

**Fairfax County Advisory Committee for Students with Disabilities (ACSD) Meeting Minutes
November 14, 2018**

Call to Order: 6:07 pm.

Members Present:

Member Name	Status	Member Name	Status	Member Name	Status
Darcy Acquavella (City of Fairfax School Board)	P	Jeanne Frost (Fairfax Co. Health Dept.)	P	Connie Lorentzen ** (Mount Vernon District)	P
Laura Allen (Region 5)	P	Meghan Gray (Lee District)	P	Linda Mason (Higher Education)	P
Joe Alston (Member-at-Large Moon)	P	Rachna Heizer (Member at Large- Keys Gamarra)	E	Darcy Mills (Student Rep)	
Michael Beattie (Disability Services Bd.)	P	Harry Henderson (Mason District)		Phara Rodrigue (Region 3)	P
Cheri Belkowitz* (Springfield District)	P	Elizabeth John (Dranesville District)	P	Joanne Walton (Region 4)	E
Michelle Cades (SEPTA)	P	Melissa Johnson (Faculty)	P	Ann-Marie Ward (FCCPTA)	P
Brandon Cassady (Hunter Mill District)	P	Paul Keiser (Region 1)		Cathy White (Transition Services)	P
Sandi Dallhoff (Neigh. & Comm. Services)	P	Andrienne Konstas (League of Women Voters)	P	Jane Wilson (Braddock District)	E
Susan Edgerton (POAC)	P	Toby Latham (Assistive Technology)	P	Cindy Woodcock (Preschool)	P
Judy Farabaugh (Member-at-Large McElveen)	P	Erin Lauer (Fairfax/Falls Church CSB)	P	Niki Zimmerman (Region 2)	

*Committee Chair(s) **Vice-Chair ***Committee Secretary
P = Present E = Excused Absence R = Resigned

FCPS Staff Present:

- Teresa Johnson, Department of Special Services
- Irene Meier, Office of Special Education Instruction
- Mary Beth Harrison-Cunningham, Department of Communications and Community Outreach
- Ann Long, Career and Transition Services

FCPS School Board Liaison: Elizabeth Schultz (not present)

Agenda & Minutes:

- Judy Farabaugh moved to approve October 2018 minutes. Susan Edgerton seconded the motion. Motion approved as corrected (per recommendation of Jane Wilson) by unanimous vote.
- Judy Farabaugh moved to adopt the agenda. Melissa Johnson seconded the motion. Motion approved by unanimous vote.

Calendar Reminders: March 13, 2018, subcommittees shall present report to the committee; April 6, 2019, Annual FCPS special education conference; and April 10, 2019, ACSD shall vote to approve annual report.

Vice Chair's Summary of November 5, 2018 Meeting with State SEAC chair: The provision of local advisory committees is a state requirement. Teachers may serve in a parent role, but the committee may only have one teacher representative. A committee majority must be comprised of individuals with disabilities and parents of students with disabilities. ACSD brochure and quality of staff-led presentations were commended. It was recommended that the brochure be added to the ACSD website. Specific recommendations for updated bylaws were discussed. Potential FOIA issue identified by members serving on both the ACSD and the Special Education PTA. Subcommittee structure was recommended, based on structure of state SEAC. Terms of service, from time of appointment to June of following year were viewed as cumbersome—and recommendation to request change to two consecutive terms of 3 years was recommended. Regarding annual proposed budget, role of ACSD was clarified to allow the committee to comment on the budget at public hearings, pursuant to motion passed by committee. Brief presentation of Robert's Rules. Shortening the length of the annual report and relying on statistics (as opposed to public

comment) for its content, was recommended.

Subcommittee Presentation: The Chair proposed that the committee create four subcommittees: School Board Charge; Family Engagement and Community Outreach; Student Achievement/Student Outcomes; and Policy and Regulation. Each member shall serve on at least one of these subcommittees. The chair proposed that the committee create two additional subcommittees on which participation will be voluntary: Bylaws and Nominating.

Break at 7 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 7:05 p.m.

Public Comment

- Amanda Campbell—First grader in special education programs. Expressed thanks to staff for addressing her comment regarding ATS, and to the committee for its work on last year's report. Raised concern about scope of the charge being limited to particular age group. Recommended that the committee improve its outreach efforts to address barriers created by parent obligations. [Copy of full remarks provided to the committee.]
- Christina Hunt—Fifth grader exhibiting school avoidance. Attendance improved after attending CSS cite. Raised concerns about PE requirement and availability of adapted PE for students with emotional disabilities. Stated that staff waited for student to fail before providing requested service. Staff did not recommend FBA. Nor did it recommend training for parents. In sum, participation in PE courses should not be a barrier to a student's access to the gen ed curriculum. [Copy of full remarks provided to committee.]
- Ninsa Perez—Asked where parents could access data pertaining to special education. Expressed concern about parents' comments being treated as anecdotes. Requested that the committee research how often problems raised in public comment occur throughout the system, e.g., how many parent requests for FBAs are denied and why.

Special Education and PRC Update

Mary Beth Harrison-Cunningham: Collaborative IEP meeting had to be rescheduled. Provided review of upcoming PRC workshops. Announced that a new staff member, former Mosby Woods teacher, serving as liaison.

Irene Meier: Keynote speaker at Special Education Conference will be Dr. Mary Morningstar, an expert in transitions. There is planning for self-determination program with I'm Determined at the Special Education Conference.

Presentation regarding Pulley and Davis Career Centers and the Davis STEP Program. Led by Chad Clayton, Davis Center Principal, and Lonnie Bickel, Pulley Center Principal. Presentation slides provided to committee.

New Business

Meghan Grey moved to create subcommittees, as outlined in earlier presentation (above). Motion seconded by Andrienne Konstas. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Announcements

Sandi Dalhoff announced dance partnership with NLVE for 16-year-olds and up.

Ann-Marie Ward announced that the FCCPTA survey, currently available, will close before the next ACSD meeting. She also announced that the FCCPTA will host an advocacy night on December 3, 2018, from 7-9 p.m., at the government center.

Michelle Cades announced that SEPTA is hosting a fundraiser at Barnes & Noble in December.

Committee members participated in subcommittee break-out sessions.

Adjournment: 9 p.m.

Next ACSD Meeting: December 12, 2018, at 7 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Toby Latham