

Legislative Action Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 9, 2018
5:45 p.m.
District Offices, Multi-Purpose Room

Attendees: Eddy Sloshower, Robert Rubin, Amanda Sen, Alberta Pedro, Peggy Kelland, Baily Iaccarino (RCK), Hope Kazimir (JJ), RoseMarie Conforto (OV)

Absent: Mehrdad Sanai

Public: Laura DiStefano, Marie Johnson

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1. Chairman Sloshower opened the meeting at 5:45 p.m.
 2. Welcome Student Committee Members - Brief Introduction
 - a. Hope - attends John Jay High School and plays clarinet and wants to do something different
 - b. Bailey - attends RCK and wants to pursue a career in education
 - c. Rosemarie - attends OV and plays volleyball. She feels this is a good way to step out of her comfort zone and is a good way to get input from other students
 3. Review Email Response from Mr. Zipp
 - a. Chairman Sloshower provided a brief overview of the focus of the committee - Special Education (funded and unfunded mandates)
 - b. Every child should have "a free and appropriate education"; need to consider the ramifications of many of these mandates
 - c. Mr. Sloshower shared his list of 106 unfunded mandates with the committee members (source: State Senator Terry Gipson)
 - d. Mr. Rubin shared that the Gap Elimination Adjustment took money from the school districts due to a shortfall in the state budget; in the last two years the GEA was partially restored to the school districts
 - e. The committee reviewed the email sent by Mr. Zipp
 4. Discuss Resource Materials/Opportunities for Students
 - a. Amanda Sen suggested that the students begin by conducting interviews with staff members to ask them if they know of any overlay in special education services
 - b. Mr. Sloshower suggested that we seek permission from the Superintendent for the students to speak to Mr. Zipp and the Assistant

Directors and then to visit each school to gather input from teachers; Amanda will work with the students to formulate the questions. Mr. Slosower will seek permission from Superintendent Carrion.

- c. The goal will be for the students to provide a presentation to the Board
 - d. Mr. Rubin referred to the first responsibility in the charter which is to identify laws and regulations that have an impact on the district
5. Next Steps for Committee based on Focus Area
 - a. Focus will be ages 5-12 special education; not preschool special education
 - b. The committee discussed that there will be no personally identifiable information on any students when conducting the survey or the presentation.
 6. Q&A
 - a. Peggy Kelland will share the handouts on special education which she obtained from the Dutchess County School Boards Association workshop she attended
 7. Appointment of Committee Member(s)
 - a. Mr. Rubin referred to the charter when consulting the number of community members/taxpayers who can serve as committee members
 - b. Motion made by Mr. Slosower to approve Maureen Ryan and Marie Johnson to join the Legislative Action Committee, seconded by Rob Rubin. Unanimous.
 8. Set Next Meeting Date
 - a. Tuesday, February 27 at 5:45 p.m.
 9. Adjournment
 - a. The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.