



## Benton-Stearns Education District

### Special Education Advisory Council

October 22, 2018

6:00-7:30

#### 1. Welcome and Introductions

- a. Membership and District Representation - All parents introduced themselves and included the district they represent. Alicia welcomed everyone and thanked them for their commitment to the SEAC. The goal of BSED SEAC is to have representation from all 6 districts. Alicia also referred parents to the BSED website to review the 3 specific goals of SEAC as defined by MDE.

#### 2. CTIC (Community Transition Interagency Committee)

- a. A Taste of Transition - Cindy Pedersen and Lorie Duevel provided a summary of this event that occurred on October 11th on the campus of SCSU. They had approximately 35 vendors present to answer questions from students and parents. There were breakout sessions offered also. Students who are currently in transition programs in the community assisted guests as they arrived and were also responsible for other tasks throughout the event. Hopefully this will be an annual event. The committee is seeking input from the SEAC members for ideas for future planning.

#### 3. District Updates

- a. New Frontiers Transition to SCTCC - This is the 18-21 transition program for students who have identified transition needs on their IEPs. On November 5th, the program will officially move from the Sauk Rapids location to the SCTCC campus. The focus of the New Frontiers program is to support students who have continuing transition needs and support these needs in real life situations throughout the community and on the SCTCC campus. Students are working on job skills such as; endurance on the job site, learning how to use various equipment, safety in the workplace, day to day problem solving, learning how to work with others and how to handle feedback from management. Some students are also enrolled in PSEO (Post Secondary Enrollment Option) classes at SCTCC. There will be an open house scheduled soon.
- b. SMART Course at Voyagers Building Playground - As part of the United Way Day of Caring, BSED staff painted a SMART course on the playground at Voyagers. Alicia shared pictures of the finished product. The students enrolled at Voyagers sent thank you notes to show their appreciation.
- c. MDE Recognition for Compliance and Monitoring 2017-18 Self-Review - Alicia described the hard work and patience from the special education teachers in the districts as BSED staff completed the compliance and monitoring tasks from last year. MDE

recommended that no corrective action plans needed to be written. This is a huge compliment!

- d. MDE Safety Grant Awarded to BSED for Voyagers Secure Entrance Improvements - Voyagers received a \$49,000 grant to update and secure the entrances at our school. Improvements will be made to the entrances at Voyagers through this funding.
  - e. FGRBI (Family Guided Routines Based Intervention) Innovation for Early Intervention Program (EIP) - The BSED Birth to 3 year program is currently serving approximately 82 families. This FGRBI innovation is offered through MDE and is a 5 year process. It provides guidelines for the BSED staff who go into the homes to deliver their services in a different manner. Alicia and Sue Currens will share updates throughout the upcoming years.
  - f. The Foley High School special education teachers spent a significant amount of time last spring and summer visiting other 18-21 programs, visioning, researching and planning curriculum as well as setting up work experience sites within the Foley community. This fall, they have implemented their vision and students are benefitting from the time and effort they put into this project. Congratulations!
  - g. Kim Kochler shared extra “treat bags” from the UCP trick or treat night. Thanks to Kim for sharing the goodies with those in attendance!
4. Upcoming Opportunities and Other Noteworthy Items
    - a. PACER Center-National Bully Prevention Resources
    - b. MN Microgrant Partnership for 16+ Students (ARC Website)  
<https://arcminnesota.org/minnesota-microgrant-partnership/>
    - c. Alicia shared brochures from Cindy Owen (ARC MidState) with upcoming activities and events in our area.
  5. Parent Workshop Needs-Discussion
    - a. Brainstorm ideas to sponsor a workshop for families this year - ideas from the group include; invite paraprofessionals to come to this meeting to learn more about special education, executive functioning, positive behavioral strategies, mindfulness, mental health, for the group to organize social gatherings for students with disabilities amongst the 6 districts, bowling event to connect parents and students (possibly using the bowling alley in Sartell), panel of students and/or parents who have actually enrolled in various programs to share their viewpoints about specific programs, “pair up” students with disabilities with students who do not have disabilities for social events, specific community resources that are available. If there are other ideas, please feel free to send those ideas to Alicia via e-mail.
  6. Meeting Dates for 2018-19
    - a. February 4, 2019
    - b. April 8, 2019

