

## GEA SPED Committee

10/24/23

**2023-2024 Meeting dates:** October 24, November 28, January 23, February 27, March 26

**Committee Members:** Kenzee Besler, Bethany Ortiz, Steffany Austin, Leah Stewart, Kelly Collett, Erica Villareal, Shannon Garner, Audryn Damron (GEA Board member), Jessica Dunn (GEA Staff)

### Agenda:

Elected chair – Shannon Garner

Note takers – Audryn Damron for GEA Board, Kelly Collett for committee.

Review members – are we missing representation?

- Add Heidi Henderson, DK teacher at Hunter, GEA board will approve at next board meeting.

- Related services, and Preschool. Suggestions given to Jessica.

Purpose – reviewing concerns, problem solving possible solutions

- What does it look like now for possible solutions and how they are addressed by district?

- It's building committee for SPED, Jessica can take solution ideas to all SPED leadership (Bryce, Kyle, Sherri, Brandy, Robyn). Increase follow through with leadership. Trying to figure out best communication structure to solve concerns.

- How to submit new items for meetings – form on GEA website, Kelly share with committee members <https://www.gea-ut.org/special-education-committee.html> Possible idea: share on running school agendas like other Building Committee Forms at schools? Need to think more best ways. Name and school are requested on the SPED concern form.

Sharing – what is going well?

- FOCUS - some features are going well. Medicaid reporting is much easier. Share these positives with district SPED office.

- Even though some hard days, kids make us laugh and bring enjoyment

- Gen ed coming to secondary IEPs

Problem solving current concerns:

Three Submissions from Google form

1. Focus Progress Reports – set up each goal if IEP is not in Focus yet.
  - a. Stipend available? Time intensive to type or copy/paste goals from IEPs into Focus. Money is very tight, but Jessica will ask. Even if only for 2 hours of work. All FBAs and BIPs must be re-entered as well, SEL teachers. Inconsistent messaging from district about requirements for entering progress.

- b. Comp time? Difficult because we need all the time we do get paid for.
  - c. Use PLC time in elementary, or cover classes for secondary? Acknowledgment from district about the weight of it all right now would help morale.
2. Morale submission – GEA addressed, committee can't respond specifically right now.
- a. For future form submissions this year: Committee chair contact will member who submitted the concern with a message of we hear you, we're working on possible solutions, thank you for reaching out.
  - b. Side note: When legal due process is in place is it communicated safely and appropriately to IEP team members involved?
  - c. Inconsistent communication from the district SPED office continues to be an issue overall.
3. FA redesign concern goes into the following agenda item.

FK/DK and EE redesign – feels like it's a done deal. Dr. Nye confirmed it is not a done deal. Bryce sent out message to parents for listening sessions. Listening sessions but questions are answered accurately. Looking at space (space committee and population) district wide.

Possible recommendations/concerns:

- Correct information that's available. Sharing targeted and intentionally with some but not others leads to rumors.
- Ask for another employee listening session, in person (not Zoom). Maybe on a PLC morning? All invited – gen ed and SPED.
- Big picture concern – inclusion culture of the district as a whole. Capacity hasn't been built to make such a massive change
- Commenting at board meeting on Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>
- Behavior team – collaborate with gen ed – what does that actually mean? Need more information on the vision and plan for this

Future agenda items

Adapted PE grievance possible