

**Carlisle School Committee
Special Education Subcommittee**

Minutes

Tuesday, March 1, 2022

9:00 AM

Zoom Remote Access

Present – School Committee via Zoom: Amanda Comperchio, Eva Mostoufi

Present – School Administration/Personnel via Zoom: Jim O’Shea, Superintendent; Lori Bruce, Director of Student Support Services; Linda Vanaria, Teacher and CTA President; Mary O’Regan, Assistant to the Superintendent.

Per Governor Baker’s order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A sec. 20, members of the public were able to access this meeting via live stream at:

Topic: SESC

Time: Mar 1, 2022 09:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://carlisle-k12-ma-us.zoom.us/j/88513233452?pwd=UVUvNFUvZGNzZGtidEIBMctucit4QT09>

Meeting ID: 885 1323 3452

Passcode: 099951

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:01 AM.

II. Review/Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Ms. Mostoufi to approve the subcommittee meeting minutes from the 12.6.21 and 1.20.22 meetings. The motion was seconded by Ms. Comperchio and the motion passed.

III. Follow-up on Special Education Presentations

When asked if there were any outstanding questions or issues from the recent presentations at the School Committee meeting and SEPAC meetings the following items were discussed:

- Teacher certification and the possibility of creating a grid of teacher credentials to release to the public
- Review of how screenings have changed from previous years
- How the curriculum in Carlisle meets DESE literacy standards
- Concerns that some universities are not preparing special education students to teach reading/literacy
- Within Tier II supports are staff teaching students phonics or whole word language.

Mr. O’Shea explained that over the past few years the district has shifted to have special education teachers who specialize in literacy instruction. He went on to state that a grid of

teacher credentials could be created and shared but families would need to understand that they are unable to request a particular teacher.

There were several questions surrounding which phonics programs are used in the district. It was noted that different programs are used for different students to meet their individual needs. There was discussion regarding the literacy programs used and if the school uses "Structure Literacy" or "Balanced Literacy." The question of "What is Balanced Literacy" was raised. Ms. Vanaria stated that staff use the term "Balanced Literacy" but that may not be the best terminology as teachers use many different types of programs to educate students. Some, but not all, of the programs currently used are considered to be "Balanced Literacy" programs. Foundations is the main program used by the district at the elementary level with other programs used to supplement as needed.

Mr. O'Shea stated that there will be follow-up on the issues that were raised during the meeting. Information will be gathered and decisions will be made regarding what certification information to share, the optimal format, and the channel to best communicate this information. Ms. Mostoufi noted that it is helpful to have these ongoing conversations.

IV. Upcoming Meetings

The next meeting of the SESC is scheduled for Monday, March 28, 2022 at 8:00 AM.

V. Adjourn Meeting

Ms. Mostoufi made a motion to adjourn the meeting and the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary O'Regan
Assistant to the Superintendent
March 1, 2022