

SNAC Meeting
October 9th, 2018

Intro - President Heather Moore

- October is Disability Awareness Month.
- Reminder about Peer Buddies Program
- Nov 13th Meeting will be Part 2 of September Meeting overview of services.
- Will take place at Chapel Hill Public Library.
- Secondary Transitions will be discussed.

District Updates - Lessley Mader Executive Director, EC, and System of Care

- Vacancies –
 - No teacher vacancies. Final position filled last week.
 - 10 TA vacancies. That just fluctuated this week.
 - Search for Hearing Impaired Teacher continues.
 - Position that has been repurposed AU specialist to work with Early Childhood/PreK.
- District Notice sent out on October Disability Awareness Month.
 - Rashkis has bulletin board up about assistive communication technology.
- Dr. Banks Student Services did an update on October 4th at Board of Education.
 - Can be viewed on district website.
- Announcement on Teacher of Excellence – Kaleigh Vogan of Phillips Middle School.
 - Each year each district picks a EC Educator of Excellence.
 - This year Kaleigh Vogan was selected and she will attend a special statewide conference.
 - Ms. Vogan has shown leadership at school level as well as school excellence.

Amy Brightwood www.commongroundnc.com

See Article from “Conservation Gardner”

Horticultural Therapy – can work on fine/gross motor skills, social/emotional.

- Built a therapeutic garden at 1870 Farm.
 - Kids who come there get to do gardening and interact with animals.
- Horticultural Therapy Program at Glenwood
 - Once a week met with EC group and at-risk kid group
 - Glenwood EC teacher set goals for children.
 - EC group - Learned gardening skills, learned lifecycle of a butterfly.
 - Now at Glenwood there is a butterfly garden.
 - Worked on horticultural skills.
 - At-risk kids built a vegetable garden.
 - Enjoyed eating what they grew!

- Burts Bees gave NC Botanical Garden a grant to train teachers in therapeutic gardening.
 - Teachers are compensated for time and free training.
 - By end of this month 10 schools will have trained teachers, staff in therapeutic gardening.

- Program at 1870 Farm
 - Garden at 1870 Farm Wednesday after school program from East Chapel Hill High.
 - Garden from 4:30 to 5:45.

ECAC Presentation Writing Effective IEPs

This presentation was livestreamed on the SNAC website.

General overview of what is on an IEP.

Review of IDEA Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004.

FAPE – Free Appropriate Public Education

Special Education – Specially designed instruction at no cost to parents, to meet the unique needs of a child with a disability

504 – offers accommodations

IEP – specially designed instruction

Who is invited to IEP

Painting the Big Picture handout – helpful to bring to IEP and for new teachers/therapists

Student Profile

Strengths tied to functional skills and academic skills.

Assessment information

Progress on IEP/IFSP goals

Parent Concerns (Parent comments that she types in advance and sends to team. Good place to document concerns that have not been addressed in prior IEPs).

Parent's/Student's vision for the future

Note - You can have as many IEP meetings as you need. You can call them anytime.

Medical concerns and social emotional concerns can be topics.

Present Level of Academic Achievement & Functional Performance PLAAFP

Goals should be related to present level of performance.

Starting point for measuring progress. Can influence accommodations.

Part of identifying needs

What is being used to measure.

Data is important.

Measurable Annual Goal Components

Condition – Circumstances under which target behavior is to occur

Target Behavior – What the child will do to meet the goal

Criteria – Acceptable level of performance of the target behavior

Note - Good idea to ask for a draft of the IEP to have information on the present level of performance and the goals before the meeting.

Not always possible to get the detailed testing information – but parents always have right to see results.

Can give doctors/therapists right to talk to school personnel directly with two-way consent.

ECAC can be of assistance with complex questions of why certain information may be available or not.

YouTube Video about Accommodations and Modification

Least Restrictive Environment –

List of all the things your student is doing in a day

Next to that list any needed accommodations and modifications is listed.

If they need the same things, they should still be listed.