

**Lexington Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC)  
Lexington Special Education Parent Teacher Association (SEPTA)**

**Business Meeting Minutes**

**January 10, 2017**

**Attendees:** Jennifer Yaar, Kathy Cunningham, Robin Abrams, Ann Wolf, Lisa O'Brien, Bettina McGimsey, Mona Roy, Jayashree Venkataraman

**Location:** Lexington Community Center, Room 245

**Call to order:** 9:06 am

**Adjourned:** 10:35 am

**Approvals**

- Minutes from 11/1/16 Business Meeting were unanimously approved.

**Reports of Officers**

- Treasurer Report:
  - Our balance at the end of November was \$4689.43.
  - Income from membership was \$445.36
  - Major expenses included \$200 donation to Spina Bifida Association (Honorarium for speaker at Lives Worth Living) and \$409.50 for PTA membership (91 members)..
- Membership report: there are currently 96 SEPAC/SEPTA members

**Other Business**

- Team discussed idea of doing a survey of member interests for presentations—possibilities included Jessica Minahan, Sarah Ward, and the “Shut Up About Your Perfect Kids” speakers.
- Attendees recapped the December Q&A session and follow-ups with Ellen Sugita, Dr. C, and Sando Alessandrini.
- 2017-2018 LPS budget discussion—no funds for inclusion specialist included, as no program enhancements will be made across the board.
- There continues to be concerns about lack of small group math in the Clarke and Diamond LLP. Bettina McGimsey to reach out to Dyslexia Parent Group to get more information and to see if anyone would be willing to reach out to parents of elementary students transitioning into these programs.
- Upcoming Dyslexia Parent Group meeting—2/13 Peer Mentoring session, and Dr. Gabb to present on neuroscience behind dyslexia in the spring.

- Attendees discussed what type of social thinking program are currently available at middle schools and if there is consistency across schools, and how this might fit into an “Understanding our Differences” program.
- Regarding IEP Surveys—team discussed the idea of surveying parents for all IEP eligibility meetings—including those meetings where students are not found eligible for services.
- Transition Subgroup—meeting scheduled for 2/15/17 with Leslie Leslie and on March 15 with Elaine Gabovitch and Holly Boker.
- ADHD Subgroup: Kickoff meeting held on 11/29.
- Fiske ILP concerns—team discussed concerns about the oversight of BCBA and SSI staff, transition issues, and health concerns. SEPAC/SEPTA continuing to communicate parent concerns to district leadership and staff.