



PSE Grassroots Minutes

May 4, 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/>)

- **ESY**

- Why was the ESY survey required for every student on our caseload?
 - It has always been for all students. The survey was meant to be quicker than the previous Excel spreadsheet that was used. Cutting and pasting led to errors. Prior to the survey, it was difficult to get the information needed for ESY and required a lot of digging. Amy is willing to make changes to make it more efficient. Amy mentioned the student number is likely on the monthly report sent out by program officers.
- Why was this due the same time as progress notes?
 - Yes, we can try to do our best. Sometimes there is a hard deadline. If you need help, please reach out to your program officer.

- **Nursing Plans**

- When a child needs nursing services in the IEP, who should be writing the fade plan? Special Education Teachers have no medical training to write what is medically necessary.

- The nurse should be involved in writing any medical plan. If there are places where the nurse is not involved, please let your program officer know so we can reach out to health services. Jennifer Bargar can also help support. With medical planning, we should make sure the nurse is involved.
- From Jennifer Bargar: Teachers are not to be writing fade plans for medical needs. When thinking of fade plans, we want to presume competence and assume that a student will be able to be independent in the future. Each plan is individualized for the student.
- Can we look at the paperwork to make a form that is less cumbersome?
 - From Jennifer Bargar: There used to be multiple forms so this has been streamlined into one document. It can be copied and pasted but these are parts that need to be considered. It can be a guiding point for the IEP. We tried to simplify it with a lot of drop downs.
- **Safety**
 - What is the plan to get staff safety care trained when there is a shortage of subs?
 - Is it possible to do this on a PD day or pay staff to attend in the summer?
 - PSE is just looking at this now. We need to consider our capacity as well, like how many people can attend the training with the number of trainers we have. Our trainers also need their training updated because of COVID. We should have 10-14 trainers, but we are down to about 7. Amy is thinking about some other possibilities as we need to train more people than we can right now. A crisis team needs to exist in each building and should not only be comprised of special education staff.

- What are Emotional Support Teachers to do if no one else in their building is trained to help in a crisis?
 - Ask your building principal what the building plan is.
- Is there an update on the districtwide notification system for lockdown/critical incidents?
 - There appears to be some movement on this and we may be hearing more about this soon. Mike McNamara should be sending information to program officers and it is an opt in situation where you will have to supply your number to opt in for notifications.
- **Professional Development**
 - Can some professional development time be designated before the end of the year for PSE staff to meet on Teams about transition planning and transfer of materials for students that will be going to BOOST/ESY and/or other buildings next school year?
 - The March PD was the last PD date. Mindy stated that Nicole Seddon did send out an email to middle school teachers to gather information about students going from 8th to 9th grade. Mindy suggested creating a survey for students moving from 5th to 6th grades.
- **BOOST/ESY**
 - When will the hiring process for summer be completed?
 - Amy is attending a meeting on 5/5/2022 to see where we are with hiring. A teacher said an email was received from HR saying that the hiring will occur between May 4 – May 23. Amy has asked that everyone sits tight until that information comes from HR.
 - When will student locations be determined?
 - Once the ESY Survey is closed, then we can begin to figure out where students will be going.
- **Next Year**
 - Do we want to continue to meet on Zoom?

- Benefits to both. We discussed possibly having some in person events to meet with new teachers who may be interested in getting involved with grassroots. Amy suggested possibly having 1 or 2 meetings in person. In general, most people like Zoom. It seems to keep everyone on topic a bit more, too.
 - Should we continue with the first Wednesday of the month?
 - This day still seems to work for those present.
 - Any suggestions for next year?
 - **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: Next School Year

Send any questions/comments/concerns to Brittany Shoup at brittanyfmccann@yahoo.com or 412-760-9644

Month	Date	Location
September	9-1-21	Zoom
October	10-6-21	Zoom
November	11-3-21	Zoom
December	12-1-21	Zoom
January	1-5-22	Zoom
February	2-2-22	Zoom
March	3-2-22	Zoom

April	4-6-22	Zoom
May	5-4-22	Zoom

PFT: 10 S. 19th Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15203

PSE: 2323 Brighton Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15212