

CAC Special Education Committee – Meeting Minutes of September 18, 2019

In attendance:

Committee Members: Sarah Thompson, Sarah Siddiqui, Ruth Beckner, Avita Odoom, Mary Hogan and Leatrice Satterwhite.

I. Call to order:

Meeting called to order at 6:35 PM. The 4/16/19 meeting minutes were presented for review. Sarah S. made a motion to approve the 4/16/19 minutes; Seconded by Ruth B. Approval of minutes made by voice vote.

II. IV. Public Comment

Sarah T. called for Public Comment. None was raised.

III. New Business

Sarah T. presented an outline of “Unraveling Anxiety: It’s More than Just Worries” scheduled for January 14, 2020 at Poplar Creek Library [Snow date February 18th]. Suggestions were made to add Spanish resources (In both books and YouTube videos) in the resource list provided for parents at the end of the program. Questions were raised if the word “rumination” should be used and if it was, it needed to be clearly explained. Finally we want the presentation to give examples of what anxious behaviors are and are not.

Secondly she discussed logistics for the off-site programs including live translation and translation of the handouts ahead of the presentation.

Publicity for the 2019-2020 programs was discussed. The SPED flyers will be distributed through inter-office mail to each school with confirmation check-ins with Donnie, Leatrice’s secretary. All students with special education services will receive a flyer as well as students with 504s. Counselors and social workers will also receive flyers. Requests will be made to libraries’ newsletters and libraries’ flyers to include information about the programs. Facebook events will be created and reposted by all members.

Mary presented preschool events to provide parent outreach opportunities to recruit committee members. Mary Hogan is in contact with the principals of Illinois Park and Independence and talked about two events that were happening in the next month. It was decided that Sarah S., Avita O., and Ruth B. will attend “Give Me 5 Night’ at 4 pm on September 24th at Independence Preschool with confirmation with Principal Lisa Bergbrighter. Sarah T. and Mary H. will attend “Trunk or Treat” at 4 pm on October 18th at Illinois Park Preschool with confirmation from Principal April Lowe.

IV. Other Business

Sarah told the committee she had been contacted by a speaker about opportunities to present in the future at one of our events. Her name was Karen Leinen. Karen was connected to us through Sadia Ahmed (our contact) from the Gail Borden Library. Sarah stated that we set our schedule for programs in early spring and said we would consider her offer then. Mary Hogan knows her and said she is a retired teacher from D300 and has a lot of SPED experience. The committee will consider her as a presenter for a future program next year or at a meeting this current year. Sarah T. will be in contact with her to ask for topic ideas and bring to our next meeting.

Avita O. came up with the idea of an informational flyer about the CAC Specialized Student Services Committee to pass out at future programs as an outreach to parents for the committee. Sarah asked her to prepare a draft and she agreed.

Avita O. moved to adjourn; Sarah S. seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 7:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted by: Sarah Siddiqui & Sarah Thompson, CAC Special Education Committee Co-Chairs.