

## Special Education Parent Advisory Group Meeting Minutes 2/24/11

### Attendees:

- Sarah Hardy
- Shirley Seykot
- Deborah Lynam
- Janine Casella
- Patty Sztenderowicz
- Lisa Cavanagh
- Jeff Adams

### New Business:

Guest Consultant - Deborah Lynam - Ms. Lynam explained her role as part of the SPAN-START project to be a support for local school districts and the broader South Jersey community in the development of partnerships between school staff and parents in the formation, development and guidance for Advisory groups. After reviewing with Ms. Lynam various stages that groups can be in, our Advisory groups felt we clearly were beyond the formation stage and were in the Emerging phase of a group. Ms. Lynam also provided us with some ideas of what other neighboring groups were doing and how we could maximize the use of our time together.

### Old Business:

- Review surveys that were completed over the course of the past month and a half by parents :

### OUTCOME:

Overwhelming positive responses for relationships that Case Managers and Special Education teachers had with their students and with parents.

Areas to Grow – Inclusion and education of the benefits of inclusion with Regular Education Staff and Parents

Areas to Learn More about – Transition Issues and Community Support/Services

### Future Plans:

We will meet again on Thursday April 21<sup>st</sup>, 7:00pm

Discussion Topic – Community Support and Transition Issues

- Dr. Adams will get this meeting notice placed on respective school calendars and will hand out flyers in students backpacks that attend special education classes
- These meeting minutes will be sent to our broader cohort of parents on our mailing list
- Parents will attempt to spread the news of the meeting through word of mouth as well