

**CAC Specialized Student Services Committee – Meeting Minutes of  
November 20, 2019, 6:30 pm**

**In attendance:**

Ruth Beckner, Mary Hogan, Avita Odoom, Valerie Pittenger, Leatrice Satterwhite, Chanda Schwartz, Sarah Siddiqui, Sarah Thompson

**I. Call to order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 pm by Sarah T.

**II. Approval of minutes from the 9/18/2019 meeting**

A motion was made to approve the minutes by Chanda S. and seconded by Ruth B. The committee voted to approve the minutes.

**III. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**IV. New Business/Work Session: Review & Discussion of proposed programs for January 2020**

Joey Williams from ABS sent the presentation for the next workshop (Understanding Anxiety: It's More Than Just Worries) to Sarah S. The committee took a few minutes to review the presentation.

Sarah S. will ask if ABS can provide resources in Spanish, as well as, the finalization date for the complete presentation. If ABS does not have any Spanish resources, Sarah T. will contact Gail Borden Library to see if they can provide a list of Spanish books on anxiety. Sarah S. will work on getting translators for the event.

The presentation will be in the Poplar Creek Library newsletter (Sarah S. will re-confirm). Sarah T. will reach out to Rebecca Miller to create an event on Facebook and Mary Fergus to create an event on the U-46 CAC Facebook page.

**V. October Program feedback**

Sarah S. went through all of the evaluations for the presentation. The evaluations were good overall. Sarah S. also went through the evaluations scale ratings. Sarah T. commented that we counted 70 in attendance. Most parents attending had kids with autism. We had a variety of people from different districts and schools in attendance. There was some discussion on not doing this presentation every year since we have offered it two years in a row.

The committee discussed feedback from the evaluations. The feedback included the following:

- Some attendees wanted more personal advice/assistance on getting government help now.
- More time for questions.
- Suggestion to break the presentation down into categories and do it on multiple nights.
- More information on navigating the system if the person with a disability is working.

#### **VI. Discussion on events to recruit new committee members (Sarah T.)**

We reached out to potential new members at events around the district. Committee members attended various events. Sarah T., Chanda S., and Mary H. attended Trunk or Treat at Illinois Park. This was a heavily attended event. Avita O., Sarah S., and Ruth B. attended Literacy Night at Independence. These events were good exposure for the community to know about our committee. There was discussion on possibly attending an event in the spring.

Valerie P. suggested doing an event pertaining to helping parents over the summer with their kids. Some of the future topics discussed were: Transitioning from School to Summer and Summer to School; Getting Your Special Needs Child Ready for the Summer.

#### **VII. Other Business**

Sarah T. and Chanda S. attended the program on “Supporting Parent Empowerment for Special Education” by Karen Leinen. Karen is willing to present on other topics for us.

It was suggested that the committee have a dedicated email address for people who want to contact the committee with questions or for additional information. A group email address would replace current co-chairs individual email addresses being listed on the CAC website and on all correspondence.

#### **VIII. Adjournment of meeting**

A motion was made by Chanda S. to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Avita O. The meeting was adjourned at 7:31 pm.