



Berlin/Boylston Public Schools  
**Special Education Parent Advisory Council**  
Meeting Minutes

**Date:** January 25, 2017

**Meeting Place:** Tahanto Regional Middle/ High School Multipurpose Room

**In attendance:** Angela Allred, Rochelle Peret, Kerry Lavallee, Karen Groccia, Karen Molnar, Jannel Fitzpatrick, Jessica Meltzer (via Skype), Amy Gaspari

**Presentation:** Basic Rights and Responsibilities. Karen Molnar, PPS Director  
New Co-teaching Model at Tahanto described. Handouts on file.

General meeting called to order at 7:52pm

**Minutes:** December minutes approved and posted to website.  
**Angela Allred**

**Membership Report:** 98 members, 54 Yahoo!Group, 60 Facebook Group. No changes.  
**Rochelle Peret**

**Financial:** Current balance: \$863.57. Kerry was reimbursed \$3.59. Karen submitted  
**Kerry Lavallee** receipt for reimbursement totaling \$37.99 for annual website renewal.

**PR Report:** Meeting notices out to press, community, schools, Facebook. Notice of  
**Karen Groccia** survey deadline extension out. Excellent Educator nominations will go out with link to online form. Form will be posted by Rochelle during February vacation week.

**Communication Report:** E-mail from Matt Hager (TRMHS Academic Support) to tell us about the  
**Karen Groccia** new academic support page they are developing called "Transition Services."  
Brochures requested from Michelle at Central Office. Karen said no budget for brochures so she suggested just sending a link and business card. We will cost out rack cards or 5x7's.  
Coordinated Program Review – Karen Molnar was given SEPAC board members information to be used as requested.  
**WBAC** – Karen Groccia will respond to the request for SEPAC to be interviewed.

Dee Gardner and the Hope Club completed a NISW project at Tahanto and sent pictures to SEPAC. Danielle Rinker and Kim Trainer plan to implement Disability Awareness week lunch activities during Feb. 13-17<sup>th</sup> with support from student council.

**Karen Molnar PPS:** Budgets submitted. Berlin has a great budget while Boylston is struggling.

**OLD business:** **Allergy/Sensitivity Accommodations** - board voted to end correspondence unless prompted.

**Scholarship** – Board voted for one scholarship for \$300. Karen will finalize application and distribute to Tahanto and Assabet Guidance Departments, and to Rochelle for posting on website.

**Excellent Educator Awards**– Karen will create flyer and Kerry is coordinating.

**NEW business:** Amy G. reached out to let us know she is the School Council representative. Current BES focus is math enrichment. BES and Tahanto will share tutoring afterschool amongst students. Budget focus was SPED transportation cost for out of district placement and new to district students.

**WBAC request** – Kerry and Angela agreed to interview for WBAC on behalf of SEPAC. Karen will be the liaison between SEPAC and WBAC. We hope to interview during February meeting or March meeting. Thoughts on topics include NISW, scholarship and Excellent Educator Awards.

**Survey Results:** Survey closed on January 20<sup>th</sup>. Karen presented general results at meeting (36 responses). She will summarize in more detail for sharing with public and school committee/administration.

**NISW:** Angela will coordinate this year. Flyer will be finalized this week. Seeking approval by Nadine by Friday. Angela will copy and distribute flyers to BES and BMS Monday, January 30<sup>th</sup>. Deadline for entries Monday, January 13<sup>th</sup>. Jess will pick up entries from BMS and Rochelle and Angela will pick up entries for BES. Angela will keep Dee in the loop regarding activities at the Elementary schools. Still awaiting student count at BMS. Jess will correspond with Judy Rapa. Suggested a “Hero reception” during the 7-8pm hour at February meeting. Refreshments will be served.

FCSN Workshop: "Visions of Community" will be presented March 4<sup>th</sup> in Boston. Rochelle may attend.

**School Meeting Reports:**

- BMS School Council:** No SpEd issues to report
- BES School Council:** ADD study will begin in spring if approved.
- Regional School Committee:** No SpEd issues to report
- BMS School Committee:** No SpEd issues to report
- BES School Committee:** No SpEd issues to report
- Tahanto STAAGSPTO:** No SpEd issues to report
- Berlin LINK:** No SpEd issues to report
- Boylston PTO:** No SpEd issues to report

**AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:**

- West Boylston shared presentation in April – "Effective Communication".
- ADHD support groups from Karen Molnar
- Excellent Educator
- Fundraiser
- Square Account

m/s/p to adjourn 9:37p.m.  
Meeting adjourned



**Approved:**

*Electronic approvals on file.*

\_\_\_\_\_ **Rochelle Peret, Co-President**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Jessica Meltzer, Co-President**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Karen Groccia, Vice President**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Kerry Lavalley, Treasurer**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Angela Allred, Secretary**