



Valley Elementary School

135 Coburn Road, Tyngsborough, MA 01879 ☎ Tel: (978) 528-7843 | www.valleycollaborative.org

Parent Advisory Group (PAG) Meeting Minutes

12/19/23, 12:00PM

Via Zoom

Contact Bryan Thomas (bthomas@valleycollaborative.org) for more information or to join the group.

Minutes:

- Introductions & Welcome
- Review the Vision of PAG / Meeting Guidelines (included below)
- Wants and needs for parents/guardians:
 - Reviewed ideas for more family events:
 - New Year or Winter related activities for family involvement.
 - PJ Party / Cozy Movie
 - Talent Show: one large or multiple (by class)
 - Working with our music therapist
 - Plans and details to be worked out in January.
 - Family Craft Day
 - March: Read Across America Week
 - Follow up on ideas for winter clubs:
 - Chorus
 - Group going to carol at a nursing home on 12/20
 - Singalong at school on 12/22
 - Soccer Club
 - Has started on friday afternoons
 - Basketball Club
 - Will replace soccer club later in the winter.
- Class Dojo
 - Discussed the problem of too many emails from the class dojo company
 - Will brainstorm ideas for monthly resources postings in the next meeting.
- Scheduling for the next meeting will take place in early January.



Valley Elementary School

135 Coburn Road, Tyngsborough, MA 01879 ☎ Tel: (978) 528-7843 | www.valleycollaborative.org

Resources for Parents:

- Parent's Notice of Procedural Safeguards. <https://www.doe.mass.edu/sped/prb/>
- Guidance on Parent Advisory Councils: <https://www.doe.mass.edu/sped/pac/>
- Resources for parents
 - Massachusetts Association of Special Education Parent Advisory Council (MassPAC) <https://fcsn.org/masspac/>
 - Listing of SEPACs: Special Child Mass Website <https://www.spedchildmass.com/special-education-sepac-massachusetts/>
 - Federation for Children with Special Needs: Free Workshops: <https://fcsn.org/news/#calendar>
 - Training & Workshops for Parents & Families – Federation for Children with Special Needs: <https://fcsn.org/training-workshops-for-parents-families/>
- Review of Special Education Rights and Laws
 - <https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1ECSr7uIyV9T29OoBO1UnirkZ3--9gVtYgIGi-Vz5icg/edit?usp=sharing>

Parent Advisory Group mission statement:

The Valley Collaborative Parent Advisory Group works to support all children and parents with special needs in our community. We are committed to: Promoting a platform for discussion for parents to share information, discuss common concerns, and interests among the population of students; Communicate with local, state and national organizations that support parents and children with special needs; Meet with our administrators and appropriate Valley Collaborative personnel as needed, to participate in discussions regarding education, health and safety of our students; Promote communication among our families in all of our programs; Provide informational and educational forums to parents, students, and educators and all other professionals involved with children with special needs; Promote communication that encourages understanding, acceptance and inclusion of our students; Increase the involvement of parents of children with disabilities in district policy making and decision making; Recommend priorities to be addressed by the district in their annual and long term strategic plan.

Parent Advisory Group – Meeting Guidelines:

Valley collaborative parent advisory group meetings will be conducted with an administrator and officers using the following procedure: Meeting calendar and individual agenda's and schedules will be set with parent advisory group parents and the administrator. Parent advisory group academic year calendar will be posted online to the Valley Collaborative website and sent home to parents. Agenda for each meeting will be posted on Valley Collaborative website one week prior that includes, time, location and content of meeting.