

**October 30, 2024 (In Person) Minutes**

**Attendance-Chairs D.Perez, M.Katz, K.Heiner, T. Acosta**

**JTHS Media Center**

**6:30P- 8:00P**

| **Presentations/Speakers*** Officer Christopher Fabian: Presented on the Blue Envelope Program. It is used for traffic stops, but also can be used for homes. More information is at the Jefferson Township Police website. <https://www.jeffersontownship.net/685/Blue-Envelope-Program>
* A representative from the Miton First Aid Squad was there and said they work closely with the police dept when working with individuals with Autism.
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| **Department Update from Director of Special Services Juceyka Figueroa*** The 18 to 21 STEP Program has moved to the Milton Church which holds the food pantry/thrift shop. This gives the students ( young adults) an opportunity to be separate from the High School. There is no cost (rent) to have the program here.

The time was changed from previous years to give them the opportunity to gain independence from the district’s high school schedule and have pick up times for them.The program is IEP driven and the participants are learning job skills and independent living skills. They are at the high school on Fridays and are involved in entrepreneurial type activities. * There is no new information about special education and the district reconfiguration other than what has already been shared about self-contained classes moving to Briggs and Stanlick for the 2025-2026 school year.
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| **Items from SEPAG Chairs- Tracy Acosta- Kimberly Heiner-Michele Katz- Diane Perez*** Participation of SEPAG at Chair PTA meetings With Superintendent – discussion -Michele Katz(substituted for Tracy Acosta). SEPAG shared our upcoming events for the year.
* Superintendent asked for any concerns with the redistricting. Concerts were shared about the self contained classes all being moved to Briggs/Stanlick.

SEPAG asked the PTA’s for financial support since they had agreed last year. TriMIlton PTA agreed to donate $100, JCPTA said that their bylaws prevented them from donating because all money had to be directly given to students. The Jefferson Education Foundation was not present. Current expenses are approximately $30 per meeting for refreshments and $225 for the Zoom membership from the previous school year.We asked the PTA’s to continue to share our flyers at meetings. |
| **Agenda items from the September Parent meeting**1. Case Manager confusion and changes- Some schools do not have Case Managers listed, reviewed portal.

 SEPAG will be provided with an updated list of case managers and the schools where they are.  Some case managers are at more than 1 school. District website will need to be updated on  the special services page and the individual school pages.1. Lessons and confusion helping at home- how to address looking for help (Case Manager – Supervisor?)

The proper chain of command is the teacher first, but parents can always include the case manager on the emails so that they are informed and may be able to offer insight. The next step would be the dept supervisor or Jodi Reinsten, special services supervisor if it is a special education teacher.1. Evaluation Process- what happens next- after evaluations are done?

Parents may request evaluation and if the evaluation is warranted then the eligibility is determined by differences in the evaluation scores of 22.5 discrepancy model. This discrepancy number has been used in Jefferson for many years. If a student does not qualify for an IEP that may still qualify for a 504 plan or other interventions. However, these are not overseen by the child study team.1. Alerts sent for meeting.

 District will go back to phone calls and emails the night before the meeting. Phone calls during  the school day will not take place.1. District Reconfiguration

Concerns were brought up about moving the self contained classes to Briggs/Stanlick instead of the preschool program. It was expressed that this is the population that will be most affected with the changes. It was suggested that special ed representation is part of all the redistricting teams. Concerns about special education students being excluded were brought up.1. Transition STEP Program

The program was moved because the district was looking for an outside location so that the young adult students are able to foster independence and have their individual goals met within their IEPS. |
| **Key Take-Aways:*** Case managers will include the SEPAG meeting dates attachment on their email signature.
* Ms. Figeruoa will look into reimbursement for the Zoom subscription, getting the website fixed so that the case managers are up to date on the website. She will provide a current list of case managers and their schools to SEPAG.
* Phone calls to parents will be added back to calling the night before and not during school hours.
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| **Next Meeting:**  |
| Parent Social: November 20th, 2024 6:30P |

Submitted by Michele Katz 11/16/24