

Meeting Minutes: Special Education PTO & District Update

Date: January 23, 2026

Time: 12:00 PM – 1:15 PM

Location: Annex

1. District Updates (Ashley Ashna)

* Board Presentation: A comprehensive update on program evaluations and the first six months of work will be presented to the Board of Trustees during the second week of February.

* Staff Feedback: Recent meetings with teachers and principals showed high appreciation for new administrative supports. Principals are currently reviewing documents to ensure they are equipped to support classrooms effectively.

* Specialist Program: * Two new Program Specialists (Elementary and Secondary) were hired this year to act as "academic coaches" for special education.

* Data: Since their start, they have conducted over 500 campus visits and 250 direct classroom supports.

* Proposal: Recommendation to hire two additional specialists specifically for Resource/Inclusion to focus on academic growth, mirroring the behavior improvements seen in specialized programs.

* BCBA Position: A proposal is being made for a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) to be shared 50/50 with the TEC.

* Challenge: Finding a candidate with a "school-based" mindset rather than a clinical one is a priority.

* Parent Education: Plans are underway for an open meeting featuring the Arc and other agencies to help parents navigate waitlists for state services.

2. Transition Fair & Resource Planning

* Local Focus: Sarah Chauvin (Secondary Coordinator) is planning a Friendswood-specific Transition Fair.

* Vendors: Interested in inviting guardianship attorneys, tutors, Texas Workforce Commission, etc.

- * Format: Discussion of a "Parent Education Panel" with an open mic, followed by a vendor fair.

- * Date: TBD; exploring the possibility of pairing it with the district art show to increase attendance in the future.

3. Quest Art Show: "The Lone Star Showcase" (Arielle Downing)

- * Theme: Texas-themed ("The Lone Star Showcase").

- * Date: Wednesday, March 25th.

- * Financial Changes: * The PTO will no longer take a 10% cut of art proceeds. Instead, the PTO will retain 100% of T-shirt sales which makes financial distributions easier.

- * Art sale proceeds (approx. 95%) will go directly back to the classrooms.

- * Logistics & Improvements:

- * Checkout: To avoid previous chaos, the team will discuss solutions such as implementing better signage, a single line for "bid sheet" collection, and potentially separate lines for cash and card, etc.

- * Food: Seeking a sponsor for BBQ (Texas theme). A suggestion was made to contact the Moore family (Chase N' More Smoke).

- * Roles & Committees:

- * Decorations/Art Activities: Anna, Ceeanna, and Erica.

- * T-shirts: Julie

- * Sponsorships: Crystal will reach out to Vanessa and Ken for assistance

- * Raffle Basket: A "Friendswood/Texas" themed raffle basket was proposed

4. Upcoming Meeting Schedule

- * Feb 20 (12:00 PM) | Junior High | Campus Walkthrough & Program Update

- * March 20 (12:00 PM) | High School | Campus Walkthrough & Program Update

- * April 22 (6:30 PM) | Annex | Evening Meeting: Possible Agency Resource Fair (Arc/Gulf Coast)

- * April 24 (12:00 PM) | Transition Center | Campus Walkthrough & Program Update

5. Hospitality & Other Business

* Teacher Appreciation: Looking into a Valentine's Day gesture for the Quest/Special Ed staff. The team will consult with Amy Tallman to find a date that doesn't conflict with campus parties.

* Inventory Sale: Julie will run a "clearance" sale of old shirt inventory at the Art Show (\$10/piece).

Meeting Adjourned: 1:15 PM