

MEETING MINUTES

Special Education Advisory Council

Building Connections to Foster Belonging & Learning for All

March 21, 2023, 11:30 am

Welcome / Introductions – Jen Crable welcomed all attendees to the Hilltop Conference Center. We met at this location so we could tour the new BV Food Pantry.

New members were welcomed: Amy Cady- MOR, Crystal Danko- STIL, Katie Gerson- HLC, Lezlie John-PSE, and Missy Wilson- BVSU.

District Updates-

Blue Valley Community Pantry – Dr. Schmidt and Cassandra Delmont shared information about the new BV Food Pantry, that had it's first customers today. It already seems there is a need and interest in the services. After a tour of the wonderful new area in the food pantry is a program used to develop life skills for High School Sped students and students in the 18-21 program. BV is partnering with local businesses and Harvesters to keep the groceries stocked and lending their expertise in getting the food pantry going in our community. There will be a ribbon-cutting opening ceremony on April 10th, more information to follow.

Special Education Funding in BV – Dr. Schmidt discussed sped funding by the state and federal agencies once again to make sure patrons understand how sped is funded. There were many questions concerning funding which Dr. Schmidt was able to answer.

Committee/Initiative updates- Jen Crable and Amie Bybee shared the following:

Parents Supporting Parents – The next meeting will take place at Sunset Grill, 14577 Metcalf Avenue, on April 7 at 11:30 am, all are welcome.

SPED Resource Fair – The SPED Resource Fair took place on Feb. 9th from 5:00 PM -8:00 PM. In spite of a snow day that took place that day, 83 vendors showed up and 200 participants came. The vendors noted the smaller crowd but stated they had better conversation with the families. The vendor also noted how well the entire evening went and were impressed with the volunteers.

Open Forum- Open Enrollment legislation, which will go into effect for the 24/25 school year, was discussed. Dr. Schmidt explained how Open Enrollment is supposed to work and answered many questions parents had about the new enrollment coming in the near future. There are still many questions to be answered by the districts affected by this change.

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, April 18th, 11:30 am
High Plains Conference Room at DO