



Superintendent’s District Advisory Panel for Exceptional Student Education

Low Incidence Exceptionalities Sub-Committee Meeting

April 13, 2023

2:00pm-3:30pm

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://dadeschools.zoom.us/j/3513561743?pwd=Z3hQa2hJQzdmUFIPUHdqjGhGVk03QT09>

Minutes

Attendees:

Natalie Tappert	MDCPS, Administrator, Co-Chair
Alexandra Roque	MDCPS, Administrator
Mara Kunitz	Teacher of the Visually Impaired
Sascha Ramsay	Teacher of the Deaf/Hard of Hearing
Laura Chinloy	Teacher of the Deaf/Hard of Hearing
Jennifer Sando	Parent Representative
Kathy Vergara	UM Debbie School
Barbara Sanabria	Teacher of the Deaf/Hard of Hearing

Welcome and Introductions

Review and Discuss 2022-2023 Goals

- **Goal 1:** Continue to evaluate Professional development needs for teachers in relation to instructional strategies for use with students with Low-incidence exceptionalities.
 - Benchmark: Work with the MDCPS Professional Development Department to receive MPPs for Training/PD presented by 3rd Party PD Providers specific to Low-Incidence Populations. Explore the Process of approving outside Professional Development.

Discussion Notes: A total of 5 professional development courses were offered for staff in the Deaf/Hard of Hearing departments and a total of 4 professional development opportunities were provided for staff in the Visual Impairments department. These were a combination of working with third party vendors and MDCPS facilitated sessions.

- **Goal 2:** Create Padlets for family resources for students with sensory impairments.
 - Benchmark: Create a Padlet for Visually Impaired Resources for families; add to the Padlet for Resources for Deaf and Hard of Hearing families.
 - [Family Resources for Visual Impairments Padlet](#)
 - [Family Resources for Deaf/Hard of Hearing Padlet](#)

Discussion Notes: Padlets continue to be updated. Hyperlinks for email signature to be sent, and QR code to share with parents.

- **Goal 3:** Evaluate program needs throughout the District with low-incidence exceptionalities and incentives to retain and recruit Teachers of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and Teachers of the Visually Impaired.
 - Benchmark: Create a projection of student needs with regards to support and programs over the next 4 years. (Age, current location, barriers to general education, supports needed)
 - Benchmark: Explore avenues to provide MDCPS high school students with information about careers in Teaching students of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Visually Impaired.

Discussion Notes: Created code to calculate projections, plan to explore. Discussion of new ways to utilize DHH interventionist to assist in language acquisition. Hire Teacher for the Deaf to provided intensive language instruction in ASL. Influx of migrant high school students with other sign languages and resources to support acclimation and language acquisition. Research more higher education services for accessibility for students (E.g., remote interpreting).