



## PSE Grassroots Minutes

April 6, 2022

- **Updates**

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

- (<https://pft400.com/grassroots/special-education-grassroots-pse/>)

- **ES Grassroots Committee**

- How can we form a Grassroots Committee for ES teachers to discuss how the program is working and changes that might need to be made?
  - There used to be a group many years ago that meant once a month for half a day at the PFT building.
  - ES teachers are asking for PD specific to ES classrooms, like behavior training, as currently they just attend the content curriculum PDs.
  - A former ES teacher stated that the PDs provided to the Mercy Behavioral teachers would be more beneficial to the ES teachers.
  - Amy feels that special education teachers would benefit from a chance to meet and share best practices but mentioned that facilitating this is a challenge. She feels all teachers in the district would benefit from district PD that would address teaching students with different needs.
- Who could they meet with?

- Would need PSE backing but wouldn't need a PSE person to be at every meeting.
    - Teams could be used to start this collaboration.
    - Will look into collaboration with ES teachers at Oliver.
  - What is the status of a program officer for ES?
  - Could they use the PFT Zoom?
    - It would have to be coordinated and staffed by a PFT person/teacher to use the Zoom.
    - Amy mentioned that Teams could be used for collaboration.
- **EIV's**
  - How can we train additional EIV's so that someone is available to cover this vital position when someone is out?
    - Amy believes there is one EIV that is hired to be used as a sub/floater. Amy would like teachers to check with the BCBS to see where we are with this.
    - Over the last 12 years, there has been a rapid decline of educators in Pennsylvania which is not helping the situation.
    - Subs within the buildings can get hard because principals are in charge of staffing subs within the building and they may not be aware of the support that is needed.
    - Amy is hoping we are in a better position moving forward and mentioned she has worked with Ms. Grant in HR regarding staffing.
    - Nina stated the PFT has asked the district repeatedly to hire extra EIVs but the district has declined due to a monetary issue.
- **Job Titles**
  - How can we change job titles with HR so that PSE teachers are listed as Special Education Teachers? Learning Support teachers don't just teach learning support students, just as ES teachers don't just teach ES kiddos.

- It was discussed that this could be a one off issue that could be communicated through the Program Officers.
  - Amy was clear that Special Education Teachers teach students with an IEP – no matter what category they qualify under.
- **Student Support**
  - If a high school student qualifies under ED and is to receive Supplemental Emotional Support, what should their schedule look like?
    - This goes to individualization of the IEP, not their day to day schedule.
    - Look at the services in their IEP and not the location.
    - Penn Data can state 100% inclusion for a Supplemental Emotional Support student.
- **Lockdown Notifications**
  - A lockdown notification was sent via Remind – thank you!
  - Are there any updates about the previously used system?
    - Nina has an update from the Safety Committee. As of this moment in time, the problem is not fixed. Head of Facilities, Mike McNamara is working with the technology department to create a district wide alert system.
- **Any Questions?**
  - Please send to Brittany in advance, so Mindy and Amy have time to review and come with answers for us.

**Looking ahead to May:**

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> 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>
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<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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