



## PSE Grassroots Minutes

September 1, 2021

- **Updates**

- These minutes are fluid and are accurate as of this moment in time.
- Sometimes things discussed can change
- All minutes and meeting agendas will be posted on the PSE Grassroots page on the PFT Website

[\(https://pft400.com/grassroots/special-education-grassroots-pse/\)](https://pft400.com/grassroots/special-education-grassroots-pse/)

- **Welcome our new Executive Director, Amy Baumgart-Eiben**

- **Revisit: Psychological Testing**

- Is there an update about psychological testing?
  - Yes, there is a plan in place to proceed.
  - They will be prioritized based on need with consideration given to the dates.
  - It should be released this evening so everyone will know who is stationed everywhere.
  - Some students are coming back to the district with out of date paperwork or with significant need so some things may be moved around.
  - Bryson stepping in to oversee some things in the psychology department.

- **CCS**

- Students that were supposed to receive CCS this summer but didn't (no available class, weren't given a placement, or received a letter they no longer qualified) - How is that time being made up to them?
  - Amy clarified – the part in parentheses is not completely accurate.
  - CCS is different than Boost.

- CCS was given priority.
  - A letter saying they no longer qualified – that wouldn't have happened. They may have received a letter from the Out of School saying that Boost slots were full.
  - The plan is being created. More information to come.
  - PSE will reach out to collect information on those situations if a student did receive a letter in error.
  - A principal was looking to provide CCS through the after-school program. Amy said anything is a possibility and just requires coordination.
  - Conroy was not able to offer CCS services because it could not be staffed. Those students will have to be provided that service. There is currently no plan for this.
- Will there be CCS services this summer?
  - There will be CCS as we move into the future but don't know for sure when this will occur – may be after school, before, different days...
  - Amy is open to hearing suggestions and thinking outside the box.
- **Carpets**
  - Is there any way to get permission to use carpets in Regional Rooms where they use them to designate space?
    - Amy will check on why some custodians were told not to give carpets back to teachers.
- **Emotional Support**
  - Will EAIV training be available? This is a critical support to ES classrooms and there seems not to be any trained and available.
    - Yes, Amy met with the ES team to get clarification on this point.
    - A teacher provided clarification to the question asking about substitutes being trained for EAIVs. It was

agreed in the past that this would be a good idea but unsure where it went after that.

- Amy stated they are planning on doing this training, but she cannot find the details right now.
  - A teacher asked if they could have a different para fill this role, just to have the support in the classroom.
  - Mindy stated there might be a contractual issue to have a different person rather than an EAIV in that position because of the different pay grade. The RBT process they must go through probably will not allow that to be possible.
  - Mindy suggested if there are EAIII and PSE has the capacity to do the extra training, they could possibly go into a pipeline to become an EAIV, similar to the para-to-teacher program but that would depend on whether PSE could provide this and how the union would feel about it.
- Will there be PD for ES teachers?
    - Mindy stated there will be PD opportunities working with Naomi and Ann and the math team. Right now, it is not known what half days are school based or district PD. Mindy will get some surveys out to the ES teachers to see what they are interested in. This may be challenging with the tiered start times but can at least start to look at this maybe for the January PD day.
    - Teachers are asking more for collaboration time with each other and with the behavior specialists. They are not necessarily asking for more training about the curriculum. They would like to hear ideas and suggestions that are working in other classrooms.
  - Can willing veteran ES teachers volunteer to mentor newly hired ES teachers to support them

- A teacher clarified that it would be helpful to help retain ES teachers, especially ones who are new or placed into an ES classroom after a furlough.
- Amy doesn't think there is anything in the contract that would prohibit this.
- Teachers do not want to step on the toes of the behavior specialists.
- Amy will speak with the behavior specialists about how they can offer support.
- Mindy said she can help with this to see if there would be teachers willing to serve as mentors.
- **Curriculum**
  - How can regional teachers get the curriculum they need for their students? (not enough math books were ordered for the school)
    - Amy said we should let her know that we need books for our kids and she will figure out if it will come
- **Paraprofessionals**
  - During PD it was stated that paras are not supposed to be left alone with students. Can this be clarified?
    - Amy needs to investigate this more. Pin for next month.
- **New Learning Programs**
  - Will learning support teachers have access to the new learning programs (Achieve3000, Smarty Ants)
    - Anne Filmore said she is working on this but everyone is will have access.
- **Communication**
  - Is there a way to send communication via e-mail instead of or in addition to Teams? Many teachers report they missed important information because it is not sending notifications that there is something new to read on Teams.
    - Amy stated that she is not able to send an email to a large number of people at one time. She would like to

not have to do double work so would like to just remind people to make sure their notifications are on in Teams and she will insure that she uses the @DistrictPSE when posting something. She will also mention to Program Officers to ask them to reiterate to their staff.

- **Any Questions?**

- Please send to Brittany in advance, so Mindy has time to review and come with answers for us.
  - Read/Write for the Conroy and Pioneer – they were told they were getting access and training but then not sure what happened with it. Amy said everyone in the district should have access to it and she believes there are recorded sessions/modules available for training if teachers need it. Will look into this specifically for Conroy and Pioneer.
  - Itinerant – mileage question – trained in Munis as a new way to do mileage but now being told to do it the old way (with a DBA form) and then attach it into the new Munis system. Munis was requiring a daily submission so this was a work around to allow for a monthly submission. Could there be anything done with the vendor to make this process smoother?
  - An alert system for anyone but important for itinerants who are not attached to one school. For instance, like the weather-related remote workday today. Amy is not sure if this could happen but can look into it.
  - Equity between PSE and the Gifted Center regarding the caseload/paperwork requirements. – Ann was working on this before. Amy will touch base with her to see where we are with this. Mindy also suggested talking with program officers regarding needing information from the gifted teacher.

**Looking ahead to October:**

Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 6th at 4:30PM.

Send any questions/comments/concerns to Brittany Shoup at [brittanyfmccann@yahoo.com](mailto:brittanyfmccann@yahoo.com) or 412-760-9644

<b>Month</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>
<b>September</b>	<b>9-1-21</b>	<b>Zoom</b>
<b>October</b>	<b>10-6-21</b>	<b>Zoom</b>
<b>November</b>	<b>11-3-21</b>	<b>Zoom</b>
<b>December</b>	<b>12-1-21</b>	<b>Zoom</b>
<b>January</b>	<b>1-5-22</b>	<b>Zoom</b>
<b>February</b>	<b>2-2-22</b>	<b>Zoom</b>
<b>March</b>	<b>3-2-22</b>	<b>Zoom</b>
<b>April</b>	<b>4-6-22</b>	<b>Zoom</b>
<b>May</b>	<b>5-4-22</b>	<b>Zoom</b>

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