accommodations will be on 2/22/2023 from 2-2:30pm.

Norfolk Council of Parent Teacher Association (NCPTA) has had a slow start this year; the President resigned. On Monday, 2/27/2023 NCPTA will meet; flyers will be sent to locals with PTA's.

Lobbying focus is Special Education.

Ongoing Business: Mr. Washington inquired about the difference between Purpose and Vision Statement. The mission is inspirational, and the purpose is how things will be done. Ms. Garman

stated that everyone has a different passion. Enthusiastic teachers are the best. The purpose is what we expect to do or the function.

The Vision Statement pulls the mission together to form a Vision Statement.

Mr. Washington -Annual Report is a recommendation to the School Board. Recommendations are to be implemented and adopt in every school.

Dr. Nathan Whitlow- Vision Statement #2

Ms. Bassett motioned that the group should look at the two and choose the one with the most votes. Ms. Bailey seconded it. Dr. Whitlow asked for discussion. Mr. Keyes suggested taking out the second sentence in Choice 2. Ms. Garman and Ms. Greco agreed. Ms. Bell seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Critical Decision Points for Families of Students with Disabilities will be on February 10, 2023, at the KROC Center. Ms. Greco asked about a SEAC table. Dr. Walter replied-YES.

Public Comments: None

Learning Support Updates -Dr. Walter:

On 2/10/2023, there will be a Website and Social Media presentation at the KROC Center. Breakfast and lunch will be offered.

School Board Advisory Committees are closed!

The Annual Plan proposed date is 3/29/2023. Confirmation is needed (28th, 29th, or 30th are dates for the Special Meeting.)

CEIS Conference is to be held at Lake Taylor High School on August 3, 2023. “The Connect for Students” Conference is reimagining. This event is for staff and families to meet the needs of our students. There will be a keynote speaker at CCEIS. There will be a call for Proposals, Presenters and Exhibitors. Next registrations will be offered. When Registration is closed; it is closed!

The Transition Tour bus is tentatively set for April 20, 2023, to travel to Fishersville, VA to the Woodrow Wilson Center for ages 16 to 21.

New Business/Wrap UP /Adjournment

Ms. Greco- There will be a sign in sheet for people who wish to know more about SEAC. Did we separate staff from parents?

Sidebar- September to November is posted. Make December changes, then post.

Mr. Washington- There is a glitch with the School Board/VDOE Budget. Will it affect the Special Education Budget?

Dr. Walter- I do not know. Usually in July, I apply without knowing how much we will use. I use the same numbers as the previous year. Typically, I get slightly more money and I go in and make changes. VDOE could reflect my budget; this is state funds. My grant is from federal funds.

When is the proposal due? Ms. Smith and I met. – ALL are welcome to do a proposal, be a presenter or do an exhibit!

Proposals are due in about 6 weeks away- 1st of March to Spring.

Presenters' registrations are due the first week of May and close early June.

Exhibitors register in June and close in July.

Ms. Garman- How does the Annual Plan fit into NPS budget? The School Board Annual Budget was presented yesterday, 2-1-2023. A Work Session was yesterday.

Dr. Walter- Received an email from a principal yesterday- Gravel on bus ramp and wheelchairs are getting stuck!

Annual Plan application - All grants are supplemental. Localities are responsible for funding. NPS budget overall is \$400 Million. Learning Support is about \$7 million. It is usually used for staffing in NPS.; this is problematic. There is NO guarantee for the grant funding. Paying people out of grant- reduction of force. Grants cannot sustain the positions. Trying to move positions off grants for Tour bus Transitions.

Ms. Greco- This is theory for our new member. Dr. Walter last presented on 3/24/2022.

Dr. Pohl meets with department chairs. How can we support Para Pros? I can run a workshop for Para Pros to pass the tests. I will ask; I put the ASKS on the table. Tell your colleagues!

Ms. Garman- Since our Annual Report is not due until June, it is appropriate for our team to talk to the School Board about SEAC funding! As a private citizen, you can talk to the School Board.

Dr. Walter- Personally, Dr. Pohl and Dr. Byrdsong have been supportive of what I ask.

Ms. Greco- Grow Your Own- My daughter is a long-term substitute and is working as a Para in a Kindergarten class.

Dr. Walter- Teach in Resident- The teacher must have a bachelor's degree. There are a high number of Provisionally Licensed teachers; some teach until the license expires.

Ms. Garman- Teacher in Resident program, the resident cannot be left alone.

SEAC is not limited to one annual report.

Ms. Garman- Is there enough time between now and February 15?

Ms. Greco- First Public Comments were in December. The second Public Comments are in February.

Third Public Comment on Budget are in the future.

We need to give Dr. Walter more time.

Ms. Greco- If Dr. Walter's special call meeting is Wednesday, March 29, 2023 at Granby High School at 6 pm, then we need to discuss it!

Ms. Garman- Is it open to public?

Dr. Whitlow- Yes. If you are interested in the special meeting on 3/29/2023, please vote. The motion carried.

Ms. Greco- Membership Roster is needed!

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:33 pm. The next regular meeting is March 2, 2023 at Granby High School.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Outlaw, Recording Secretary----