

CACSE Minutes

Monday, Aug 11, 2025 @ 6:30 pm – 7:30pm St.
Mary's County Public Schools

Attendance & Introductions: Keri Johnston – Margaret Brent Middle School Rep; Heidi Pucheu - Chopticon High School Rep; Brandy Powell - CACSE Chair and Chesapeake Charter School rep; Ashley Moorhouse – Vice Chair and Special Projects; Robyn Roberts – Partners for Success; Kristen Paul – GWCES; Arnika Eskeland - Decoding Dyslexia; Jennifer Hills - Leonardtown High School Rep; Anna Mudd Morris SMCPs – SPED Supervisor; Crystal Di Domenico – Mechanicsville Elementary Rep and Membership Chair

1. Review & Approve Minutes

- a. 6/9/25 minutes reviewed and approved

2. Director of Special Education Report – Presented by Anna Mudd Morris on behalf of Director of Special Education

- a. Extended school year went well
- b. Staffing is looking good
- c. New psychologist & Speech therapists hired
- d. Fri Aug 15 – SPED hosting PD day
 - i. All day training at CHS
 - ii. MSDE training
 - iii. Specially Designed Instruction; co-teaching, inclusion practices
- e. Anna Mudd Morris has taken over TIDES program
- f. MS transition guides went well
- g. Praxis SPED guides that CACSE purchased and donated are being used!

3. Announcements

- a. Peer to Peer Parent Support Group - 5 parents at this month's session
- b. Partners for Success – upcoming classes
 - i. Sept 9th – Powering Up The Future, Practical Steps by Frank Krause; help parents teach students self-advocacy
 - ii. Sept 16th – Benefits For Children with Disabilities by Social Security Administration
 - iii. Sept 29th –Educating Students with Different Kinds of Brains and Having High but Reasonable Expectations by Temple Grandin; world renowned autism speaker, held virtually on zoom with limited registration
 - iv. Oct 14th – When they Wander or Run Away (Eloping) Webinar - Risk and Prevention Strategies by Pathfinders for Autism - held virtually

4. Priorities/Goals 2025-2026 School Year

- a. Project Ideas - Kristen recommended using Owl technology, would allow meetings to be both virtual and in person
- b. Board will be meeting in person occasionally throughout the school year
- c. CACSE website: Look into adding a calendar. Resource pages are still under construction, Thank you Kristen on your continued progress.

5. Next Steps :

- a. Next committee meeting and Peer Support meeting will be held 9/08/25
- 6. Open Discussion
 - a. Parents Place of Maryland (PPMD) – Wrights Law Conference held virtually Sept 18t still has open spots, including scholarship opportunities. Reach out to Kristen for more info.
- 7. Adjournment - Meeting adjourned at 7:28 pm