



# SEPTA

## Fairfield Special Education PTA, Inc.

### General Meeting Minutes - **SEPTA Meeting Minutes 9/27/17**

7:35pm meeting called to order  
A Quorum wa president

Tracy Pechkis, president made introductions of 2017-18 Exe. Committee and noted members of board and committee chair in audience. A brief overview of upcoming events and goings on for the the SEPTA year

Christine Vitale, treasurer presented the 2017-18 operating budget. Motion to approve the 2017-18 budget was made - Christy Vitale made a motion to approve and Bonnie Rotelli 2nd the motion. No objections budget approved unanimously

7:45pm Business was adjourned and Guest Speakers were introduced. Following presentation parents were welcome to interact with guest panel

Mr. Robert Mancusi new Executive Director; Special Education and Special Programs.  
introduction/background/personal approach. 22 days

-very passionate about Fairfield

-loves working with students but very optimistic and eager to work with parents

-patiences/focus/collaboration with school based teams will get you much further

-open door policy...would love to meet parents

- Kristen Bruno: 8th year in Fairfield
- Linda Jean Schwartz- K-5th grade coordinator: Initiates for parents who have students in CLC: complex learning cohort. Will have monthly meetings for parents. Wilson certification program- 20-30 Special education teachers this year. Graduated first class this year.
- Jonathan Goodison: New middle school coordinator- students best interest in mind is his mantra
- Mike DeStefano: HS Sped Coordinator- Dialectical Behavior Therapy program has been implemented, training for all staff/teachers/all staff from 6-12+, district social/emotional needs implemented
- Gayle Donowitz- runs community partnership program (transition services) & principal of the Walter Fitzgerald Campus. Flagship program-all students are placed within the community. One perspective = Kids First

SPED Dept interested in doing presentations

-journey map: day in the life of a student: what are the goals for the students/parents? ETC  
-increasing opportunities beyond the school day for students to be with typical students, ex. Bus ride makes them feel more normal, lunch  
-working with parents to try to avoid the homework battle

Floor opened to Q&A

- Lisa Davy: Learning Center class size increase guidelines questions: could we address the guidelines for class size in Middle/HS level
- Inquiries re: specific services- Contact service provider/case manager. If it continues/contact principal and then go to coordinator and then
- How to adjust from a 5 day to a 6 day cycle at the elementary school level. PPT's needed to be adjusted. A PPT can be called to discuss and make changes if needed.
- Having a designated PPT day?
- What would you like to have accomplished? Improve instructional services for reading for students as well as emotional/social. Improving quality/development of IEPs/comprehensiveness of evaluations + partnership with parents
- Lots of support from SPED parents

Closing remarked a reminder that the PTAC will host a BOE forum Nov 1st.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Laura King, Secretary  
Fairfield SEPTA 2017-18