
NJ CIE

1-boardmembers@marlboro.k12.nj.us 'Kristi Hutchings' via 1-Board MembersWednesday, January 18, 2023 at 6:32:43 AM
Eastern Standard TimeTo: krislynn77@yahoo.com Kristi Hutchings
To: boardmembers@mtps.org
Cc: dblair@marlboro.k12.nj.us Dana Blair

Good morning, I watched the BOE meeting last night and heard the board discussion regarding the NJ CIE and I wanted to share the presentation that they provided the Marlboro SEPAG in June 2021. At the time, SEPAG reached out them to get a better understanding of their mission and also how they could support us as parents in advocating for our own children for a more inclusive education. At the time Marlboro has limited opportunities especially coming off a Covid year. At the time, there was no partnership between marlboro and NJ CIE so they provided this parent workshop free. Sepag found out about the group through SPAN. They really pushed the message of how to advocate for meaningful inclusion opportunities. As a parent, I am concerned with [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. I would hope that this partnership would provide staff the training to promote an overall inclusive education. I think they may be a not for profit started because NJ is actually one of the worst states in the county for inclusive education, ranking 48/50 in the least amount of time disabled students spend with their general education peers. They also have great resources on the website and social media that I find educational as I build my own advocacy skills to support [REDACTED]. I am not in education so my knowledge of this organization is only from a parent.

Attachments:**Incl Indep for Parents Slides 6.2021.pdf 1.4M**

kamster@marlboro.k12.nj.us Kathleen AmsterWednesday, January 18, 2023 at 8:52:53 PM Eastern
Standard Time

To: ehibbs@mtps.org Eric Hibbs

The board and Dr. Blair were included on the email.

Kathleen

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **'Kristi Hutchings' via 1-Board Members** <1-boardmembers@marlboro.k12.nj.us>
Date: Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 6:32 AM
Subject: NJ CIE
To: <boardmembers@mtps.org>
CC: Dana Blair <dblair@marlboro.k12.nj.us>

Good morning,

I watched the BOE meeting last night and heard the board discussion regarding the NJ CIE and I wanted to share the presentation that they provided the Marlboro SEPAG in June 2021. At the time, SEPAG reached out them to get a better understanding of their mission and also how they could support us as parents in advocating for our own children for a more inclusive education. At the time Marlboro has limited opportunities especially coming off a Covid year. At the time, there was no partnership between marlboro and NJ CIE so they provided this parent workshop free. Sepag found out about the group through SPAN. They really pushed the message of how to advocate for meaningful inclusion opportunities. As a parent, I am concerned with [REDACTED]

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Regards,
Kristi Hutchings

Sent from my iPhone

Attachments:

Incl Indep for Parents Slides 6.2021.pdf 1.4M

kamster@marlboro.k12.nj.us Kathleen Amster

Wednesday, January 18, 2023 at 8:55:46 PM Eastern
Standard Time

To: krislynn77@yahoo.com Kristi Hutchings

Dear Kristi-

Thank you for your email. I have forwarded your email, in its On Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 6:32 AM 'Kristi Hutchings' via 1-Board Members <1-boardmembers@marlboro.k12.nj.us> wrote:

Good morning,

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Regards,
Kristi Hutchings

Sent from my iPhone

kamster@marlboro.k12.nj.us Kathleen Amster

Wednesday, January 18, 2023 at 8:56:52 PM Eastern
Standard Time

To: krislynn77@yahoo.com Kristi Hutchings

Dear Kristi-

Thank you for your email. I have forwarded the entirety of it to administration.

On Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 6:32 AM 'Kristi Hutchings' via 1-Board Members <1-boardmembers@marlboro.k12.nj.us> wrote:

Good morning,

I watched the BOE meeting last night and heard the board discussion regarding the NJ CIE and I wanted to share the presentation that they provided the Marlboro SEPAG in June 2021. At the time, SEPAG reached out them to get a better understanding of their mission and also how they could support us as parents in advocating for our own children for a

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support [REDACTED]. I am not in education so my knowledge of this organization is only from a parent.

Regards,
Kristi Hutchings

Sent from my iPhone

kamster@marlboro.k12.nj.us Kathleen Amster

Wednesday, January 18, 2023 at 8:59:39 PM Eastern
Standard Time

To: krislynn77@yahoo.com Kristi Hutchings

Dear Kristi-

Thank you for your email. It has been shared with administration.

Kathleen

On Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 6:32 AM 'Kristi Hutchings' via 1-Board Members <1-boardmembers@marlboro.k12.nj.us> wrote:
Good morning,

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Regards,
Kristi Hutchings

Sent from my iPhone

ehibbs@mtps.org Eric Hibbs

Thursday, January 19, 2023 at 4:26:11 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: kamster@marlboro.k12.nj.us Kathleen Amster

Thanks!

Eric

Dr. Eric Hibbs
Superintendent
Marlboro Township Schools

(732) 972-2000 ex 2015

Please follow me on Twitter @EricMHibbs

MTPS District Fundamentals



On Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 8:53 PM Kathleen Amster <kamster@marlboro.k12.nj.us> wrote:
The board and Dr. Blair were included on the email.

Kathleen

----- Forwarded message -----

From: 'Kristi Hutchings' via 1-Board Members <1-boardmembers@marlboro.k12.nj.us>

Date: Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 6:32 AM

Subject: NJ CIE

To: <boardmembers@mtps.org>

CC: Dana Blair <dblair@marlboro.k12.nj.us>

Good morning,

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Regards,
Kristi Hutchings

Sent from my iPhone

Please provide clarity.

asiewert@marlboro.k12.nj.us Annette Siewert

Wednesday, January 25, 2023 at 8:20:17 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: 1-boardmembers@marlboro.k12.nj.us 1-Board Members, ehibbs@mtps.org Eric Hibbs, dblair@marlboro.k12.nj.us Dana Blair, mballone@mtps.org Michael Ballone

Hello all, Is it true, at todays speech meeting, a presentation by NJCIE was given to staff members? I would like some clarity on how this could happen before the board has even voted on the proposed allocation of necessary funding. I am under the impression that the topic was tabled for the 2/14 workshop meeting. Please do not reply all to this email. Thank you, Annette

ehibbs@mtps.org Eric Hibbs

Wednesday, January 25, 2023 at 9:32:07 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: asiewert@marlboro.k12.nj.us Annette Siewert, MHZ@spsk.com Marc H. Zitomer

Cc: 1-boardmembers@marlboro.k12.nj.us 1-Board Members, dblair@marlboro.k12.nj.us Dana Blair, mballone@mtps.org Michael Ballone

Hello Mrs. Siewert,

I would not normally reply to all, but this email was brought to the entire board and some administrative staff.

I spoke to Dr. Blair and Mrs. McCarty directly. NJCIE did not present at any speech meeting. We discussed where we were in the process at the meeting, which is normal as we value our staff and discuss educational endeavors. Discussions were also held prior to the speech meeting.

I am very concerned about the misinformation you seem to have. Did this misinformation come from one of our staff members? Please advise as board members are required to bring this type of information to school administration so that we can properly administer the district.

Please do not respond to this email. I only included the full board because it was addressed to the full board.

Sincerely,

Eric

On Wed, Jan 25, 2023 at 8:20 PM Annette Siewert <asiewert@marlboro.k12.nj.us> wrote:

Hello all,

Is it true, at todays speech meeting, a presentation by NJCIE was given to staff members? I would like some clarity on how this could happen before the board has even voted on the proposed allocation of necessary funding. I am under the impression that the topic was tabled for the 2/14 workshop meeting.

Please do not reply all to this email.

Thank you,
Annette

Dr. Eric Hibbs
Superintendent
Marlboro Township Schools
(732) 972-2000 ex 2015

Please follow me on Twitter @EricMHibbs

MTPS District Fundamentals

Bring Your Best Everyday
Share Information
Support One Another
GO THE EXTRA MILE
Embrace Diversity
SPEAK STRAIGHT
Check Your Ego At The Door
be Inspirational
Because We Haven't Done It That Way Isn't An Answer

Honor
Commitments
Never Be Hurtful Or Disrespectful
Celebrate Success
Intellectual Conflict Encouraged
Treasures, Protect & Promote Our Regulations
Own Your Responsibilities
Practice Blameless Problem Solving

be
Kind
Walk in the shoes of others
Recognize Your Impact
Embrace District Priorities

Continuously Improve
CARE Things
WALK WITH CARE
LEARN WITH CARE
IMPACT
APPEARANCE MEANS SOMETHING

Questions re: NJCIE contract

irededy@gmail.com Irene Dekhterman
To: boardmembers@mtps.org

Thursday, January 26, 2023 at 10:41:13 PM Eastern Standard Time

Hi all,

Can you please help clarify for me a few questions regarding the vendor we discussed at the last board meeting?

- How does this outside agency's role differ from what I assumed are the responsibilities of Dr. Blair? Are these not responsibilities that are part of her job description?
- What benefit does this outside agency bring to the training of our teachers/staff that is outside the job duties within the contracts of 3 Special Education supervisors?
- Do the trainers coming in have advanced degrees that surpass the 3 supervisors?
- Why does MTPS need such training?
- Have the evaluations of the staff that show concerns reflected the need to spend additional money to train them?
- Have professional improvement plans, coordinated by principals and supervisors been tried and failed that we need to escalate the training to outside agencies requesting \$33K
- Is all staff being included in training? Specific staff teaching specific programs?
- Will staff be trained to turn key this specialized training, so if staff who have been trained transfer, retire, switch departments and they were not included in training- they will be able to fulfill their new duties?
- Have you seen live training, in person, virtually or through videos?
- What specific objective did you tell NJCIE that MTPS would like to achieve through their company?
- Once the training concludes, is there any cost that would go above the \$33K to 100% allow MTPS to implement what the training suggests? Tools? Curriculum? Resources/materials? Technology suggestions?
- If not, will NJCIE tailor their training to meet MTPS with what is already afforded to our district?
- Who is going to oversee the training? Will a principal/supervisor be present at training the entire time?
- Will all administrators also have to be trained or just teachers?
- Will evaluation procedures change or become more vigorous once teachers go through this training to ensure the \$33K is making a difference and was necessary?
- Will parents be given an overview of NJCIE and have the ability for Q&A? Parents of both general education and special education?
- Have teachers requested additional support in whatever target area NJCIE addresses? If so, what has MTPS done to meet the needs of teachers and support them with resource already available to MTPS?
- Is all staff being included in training? Specific staff teaching specific programs?

Thank you!!!

--

Regards,

Irene Dekhterman, MBA

kamster@marlboro.k12.nj.us Kathleen Amster
To: ehibbs@mtps.org Eric Hibbs

Friday, January 27, 2023 at 5:53:59 AM Eastern Standard Time

FYI.

Please send the board the answers to the questions asked.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Irene Dekhterman** <irededy@gmail.com>
Date: Thu, Jan 26, 2023 at 10:41 PM
Subject: Questions re: NJCIE contract
To: <boardmembers@mtps.org>

Hi all,

Can you please help clarify for me a few questions regarding the vendor we discussed at the last board meeting?

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- Is all staff being included in training? Specific staff teaching specific programs?

Thank you!!!

--

Regards,

Irene Dekhterman, MBA

kamster@marlboro.k12.nj.us Kathleen Amster

To: irenedy@gmail.com Irene Dekhterman

Friday, January 27, 2023 at 6:37:59 AM Eastern Standard Time

Good morning

Your questions have been forwarded to administration.

Thank you
Kathleen

On Thu, Jan 26, 2023 at 10:41 PM Irene Dekhterman <irenedy@gmail.com> wrote:

Hi all,

Can you please help clarify for me a few questions regarding the vendor we discussed at the last board meeting?

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- Is all staff being included in training? Specific staff teaching specific programs?

Thank you!!!

--

Regards,

Irene Dekhterman, MBA

ehibbs@mtps.org Eric Hibbs

Friday, January 27, 2023 at 7:37:34 AM Eastern Standard Time

To: dblair@marlboro.k12.nj.us Dana Blair, kamster@marlboro.k12.nj.us Kathleen Amster, mballone@mtps.org Michael Ballone, vcaravello@marlboro.k12.nj.us Vincent Caravello

Good Morning,

I have shared the questions with Dr. Blair. She will include responses into the information that will be shared with the board as discussed at the last meeting. A lot of the questions were addressed. Some do not apply. We will make sure to address the remaining!

Have a great day.

Eric

On Fri, Jan 27, 2023 at 5:54 AM Kathleen Amster <kamster@marlboro.k12.nj.us> wrote:
FYI

Please send the board the answers to the questions asked.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Irene Dekhterman** <irenedy@gmail.com>

Date: Thu, Jan 26, 2023 at 10:41 PM

Subject: Questions re: NJCIE contract

To: <boardmembers@mtps.org>

Hi all,

Can you please help clarify for me a few questions regarding the vendor we discussed at the last board meeting?

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- Thank you!!!

11

Irene Dekhterman, MBA

—

Please follow me on Twitter @EricMHibbs

Bring Your Best Everyday
Share Information
Support One Another
Go the Extra Mile
Embrace Diversity
Speak Straight
Check Your Ego At The Door
Be Inspirational
Own Your Responsibilities
Because We Haven't Done It That Way Yet So Don't

Honor Commitments
Never Be Halfhearted
Don't Worry About
Celebrate Success
Intellectual Content Enriched
Treasure, Protect, & Promote
Our Regulation
Embrace Distinct Priorities
Practice Realism
Problem Solving

Confidently Improve All Things
Walk in the Shoes of Others
Don't Waste Time
Reconnect Your
Appearance Means Something

Fwd: SEPAG concerns and outreach

ehibbs@mtps.org Eric Hibbs

Tuesday, January 31, 2023 at 12:30:59 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: kamster@marlboro.k12.nj.us Kathleen Amster, dblair@marlboro.k12.nj.us Dana Blair

The referenced email.

Eric

Dr. Eric Hibbs
Superintendent
Marlboro Township Schools
(732) 972-2000 ex 2015

Please follow me on Twitter @EricMHibbs

MTPS District Fundamentals



----- Forwarded message -----

From: Dana Blair <dblair@marlboro.k12.nj.us>

Date: Fri, Dec 9, 2022 at 2:02 PM

Subject: Re: SEPAG concerns and outreach

To: angie colby-visotsky <mtps.sepag@gmail.com>

Cc: Alisyn Morder <amorder@marlboro.k12.nj.us>, Dana Blair <dblair@mtps.org>, Eric Hibbs <ehibbs@mtps.org>, Jacqueline McCarty <jmccarty@marlboro.k12.nj.us>

Dear SEPAG,

We wanted to share another update:

- On 12/6 Special Services met with Administration regarding a common systems process for field trips, assemblies, and class parties. To summarize:
 - **Field Trips**
 - ALL students will be included in grade-level field trips
 - Special Services now has a list of all field trips (so that we can touch base with the teachers and admin before a field trip)
 - Teachers, Special Services Staff, and Administration will meet before any field trip to ensure we are able to accommodate all students and come up with specific plans for students as needed
 - If CST and/or teachers feel a student cannot go on a trip due to safety reasons, the team (including the parent) will meet to collaborate
 - This process/plan will be shared with all teachers, CST, and staff
 - **Class Parties and PTO Events**
 - We shared your wonderful ideas to help make our class parties more inclusive
 - We shared some guidelines as well and had a productive discussion about how to tweak our class parties to make them fun and inviting for all. This will continue to be a work in progress as we try different things to see what works best
 - In addition, we created an inclusive checklist for the PTO/PTA to review that we would like to share at the next PTO/PTA meeting
 - We applied for the sensory supply/toolkit grant as we discussed and we are awaiting a determination
 - **SEPAG Video**
 - Jackie recently sent out a date to meet with you and the communications department to plan for the video that will then be shared with teachers

- **Inclusive Schools Week**

- Inclusive Schools week was great! We received lots of poster submissions regarding inclusion across the district
- We will be having our raffle drawing on Tuesday. SCOPE has donated baskets.

- **NJCIE**

- Special Services Team and Dr. Hibbs and Mr. Ballone met with NJCIE on 12/8
- We look forward to sharing next steps!
- We specifically talked about parent training and SEPAG involvement
- We are awaiting a proposal to be sent to us to see what the next steps look like regarding cost and time and to determine if we can move forward
- I (Dana) attended the NJCIE winter inclusion conference and it was inspiring! I was able to gain valuable resources.
- Special Services reached out to two NJ districts that have worked with NJCIE and we will be going to visit.

We are excited to continue this journey and keep you posted along the way.

On a separate note, we wanted to let you know that ESY dates will be on the next agenda for approval. Please note that this year there will be 23 days of ESY for students. We have planned expanded opportunities during the ESY school day to include inclusive science activities for all students, field trips, more BCBA support, related arts with gym and art, and social skills. While it is two days shorter than last year (due to where the 4th of July falls on the calendar) we were able to pack the day with so many exciting new things! Our hope for the field trip would be to do a field day at Field of Dreams (an inclusive and adaptive playground). In case you get any questions we wanted you to have the information.

If we do not speak to you before Winter Break, we hope you have a wonderful holiday!

Sincerely,

The Special Services Team

On Wed, Nov 30, 2022 at 6:04 PM Dana Blair <dblair@marlboro.k12.nj.us> wrote:

Ps. I wanted to share this video HERE that came up on my social media feed and I thought represented our conversation so well and made me smile.

D

On Wed, Nov 30, 2022 at 3:54 PM Dana Blair <dblair@marlboro.k12.nj.us> wrote:

Dear SEPAG,

We very much appreciated the meeting with you and the candid discussion we had together. To follow up:

- We updated the SEPAG agenda with our notes
- We met with Dr. Hibbs and Mr. Ballone today to relay all the information
- We will be having an administration meeting on December 6th where we will finalize the field trip process and discuss PTA/PTO inclusion. From there we will then follow up with you on the details.
- On December 8th we will be meeting NJCIE and then we will follow up with you on our next steps.
- We will be speaking with Morgan and Trisha about creating a video. We will reach out to you with the next steps.
- We have a CST meeting on January 24th at 1 pm. You are welcome to either stop by at the Board office or you can remote in to introduce yourselves.
- We look forward to reviewing the results of the survey.

We hope to continue this important conversation and look forward to touching base with you all again soon.

Sincerely,

The Special Services Team

On Tue, Nov 29, 2022 at 9:35 PM angie colby-visotsky <mtps.sepag@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Special Services team,

I wanted to send a quick note thanking you once again for taking the time to meet with us today. You spent a lot of time listening to our concerns, but more importantly, we left feeling "heard."

We appreciate the opportunity to express our concerns as well as exchange ideas, all in the collaborative efforts to serve MTPS students. After this afternoons meeting- we honestly feel we are there supporting 'all' students, special and general education. Yay!

SEPAG feels that there is a good plan in place, and a "to do" list on both sides, and SEPAG is committed to all the action steps we spoke about.

In addition, thank you so much for sharing the information on the NJ Coalition for Inclusive Education. We look forward to hearing more information and will also educate ourselves and our families on what opportunities could be brought to our district!

Once again, thank you!

Sincerely,
Kerry (and Kathleen, Robyn, Angie)

On Tue, Nov 29, 2022 at 6:54 AM Dana Blair <dblair@marlboro.k12.nj.us> wrote:
Good Morning!

Yes, confirmed. We will see you then!

Dana

On Tue, Nov 29, 2022 at 6:51 AM angie colby-visotsky <mtps.sepag@gmail.com> wrote:
Good morning Special Services,

Just wanted to confirm the meeting is taking place at Marlboro Middle School (conference room). Mrs. Amster is attending via zoom, however, I will be attending in person.

Have a wonderful day,
Kerry

On Wed, Nov 23, 2022 at 11:46 AM Dana Blair <dblair@marlboro.k12.nj.us> wrote:
Great! I will send the calendar link out on Monday.

See you on Tuesday at 2:15. Happy Thanksgiving!

Dana, Ali, Jackie

On Wed, Nov 23, 2022 at 11:42 AM angie colby-visotsky <mtps.sepag@gmail.com> wrote:
Good morning!

Sounds great, thank you. How does Tuesday, 11/29 @ 2:15? Mrs. Amster will attend via Google Meet/Zoom, however, can I attend in person? If something should happen, like I cannot get permission to leave work early- I will email.

Thank you all so much and have a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends!

Sincerely,
Kerry Jankowski
SEPAG

On Tue, Nov 22, 2022 at 9:40 PM Dana Blair <dblair@marlboro.k12.nj.us> wrote:
Dear SEPAG,

Thank you for your response. Please know that The Special Services Team truly appreciates our meetings and we value your perspectives. The Special Services Team would be happy to meet with you regarding the concerns you have outlined. While I can understand that this may cross over into the general education realm, we work very closely with our principals, counselors, and general education staff, and as a result, our team can address and implement any solutions or if necessary, make further connections or arrangements.

The Special Services Department continues to champion inclusive education. As a department, we could not agree more with you on how important these topics are so that all MTPS parents and students feel supported. In fact, we believe in this cause so much, that we have secured a meeting with the New Jersey Coalition for Inclusive Education to see how we can collaborate together. We look forward to speaking with SEPAG about this possible new partnership.

I know that afternoon times seem to work best for everyone. We can meet Monday 11/28 or Tuesday 11/29 between 2-3 pm (we just have a hard stop at 3:30). We can do a phone call or video call. We look forward to continuing this conversation and addressing any concerns.

Sincerely,

Dana, Ali, Jackie

On Tue, Nov 22, 2022 at 8:17 PM angie colby-visotsky <mtps.sepag@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear MTPS Administrators,

Dr Blair, unfortunately the best we could do was play phone tag today. Thank you for following up regarding my email, and sorry we could not connect.

Dr. Hibbs- thank you for your response. In short, SEPAG has addressed with Special Services a portion of what we need to discuss. In fact, Dr. Blair was very proactive and immediately sought out professional developments/trainings for both teachers and parents, which we very much appreciated.

However, post meeting, additional concerns from parents have come to SEPAG. Our email was addressed to both of you to continue dialogue with Dr. Blair, but also thought it was appropriate to address the email to you as well because we now have parents of non-classified children in general educational classrooms who also have concerns. In addition, and possibly an organizational issue on my end- my schedule is very limited as it basically parallels your own work schedules. Scheduling one meeting is difficult to manage, never mind a possible additional meeting if Dr. Blair felt a follow up meeting with you would be necessary.

Concerns:

- General education teachers in a special education world
- Communication between special education and general education teachers in inclusion dynamics
- Chain of command for parents

We appreciated your very quick responses today. SEPAG just wants the opportunity to relay some parent and student concerns, and be a voice.

Enjoy your evenings,
Kerry Jankowski
SEPAG co-leader

On Tue, Nov 22, 2022 at 3:12 PM Dana Blair <dblair@marlboro.k12.nj.us> wrote:
Hello SEPAG,

Ms. Jankowski, I gave you a phone call today around 3 pm and left you a message. Please give me a call back at your earliest convenience.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dana Blair

On Tue, Nov 22, 2022 at 1:34 PM Eric Hibbs <ehibbs@mtps.org> wrote:
Hello Mrs. Jankowski,

Have all of these concerns first been discussed through the SEPAG process allowing Dr. Blair and her team the opportunity to hear the concerns, reflect, and consider possible solutions? Please let me know if this is the case.

Please also provide me a bulleted list of the concerns so that I may understand your concerns and begin to think about ways to address for our parents and guardians.

Looking forward to hearing from you. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving.

Sincerely,

Dr. Hibbs

On Tue, Nov 22, 2022 at 1:23 PM angie colby-visotsky <mtps.sepag@gmail.com> wrote:
Dear Dr. Hibbs and Dr. Blair,

SEPAG is requesting a meeting with both Dr. Hibbs and Dr. Blair to discuss some issues that have come to our attention through parent outreach. SEPAG is not advocating for any individual child or family, however, the role of SEPAG is to address systemic/district concerns. Through the course of the last several months, parents have (individually) raised concerns. When those concerns have the same underlying theme, those individual concerns could potentially become district-wide issues that require administrative attention. SEPAG believes we are at that point and would like to schedule a meeting to sit and discuss. Attending the meeting would be Kerry Jankowski and Kathleen Amster, both SEPAG co-leaders.

Please let us know your availability, and if a meeting could be scheduled at the start of the work day or after 2:00 pm.

Thank you for your consideration and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,
Kerry Jankowski
SEPAG co-leader

--
Dr. Eric Hibbs
Superintendent
Marlboro Township Schools
(732) 972-2000 ex 2015

Please follow me on Twitter @EricMHibbs

MTPS District Fundamentals



--
Dr. Dana Blair
Director of Special Services
Marlboro Township Public Schools
732-972-2000 ext 2036

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Dr. Dana Blair
Director of Special Services

2/1/23, 10:46 AM

Google Vault - Fwd: SEPAG concerns and outreach

Marlboro Township Public Schools
732-972-2000 ext 2036

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Dr. Dana Blair
Director of Special Services
Marlboro Township Public Schools
732-972-2000 ext 2036

Follow-Up

ehibbs@mtps.org Eric Hibbs

Tuesday, January 31, 2023 at 12:30:32 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: kamster@marlboro.k12.nj.us Kathleen Amster, dblair@marlboro.k12.nj.us Dana Blair

Hello Kathleen,

I wanted you to know that I had a follow-up conversation with Dana. Dana did bring this to my attention back in November. In looking at our detailed notes from the SEPAG Meeting on November 29, 2022 (**Attended by Kerri Jankowski, Kathleen Amster, & Special Services Administration**), the concern was raised about the use of the word. SEPAG would not provide any parent names. Dana responded acknowledging the seriousness of the situation and assured the committee we would never stand or support the use of that word.

It was at that point at the SEPAG Meeting that Dana conveyed the district would initiate immediate steps internally to provide more inclusion. This included revisiting our process for field trips and class parties. At this meeting, Dana discussed our possible future partnership with NJCIE. In case you want to see the notes, the document is called "SEPAG Agenda." You are shared on the agenda.

At this meeting with you present, we discussed that Special Services met with Fred (CEO) from NJCIE to discuss concerns and what services were available to the district. The notes from the shared agenda summarizing the discussion are below:

- **NJCIE Outreach**

- Short term and long term vision
- SS met with Fred on 11/28 to discuss concerns and what services we can use for NJCIE.
- SS will apply for the grant to work with NJCIE
- Meeting with the NJCIE team on 12/8
- SS will come up with a 3-5 year plan
- Goal is that this year NJCIE will provide training for admin, and parents
- SS will view programs such as Haddonfield and Berkeley heights who have worked with them
- Peer Mentor opportunities highlighted as part of NJCIE's successful plans in other schools
- Once we meet with NJCIE on 12/8 we will connect back with SEPAG

I know you were not on the emails that were sent to SEPAG administration. I wanted you to know that Dana contacted SEPAG on both November 30th and December 9th. So you know, the response on November 29th includes your name (email forwarded separately). SEPAG thanked Dana for taking the time to meet, for listening, and feeling heard. They were excited about the exchange of ideas and for sharing information about opportunities being brought to the district. Dana is having a meeting with SEPAG tomorrow just so you know. Thanks again for speaking today. Just wanted to ensure

Eric

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https://ediscovery.google.com/discovery/DisplayMessage?m=b3d9c03e-2879-4ab6-967b-0c98a1121bd8&at=ACD7onqc6Z4_qdiZwE6RPX0ib5fqCTV... 2/6

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Sincerely,

Eric

Dr. Eric Hibbs
Superintendent
Marlboro Township Schools
(732) 972-2000 ex 2015

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ehibbs@mtps.org Eric Hibbs

Tuesday, January 31, 2023 at 1:01:13 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: kamster@marlboro.k12.nj.us Kathleen Amster

Cc: dblair@marlboro.k12.nj.us Dana Blair

Absolutely not a problem. Just wanted to ensure you knew we took that situation seriously and that we did discuss NJCIE with the group. Hope you have a great rest of the day on this dreary day!

Sincerely,

Eric

Dr. Eric Hibbs
Superintendent
Marlboro Township Schools
(732) 972-2000 ex 2015

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MTPS District Fundamentals



On Tue, Jan 31, 2023 at 12:44 PM Kathleen Amster <kamster@marlboro.k12.nj.us> wrote:

That is exactly what I said to you in our phone call. The concept of NJCIE came from administration. Thanks for the clarity.

Kathleen

On Tue, Jan 31, 2023 at 12:31 PM Eric Hibbs <ehibbs@mtps.org> wrote:

Hello Kathleen.

I wanted you to know that I had a follow-up conversation with Dana. Dana did bring this to my attention back in November. In looking at our detailed notes from the SEPAG Meeting on November 29, 2022 (**Attended by Kerri Jankowski, Kathleen Amster, & Special Services Administration**), the concern was raised about the use of the word. SEPAG would not provide any parent names. Dana responded acknowledging the seriousness of the situation and assured the committee we would never stand or support the use of that word.

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Sincerely,

Eric

Dr. Eric Hibbs
Superintendent

Marlboro Township Schools
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Bring Your Best Everyday Honor Be Continuously Improve
Share information Support One Another Celebrate Success
GO THE EXTRA MILE Intellectual Capital Encouraged
Embrace Diversity Speak Straight Check Your Ego At The Door
Be Inspirational Own Your Responsibility Practice Blameless Problem Solving
Because We Haven't Done It That Way Isn't An Answer