

# Parent Partnership Meeting

01/11/2009  
6:00 PM to 7:00 PM  
WES library

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Meeting called  
by: Janelle Yanni

Facilitator: Janelle

Timekeeper: Janelle

Type of meeting: Parent  
Partnership

Note taker: Veronica  
Bedard

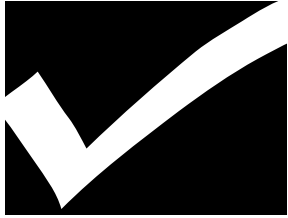
Attendees: Janelle,  
Veronica, Nicole  
Rohenaz, Tracey  
Heacox, April Rogers,  
Carleen Legault,  
Michelle Rosario, Kathy  
Bisceglia, Alison  
Santiago, Barbara  
DiPofi, Karen Fumarola,  
MaryAlice Hipwell,  
Marypat Murtagh,  
Marylynne  
BradyJohnson and Paul  
Padalino

## ----- Agenda Topics -----

Welcome and Review Agenda	Janelle	5
Scenarios for Parent Members	Marylynne Brady Johnson	30
Acronyms to Know	All	20
Next Steps	Janelle	5

## Other Information

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## ----- Agenda Topics -----

Welcome and Review Agenda

Janelle

5

Discussion: Everyone introduced themselves and the agenda was reviewed. The role of parent members in CSE meetings is one of the purposes for creating this parent partnership along with informing parents about the special education services and programs at Watervliet Elementary School. The parents who did attend were encouraged to invite other parents to future meetings to have as many parents involved as possible.

Conclusions: NA

Action items:

NA

Person responsible:

NA

Deadline:

NA

Scenarios for Parent Members

Marylynne Brady  
Johnson

30

Discussion: The importance of having families involved in the education of their children was discussed. Research indicates that students perform better when their parents are involved. More information equals parents empowered to make more informed decisions for their children in school. The role of the parent advocate enables parents to act as a resource for other parents in CSE meetings. Advocates can bring additional information to meetings or simply know where to go obtain an answer for a parent. Also their role includes helping parents and families through meetings. They can also bring knowledge regarding acronyms commonly used in meetings. The committee was then involved in an activity where we discussed manners in which people express discomfort, unhappiness and anger at meetings, both verbally and nonverbally. We wanted parent members to know what to look and listen for. Tuning into these signals can help a person respond to a parent’s discomfort. A parent advocate can clarify information and help parents through meetings.

Conclusions: We must continue to try to encourage more and more parents to become involved in our meetings and in their children’s education.

Action items:	Person responsible:	Deadline:
Ongoing	All	NA

Acronyms to Know

All

20

Discussion: All parents were given a parent’s resource guide for special education and everyone was involved in an activity regarding acronyms. A list of acronyms and their definitions was started and the final list will be given to Jill Aurora to put on our district’s website. This will be a list of acronyms commonly used in meetings as a resource for parents and families.

Conclusions: There are many acronyms in special education that need to be defined for parents.

Action items:	Person responsible:	Deadline:
Create list at next meeting. Janelle will then give list to Jill Aurora.	All will create list and Janelle will give the list to Jill.	3/29/10 – our next meeting

Next Steps

Janelle

5

Discussion: Meeting members will bring their lists to the next parent partnership meeting on 3/29/10. Marylynne, Janelle and Mary Alice will brainstorm ideas for our next meeting. These ideas can also be brainstormed at our next special ed. SINI meeting on 2/25/10.

Conclusions: We all needed more time to complete our lists.

Action items:

Lists will be completed by all.

Person responsible:

All

Deadline:

3/29/10

**Other Information**