

## Minutes from the Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District

### Special Education PAC Meeting

10/12/2023

Meeting Commenced: 6:00 p.m.

In Attendance: Victoria Zarozinski, Susan Pantalone, Alli Roche

The agenda set and purpose of the meeting was to welcome new members and establish an effective Special Education PAC.

The meeting began with introductions and welcome from Victoria Zarozinski

V. Zarozinski reviewed the current by and SPED PAC Role and Responsibilities.

The guiding document for this discussion included the sharing of the bylaws for the SPED PAC.

The PAC's official name is the M.R.V.T.S.D. PAC. The purpose is to (article II):

- Promote communication
- Advise the Director of Student Support Services
- Promote a network of parents of students with disabilities
- Participate in the planning, development and evaluation of special education programs.

Membership is open to all communities within the school district.

V. Zarozinski reviewed the current organizational structure: V. Zarozinski has generated and guided the meetings in the past. Today, V. Zarozinski opened the meeting requesting if parents would like to organize a council with a President and Vice-President as outlined within the PAC's bylaws. No volunteers were identified or nominations made. The parents in attendance requested that V. Zarozinski continue with her role and generate and guide the meetings. Therefore, it will continue, as it has in the past, with V. Zarozinski presiding. A google form was shared with the current members to document their wishes and extend a further invitation to any parent/guardian volunteer to consider taking on a leadership role. To date, no parent volunteers have stepped forward.

Next on the agenda was a review of the 2022-2023 Data Analysis. This included a data dive in the areas of Initial Evaluations/Comparison of Outcomes, Monthly Meeting Distribution, Testing comparison by evaluator, STAY Classroom Tracking and Tiered Intervention Services. The results from each of these areas are attached to these minutes for School Committee review. The information was shared with PAC members and discussed in the context of what services are in place to support students, measures of progress and trends, and successful outcomes. As a whole, the SPED PAC feels Monty Tech has extensive programs and services that meet the needs of our students. The feelings were positive and commendations were given to V. Zarozinski and her staff.

The SPED PAC also reviewed and approved a three year program evaluation schedule for Special Education in order to ensure all programmatic areas are reviewed, compliance is consistently monitored and the SPED PAC can make timely and data based recommendations to the district accordingly. The approved schedule is as follows:

#### School Year 2021-2022 (COMPLETED)

- Data Analysis (IEP Timelines Tracking, Type/Numbers of Team Meetings, Evaluator Caseloads, Initial Evaluation Outcomes, & STAY Classroom Tracking)
- IEP Team Process Documentation/Discipline Process Focus
- Selected Special Education Procedures
  - Child Find
  - Parent Advisory Council
  - Assistive Technology
  - IEP Implementation
  - Discipline Procedures
  - Certification/Licensure of Staff
  - Educational Interpreters
  - Professional Development
  - Program Evaluation

#### School Year 2022-2023 (COMPLETED)

- Counseling Services
- Speech and Language Services
- Assistive Technology Services

#### School Year 2023-2024

- Co-Teaching Support
- Learning Support Services

Following a discussion with PAC members about the current data, V. Zarozinski explained that during the 2022-2023 school year there was a site visit from DESE as part of the Tiered Focused Monitoring (TFM) process. Results of the DESE review shared the district is in full compliance with all state and federal regulations and no further action is required at this time.

A question and answer session was held prior to the conclusion of the meeting. A discussion was held on the increased amount of mental health issues and challenges of finding resources. V. Zarozinski shared information about Care Solace, CSO (mental health urgent care) and our community resources and partnership with LUK, Inc. Resources from each agency were shared and parents openly commended the district for our commitment to educating the whole child, recognizing the importance of mental health care.

#### SPED PAC Planning For Future Meetings

- a. February 7, 2024 (Rights and Regulations Presentation)
- b. Virtual Seminar topics TBD

In closing a Google Survey & Feedback form was sent to all members. Feedback and suggestions on how to improve and expand participation, solicit feedback and gain members willing to participate in a leadership capacity was sent, requesting all members to complete.

The meeting concluded at 8:42 pm

Initial Evals Comparison

Year	Initial Evaluations	Eligible	Not Eligible	Request withdrawn	Student withdrew	In Process
2022-2023	32	16	8	2	2	4
2021-2022	25	19	4	2	0	n/a
2020-2021	26	14	6	0	1	n/a
2019-2020	15	4	7	3	1	n/a
2018-2019	16	9	5	2	0	n/a
2017-2018	19	10	8	1	0	n/a
2016-2017	23	6	12	1	4	n/a
2015-2016	9	7	2	0	0	n/a
2014-2015	3	1	1	1	0	n/a
Totals:	168	86	53	12	8	4
Average %		51%	32%	7%	5%	2%

# Sped Meetings Comparison by year

IEP Meetings	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	Totals:
Annual	147	136	156	150	158	143	147	185	1222
3yr	82	79	46	73	59	74	80	54	547
Initial	10	15	17	18	15	20	23	24	142
Manifestation Determination	0	5	6	1	4	1	8	18	43
Progress	1	7	8	15	13	7	16	17	84
Reconvene	0	2	4	4	3	2	1	2	18
Testing Review	2	2	5	2	5	5	3	4	28
Transition	65	57	65	62	54	56	63	63	485
<b>Total Meetings:</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>367</b>	<b>2569</b>
Updated 6/15/23									



STAY Classroom Data 2022-2023	29 Students opted in to STAY Program		
Root Causes:		Final outcome:	# of Students
Medical	10	Green= promoted	23
Mental Health	19	Yellow=summer school	
Other		Red=retained	1
		Gray=Withdrew from MT	5
		Blue=did not participate	
		Other=purple	* 0 Drop Out

**Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District**  
**Tiered Social Emotional Learning Services and Opportunities for Students**

<b>Tier 1</b> <i>Global/universal interventions available to all students (i.e. prevention)</i>	<b>Tier 2</b> <i>Interventions available to students who may be at-risk, (group or individual)</i>	<b>Tier 3</b> <i>Interventions available to students identified as eligible for special education or Section 504 plans, or those requiring a higher level of individualized intervention</i>
<p>Freshman Seminar</p> <p>Organized clubs (SHINE, Diversity, etc.)</p> <p>Yoga/Meditative Art</p> <p>Access to guidance/nurse</p> <p>Teacher extra help days</p> <p>Directed Studies SEL/EF</p> <p>Freshmen Experience</p> <p>Mental Health Monday</p>	<p>STAND</p> <p>STAY</p> <p>DCAP/REAP</p> <p>Directed Study (potential time block for targeted intervention delivery)</p> <p>In-school counseling</p> <p>Lunch Groups</p> <p>Writing Lab/Math Lab</p> <p>Peer Mentoring</p>	<p>Instructional Support Team/IST referral support</p> <p>Learning Support</p> <p>Individual Counseling/ LUK Telehealth and Trauma Intervention Program</p> <p>STAND individual tutoring/Trauma counseling</p>