

**Ann Arbor Parent Advisory Committee on Special Education
Monthly Meeting Minutes
Tappan Media Center, 7-9 pm April 10, 2017**

Attendance:

AAPAC Board: Barb Byers, Mary Duerksen, Melissa Epstein

PAC Building representatives and Parents

AAPS special education directors and Dr. Brown

Representatives from WISD Special Education and Childhood Education Programs

Next meeting:

Monday, 5/1/2017, 7-9 pm, Tappan Middle School Media Center

Topics: TBD

Pre-meeting: 6:15-7:00 pm, Dr. Brown and SISS staff will be available for private conversations with parents/guardians

1. Welcome and Introductions

- Mary Duerksen led introductions of the 2016-17 Executive Team and 2016-17 Building Representatives

2. May 2, 2017 vote on Sinking Fund Millage

- AAPS Executive Director Paul DeAngelis discussed the purpose and importance of passing the millage on 5/2/2017. A video and Q&As on the AAPS website provide additional information on the millage

3. Review of WISD special education services

- The WISD department provides services and programs to the counties 9 school districts, supporting the efforts of local school districts, public school academies, and private schools
- In collaboration with the schools, families and students WISD professional development, program options, transitional services, early childhood education and classroom support.
- WISD special education provides direct services to 300 students with significant and low incidence disabilities from birth to age 26 and court involved youth.
- Additional information on these services can be found on the WISD website <http://washtenawisd.org/>
 - Deaf/Hard of Hearing Services – WISD provides a wide level of services to students with hearing impairments.
 - Forest School - Serves students with severe behavioral, emotional and/or mental health needs.
 - Local Based Classrooms - Local-Based Programs work in conjunction with High

Point School in the areas of: school improvement, mission, curriculum, staff development, input from stakeholders, evaluation processes, specialized schools, achievement data, retention/drop out rate, accreditation, parent participation and core curriculum.

- High Point School – This school offers programming to students with mental and multiple impairments.
-
- Young Adult Programs - WISD Young Adult Services are developed with the student's needs and goals in mind. WISD staff along with the IEP team plan and develop Individual Educational Plans (IEPS) for each student. The staff implement student-focused services through a range of activities that involve the student and his/her circle(s) of support. Services provided by the WISD are coordinated with other service providers, family, friends, employers and others to best meet the individualized needs of the young adult student. Instructional designs and programming reflect individual student needs aligned with state standards and outcomes.
- Young Adult Project - The Young Adult Project is not classroom based, but rather, is a coordinated set of community based activities that is student led with the guidance of a teacher consultant and teacher assistant and is geared towards transitioning the student towards their post-secondary vision and goals.