

## Prince George's County SECAC meeting minutes, 5-23-23

Executive Board Members in Attendance: Troy Sampson, chairman; Sarah Wayland, vice chairwoman; Jamie Anfenson-Comeau, secretary; Janie Payne, treasurer; Pamela Talley, community outreach liaison.

Others in Attendance: See attached screen capture at end of document.

Troy Sampson opened the meeting virtually via the Zoom online meeting platform at 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Sampson introduced the executive board members in attendance and Prince George's County Public Schools partners. Mr. Sampson announced that this would be his last meeting as board chairman. Mr. Sampson introduced Dr. Trinell Bowman, associate superintendent for special education for Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS).

Dr. Bowman thanked Mr. Sampson for his years of service and his leadership of SECAC. She said the Parent Empowerment Conference will finish next month, there are still a few panels remaining. There are two more sessions of the Behavior Management Series, the ninth session will be on prompting and the 10<sup>th</sup> session will be on generalization and maintenance.

Mr. Sampson introduced the topic of the evening, summer activities, and the first of three speakers, Ms. Yvette Young, a social worker with the PGCPS Family Support Center.

Due to technical difficulties, parts of Ms. Young's presentation were presented by Marsie Torchon, program coordinator for the Family Support Center.

Summer community activities presented by Ms. Young included Pathfinders for Autism's TGIF Yoga, The Arc of Prince George's County's Youth Family, Fun and Fitness Fest, Gigi's Playhouse for individuals with Down's Syndrome, Morning at the Museum, hosted by the Smithsonian, therapeutic horseback riding, camps, Sensory Friendly Camp at the Railroad Museum, Camp Aristotle at the Auburn School, Melwood's Camp Accomplish, Sunflower Teen Exposure Program, a variety of volunteer opportunities, family walks, playgrounds, YouTube activities and spirit clubs.

Ms. Young also noted that the first round of Low Intensity Support Services (LISS) grant funding has already begun, and closes June 30. The Arc of Prince George's County also has camp funds, up to \$1,000.

Mr. Sampson introduced Catherine Francoeur, instructional assistant for library and media for PGCPS.

Ms. Francoeur discussed a number of media options available, including Tumblebooks for K-5 students; Leap Into New Knowledge (LINK), which can access the public library online; Creative Bug, a craft site; Hoopla, a site for videos, comics, ebooks, news,

television and music; Idieflix, a site for independent movies; Kanopy, for classic movies, independent films, documentaries and educational videos, and also has a children's version; Cello, a concert site; Sora, for elementary school level books, and Libby, the public library collection of ebooks and magazines.

Ms. Francoeur said the sites can be accessed on the PGCPS website, [www.pgcps.org](http://www.pgcps.org), or students may access the sites by logging onto their Chromebooks, going into Clever, and scrolling down to the library.

Mr. Sampson introduced Sandra Kellstrom, certified therapeutic recreation specialist for Maryland-National Capital Parks and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC).

Ms. Kellstrom said that registration is now open for summer camps offered through M-NCPPC, for bi-county residents only. Programs include Traveling Teens, Teen Adventure Camp, Splash N Dash, Summer Enrichment Afternoon Camp (SEAC) and Fantastic Fridays.

James Roberson, environmental education specialist and intern coordinator for the William S. Schmidt Environmental Education Center, said that the Teen Adventure Camp is a one-week camp that PGCPS runs in partnership with M-NCPPC at the school system's Brandywine environmental education center, also known as Camp Schmidt. Camp participants travel to various locations, take part in arts and crafts, engage in fishing, a ropes course and other outdoor activities.

Ms. Kellstrom said that accommodations and support can be provided for individuals with disabilities who wish to participate in camps. They must request services when they register. A support plan will be developed with inclusion support staff.

Inclusion support staff have a wide range of credentials and certification backgrounds.

Inclusion support can be contacted at 301-249-7200 or [Program.Access@pgparks.com](mailto:Program.Access@pgparks.com).

Mr. Sampson thanked the executive board, PGCPS partners and attendees, noting that this is his last meeting as chairman. He said it is time for new blood to step in. He encouraged parents to take advantage of resources and to help spread the word about SECAC. He said he has enjoyed his time serving on the board.

Pamela Talley thanked Mr. Sampson and said he had individualized the role of chairman with his own style. She said she will still be coming to SECAC, but due to family responsibilities, will no longer be serving in a leadership role. She said she is especially proud of SECAC in Prince George's County.

Sarah Wayland said she is stepping down but will continue to maintain the website and will still be acting in an ex officio role. She has served on the board since 2007, and has been very proud of how the board has worked with the school system.

Mr. Sampson said not everyone is built for serving students with disabilities, and it's okay to have tough times, and take care of ourselves too. It's a blessing and a job. For every parent, know that you are not alone. It takes a special person to navigate this journey, both during school and after school. Give yourself some compassion, don't beat yourself up too much, take it one day at a time.

Mr. Sampson said he plans to spend more time focusing on supporting fathers.

Mr. Sampson said Janie Payne will serve as the new chair and Jamie Anfenson-Comeau will serve as the new vice chair.

Ms. Payne sent out an email announcing new board positions open. She said those interested should send their information to her, and a poll will be held to select a new secretary and treasurer.

Mr. Sampson thanked Karen Andrews, PGCPs coordinating supervisor, for her work in supporting SECAC.

Mr. Sampson closed the meeting at 7:56 p.m.

Participants (29)

Search

	Sarah Wayland (me)		
	Marsie Torchon (Host)		
	Catherine Fran... (Co-host)		
	Sandy G. Kellstrom,... (Co-host)		
	Mivia Lagarda (Interpreter)		
	Ashley Hunt		
	Brandie Valentine		
	edith Linares (Interpreter)		
	iPhone		
	Irin Wills-Allen		
	ivonne lawter		
	James Roberson		
	Jamie Anfenson-Comeau		
	janie payne		
	Joni Turner		
	Karen Andrews		
	Kim Tart		
	Lakisha Thelusma		
	Lily Williams		
	Maha Ayoubi		
	Mikhail Piper		
	Moulin Majamba		
	Pamela Talley		
	Rob Malone		
	Ronda Bullock		
	Tanisha Wooten		
	Trinell Bowman		
	Troy Sampson		
	Yvette Young		