

CAC Special Education Committee – Meeting Minutes of March 15, 2016

In attendance:

Committee Members: Melissa Owens, Sarah Thompson, Melissa Waxler, Denise Matthews, Ruth Beckner.

I. Call to order:

Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm. Approval of the January 16th, 2016 and February 16th, 2016 minutes were approved by acclamation.

II. Old Business: Review of Eureka Math Presentation

Committee agreed that the presentation went very well; parents and guest staff members were engaged and asked very good questions. The committee was very appreciative of the work that went into the presentation by Alicia Fabianczyk-Liakopoulos, Rebecca Dahn, LaShawn Lomax and Melissa Waxler.

III. Public Comment

None raised.

IV. New Business: Work Session

Melissa Owens and Sarah Thompson presented a rough draft of the annual report, highlighting the fall Special Education University session and the Eureka Math presentation. Two items were discussed regarding recommendations for the report, and for planning for the next school year:

- **Parent Sessions:** The committee discussed pursuing five smaller parent sessions instead of two larger events. Options for presenters would include inside district staff, along with presenters from agencies that have already expressed an interest, including: NADS, NISRA, NWSRA, Bartlett Challengers, Easter Seals, Countryside Association, Autism Society of Illinois and We Grow Dreams. Topics within the district could include a follow-up Eureka Math presentation, NGSS Science curriculum, and/or transitions. The committee would like to rotate locations for the presentations to ease access barriers, including: Gail Borden Public Library, Bartlett Public Library, Poplar Creek Library, Elgin High School, and Bartlett High School. Parent sessions would take place on regular committee nights, possibly September, October, January, February, and March.
- **Publicity:** The committee recognizes that publicity has been an ongoing struggle, and is probably a continuing factor in lack of parent participation. The committee would like to implement the following:
 - Finalize presentation schedule over the summer, so that communications regarding programming can begin immediately at the beginning of the school year in August.

- Work with Mary Fergus and the communications department on a communication strategy, including flyers, press release, and communication to principals, preferably at the August principals' meeting.
- Work with the CAC FACE committee and their network of PTO/PTA groups to foster communication at the school level.

Action Item: Melissa Owens and Sarah Thompson to complete draft of annual report for presentation at the April Meeting.

Meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 8:30 p.m.

Next committee meeting will be held on April 19th, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. in room 358, U-46 Educational Services Center at 355 E. Chicago Street, Elgin, IL.

Respectfully submitted by: Melissa Owens, CAC Special Education Committee Co-Chairperson.