

Superintendent's District Advisory Panel for Exceptional Student Education

Secondary Transition Subcommittee Meeting

April 16, 2019 at JRE Lee Educational Center – Room 18

1:30 PM – 3:00 PM

*Present: Chris Reigadas (Parent, Chair), Mary Paz (MDCPS-ESE), Magaly Ercilla (MDCPS-ESE, Co-Chair), Cynthia Guillama (MDCPS-CTE), Ernie Martinez (Panel member), Enrique Escallon (Panel member), Farida Reyes (Vocational Rehabilitation), Lisa Freidman-Chavez (Project 10)

- Ernie expressed concerns about not receiving agenda in advance; sub-committee members would like to review agenda items prior to the meeting. Mary asked for input for future agendas to be communicated to chairpersons.
- Chris reviewed the "College Support Programs for Students with Learning Differences" developed by Janet McDaniel (sampling of programs beyond college access centers; document was distributed).
 - Ernie asked how the information will be shared with students and parents.
 - Sharing documents on ESE Transition site
 - Lisa suggested that a disclaimer is added, referencing the cost and explaining that MDCPS is not sponsoring and/or endorsing the programs listed.
 - Ernie recommended that lists and information are reviewed and updated annually.
 - Enrique described that one of the difficulties that most students experience is that they do not want to disclose their disability when they enter the college setting. He recommends that ESE partner with Student Services to guide students.
 - Enrique asked that a scholarship list for students with disabilities.
 - List from Project 10 site was printed and distributed by district ESE staff at the 2019 National College Fair and shared with schools.
 - Cynthia asked about FND link being posted on MDCPS-ESE site. Add one link for CTE website and one for Adult Vocational website. (Magaly will follow-up with posting links to the new ESE Transition Site.)
- Reviewed Subcommittee Meeting minutes from February 12, 2019 (list of handouts from the minutes as well)
 - Chris suggests that parents are given information about college and post-secondary options early (in middle school).

- Lisa shared that MDCPS used to have a Transition Task Force meeting (transition specialists, project coordinators, parents from subcommittee). This group used to meet monthly. When group last met, group was planning to change the name of the group. Emails were sent to all agencies regularly.
 - Set in the beginning of the school year to assist with interagency collaboration. Every agency was given a few minutes to share the 3 most critical details of their agency.
 - Chris explained that the Task Force is different and separate from the Secondary Transition Subcommittee. Task Force was a “think tank” for transition team and agencies.
 - Also asked that information about new Mental Health department be shared.
 - Enrique shared that the Task Force helped the agencies to collaborate. He suggests that group can be revived to meet quarterly.
 - Mary shared that agencies participate in ESE Family Forum and Expo every year.
- Correction from Lisa for the Data for 2017 Graduates: Report on indicator 14 every year (lag data however)
- Correction from Chris: Joe Labelle (last name was misspelled)
- Correction from Lisa and VR Representative: VR Summer Youth Program is now “VR Career Camp”, which is 3 consecutive days.
- Question about WBLE from Lisa: Current contract ends May 2019. ESE team is identifying pre-employment specialist to begin working with 5-10 students at a school. Expect new contract for 2019-2020.
- Chris asked if Subcommittee can meet in June 2019. Mary will inquire.

*Chris asked for Enrique Escallon's vision for Transition Subcommittee as president-elect.

- Enrique welcomes any suggestions and asked Mary for input.
 - Focus on post-secondary
 - Helping schools to prepare students and ensure they are ready for post-secondary life
 - Equity and access, district-wide
 - Creating more opportunities for students without having to “go somewhere else”

***Action Steps:**

- Collaboration with Student Services (how to share information about college options for students with disabilities)
- Ask if Subcommittee can meet in June 2019 to work with Enrique on goals for next year
- Consider possibility of restarting Task Force for 2019-2020