

**PROVISO AREA FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
PAEC CENTER – 6:00 PM
NOVEMBER 17, 2021
MINUTES**

I. ROLL CALL

Mr. Dawson, President of the Governing Board called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM.

Roll Call:

District 87	Ms. O'Connell	Present
District 88	Ms. Clark-Smith	Present
District 92	Mr. Dawson	Present
District 93	Mr. Richardson	Present
District 209	Mr. Wagner	Present

Also present: Mr. Michael James, Executive Director, Mrs. Vanessa Schmitt, Assistant Executive Director, Dr. Sherry Whitaker, Business Manager, and Mrs. Trainette Latham, Recording Secretary.

II. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None

III. APPROVAL OF GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES

Ms. Clark-Smith moved to recommend to the Governing Board to approve the minutes of October 20, 2021, as presented. Mr. Wagner seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

District 87	Ms. O'Connell	Aye
District 88	Ms. Clark-Smith	Aye
District 92	Mr. Dawson	Aye
District 93	Mr. Richardson	Aye
District 209	Mr. Wagner	Aye

5 Ayes

Motion Carried

IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- V. Approval of Payroll
- VI. Approval of Bills
- VII. New Business (with the exemption of item VII. C)
 - A. Employment/Resignations/Terminations
 - B. FMLA Request

Ms. O'Connell moved to recommend to the Governing Board to approve the Consent Agenda, which encompasses agenda items V (Payroll), VI (Bills), and VII (New Business with the exemption of item VII. C) as presented. Ms. Clark-Smith seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

District 87	Ms. O'Connell	Aye
District 88	Ms. Clark-Smith	Aye
District 92	Mr. Dawson	Aye
District 93	Mr. Richardson	Aye
District 209	Mr. Wagner	Aye

5 Ayes

Motion Carried

VII. EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORT

The Executive Board meeting was held on Wednesday, November 10, 2021. Those present included: Ms. Spatafore from District #87, Ms. Charlotte Larson from District #88, Dr. Janiece Jackson from District #92, Dr. Kevin Suchinski from District #93, Mr. Leonard Moody from District #209. Also present included: Mr. Michael James, Mrs. Vanessa Schmitt, and Dr. Sherry Whitaker from PAEC Administration. The Executive Board reviewed and recommended approval of all the items on the agenda.

VIII. DuPage/WEST COOK REPORT

None reported at this time.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

None reported at this time.

X. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S INFORMATIONAL REPORT

A. PAEC Programs-Current District Child Count Report

Information is attached

B. Current Enrollment and Classroom Staffing Patterns

Information is attached

C. Transition Reports

None reported at this time.

D. Initial Referrals

Information is attached.

E. Police Reports

None reported at this time.

F. PAEC Activity Fund Summary

Information is attached.

G. PAEC District Goal Updates

Mr. James mentioned that as promised, PAEC Programs will present District Goal updates quarterly. The goals will be used to drive the district to know what we are doing and what we need to do to improve.

H. Programming and Staffing Changes

As a reminder, all programming changes must be submitted in writing by January 31st. This is a negotiations year, so all information would be helpful to know in order to plan appropriately.

Mr. James stated that at this time, there hasn't been any discussion on any District Withdrawals for this year. However, we still need to be proactive.

I. Police Safety/Security

Commander Yancy and Security Consultant Randy Braverman came out to advise PAEC on the traffic patterns surrounding the bus dropoff and pickup times.

Commander Yancy shared that he is diligently looking for an Officer to cover our SRO position and for another district. It is a priority for him.

Mr. James mentioned that after speaking with Commander Yancy and Mr. Randy Braverman, the only way that we can be allowed to put ponies out to help with traffic control is when someone is present to monitor it.

Mr. James expressed that PAEC requires an SRO. There have been some security issues that have taken place at PAEC High School. Last month, three students surrounded a staff member in the parking lot during after-school hours and verbally threatened the staff. Two of the three students have returned to the school.

Mr. James mentioned that Mr. Braverman might have someone available shortly. There is also a chance that there might be one or two retired Police Officers who might be a possibility.

There have been discussions about trying to post a vacancy for a police officer or security guard. This has become a priority of PAEC to be able to provide police presence on our campus and the High School program.

Ms. Clark-Smith stated that she will give information to PAEC on the security company that District 88 uses. Mr. James mentioned that PAEC will look into that. However, Mr. James explained that although that would be helpful, we need a police officer that would be able to make an arrest when it is necessary.

Mr. James requested to the Maywood Chief of Police that when police officers are on patrol, would it be possible for them to stop in to make a police presence.

We are not trying to suspend students from school, but students and parents need to know that there are consequences for their actions according to Mr. James.

PAEC Union has suggested a referral incentive for staff to help assist with trying to hire staff. It was suggested that we offer a \$150 bonus referral incentive if the individual would last for at least ninety days. PAEC is looking to provide a \$100 bonus for referrals.

Mr. James stated that he spoke with the Superintendent in Franklin Park, and they have given a \$2.00 raise for paraprofessionals. This is due to the competitive job market that is not only affecting schools.

PAEC is trying to look at different ways to get people to work and to keep them employed. There is a lot more stress working in the alternative population and we need to find ways to keep the stress levels down and keep our staff safe.

J. Transportation

First Student Transportation has moved. The new location is at 1001 St. Charles Rd, Maywood, IL 60153. PAEC was invited to their luncheon for the new location on Tuesday, November 2, 2021, from 11:00, am to 1:00 pm.

Mr. James stated the facility is very nice and clean. Mayor Booker was present at the Luncheon as well. PAEC is working to schedule a date for Mayor Booker to visit and tour the buildings.

K. ADOS Assessment Training

Our Autism Consultant (ABA Therapist Marrea Winnega) provided an Assessment Training that evaluates the Diagnosis of Autism on Thursday, November 4, 2021, and Friday, November 5, 2021. The training covered both a refresher for those related service staff who have already been trained and provided full training for new therapists. This allows PAEC to have a minimum of three therapists teams to assess when the need arises without burdening a few with this responsibility.

Mr. James explained that this is a Top Tier assessment tool for Autism Training. The initial training was done approximately three years ago. Dr. Winnega is a consultant that is in the PAEC budget. The plan moving forward is to provide refresher training every other year.

L. Grand Canyon University

Mr. James was invited to visit Grand Canyon University in Arizona on Wednesday, November 3, 2021, through Friday, November 5, 2021. Ms. Lisa Mullins (GCU representative for PAEC) stated that PAEC has approximately 30 plus staff that have expressed a strong interest in returning to school.

Grand Canyon University paid for flight, room, and board for 2.5 days for Mr. James. Mr. James mentioned that the President of the University shared his vision and dream of making college accessible to not only the elite but for everyone.

Mr. James spoke with the president of the GCU and asked about opportunities for our students. Lisa Mullins will partner with other colleges/universities that may be interested in doing satellite campuses.

There were a few incentives suggested in partnering with Grand Canyon University:

1. **College Day-** Students that maintain a 3.5 GPA will be given the opportunity to fly to Arizona to visit the campus free of charge. Mr. James mentioned to the GCU President that our students are in special education and they will need supervision. If parents would like to go with their child, they would have to cover the cost of their trip. However, Mr. James is working with the University to see if it would be possible to send one of our staff members to accompany the student free of charge.

2. If Districts partner together, there is a possibility that we can form a cohort that would help with the tuition cost. If there are 10 staff members going into the educational track, the staff would receive a 25% discount on tuition.
3. **Dual Enrollment Program-** Students can receive up to 16 college credits by the time of high school graduation. The tuition will be \$320 for a four credit hour class.
4. **Pilot Program-** GCU will pilot five students to receive college credit.
5. Grand Canyon University will assist teachers in teaching a 45-minute virtual class to give teachers a break.

Lisa Mullins from Grand Canyon University will meet with students probably in January to provide them with information on college life and experience. In the Spring, GCU will provide flight, room, and board for Mrs. Schmitt, Ms. Lorek, and Mr. Southward to visit the campus in Arizona.

Why GCU? Mr. James stated that this university reached out to PAEC and wanted to help. We are still looking into partnering with other local colleges and universities such as Triton College, College of Dupage, and St. Francis in Joliet. College of Dupage (COD) does not provide strong resources for special ed students.

An overview of the incentives for this program with Grand Canyon will be sent out to all of the Board Members.

M. PAEC October Events

PAEC High School closed out Hispanic Heritage with a door decorating contest that took place on October 15, 2021. **Pictures are attached with the agenda.**

The High School program did a phenomenal job with putting together a presentation for Hispanic Heritage Month. Students turned the school into an airport. The students received passports that had to be stamped each time they visited a classroom that was assigned a country to them. Each classroom provided important facts about their selected country and also provided a video presentation.

PAEC Center hosted a Halloween Trick or Treat in the lunchroom on October 29, 2021. There was a contest for the most creative, funniest, and scariest pumpkin. **Pictures are attached with the agenda.**

The month of October is Fire Prevention Awareness. Both PAEC Academy and PAEC Elementary participated in these events. Students enjoyed themselves and took pictures with both Fire Departments. **Pictures are attached with the agenda.**

N. Out of District Placement Student

The student from Berwyn District 98 has been deactivated as of 10/21/21.

The Superintendent reassured PAEC that the deactivation of this student was no fault of ours. The student became a safety concern.

O. Administrator's Academy

On Tuesday, October 26th, 2021 PAEC hosted an Administrative Academy, "Proactively Dealing with Difficult Conversations: Bringing Out the Best in People at Their Worst". Districts 91 and 93 joined PAEC administrators. We will be reviewing the feedback to determine the possibility of hosting another Administrative Academy yearly. Our administrators did appreciate having the Administrative Academy on site. By hosting the Administrative Academy, we were able to lower the cost for all involved.

Mr. James mentioned that although we were short one person, everything went well. All cooperative districts were invited to attend. District 91 and District 93 attended the Administrator's Academy. Our initial cost for hosting was \$150 per person. However, due to the shortage of attendees, the rate for PAEC became \$175. Our efforts are to make PAEC a service center for our cooperating districts.

P. Vaccine Clinics

District 87 had a great turnout at their last Booster Clinic on October 22, 2021. Due to this, there will be another Booster Clinic on November 5, 2021, in which both Moderna and Pfizer shots will be available. This event will be from 2:30 pm-4:30 pm at the Berkeley Board of Education Administration Center.

District 87 has also partnered with Positive Health Systems and will be hosting vaccine clinics at each site for students ages 5-11 for COVID-19. Participation is optional and only for those students that are in that age group. The vaccine Clinic Dates and Locations are:

Whittier Primary School
November 10th @ 8:00-11:00 A.M.
338 Whitehall Ave (Northlake)

Sunnyside/MacArthur Schools
November 16th @ 4:30-6:30 P.M.
1310 Wold Rd (Berkeley)

Jefferson Primary School
November 12th @ 8:00-11:00 A.M.
46th Ave (Bellwood)

Riley/Northlake Schools
November 18th @ 2:00-5:00 P.M.
202 Lakewood (Northlake)

District 89 along with the Superintendents of Hillside, Westchester, and Broadview have collaborated to secure vaccinations for children 5 to 11-years old. This vaccination event will take place on Saturday, Nov 13, 2021 at Hillside School at 4804 Harrison Street, Hillside, IL 60162 from 8:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

Lindop School will also host a free Pfizer vaccination clinic for students ages 5-11. This event will take place on Saturday, November 20, 2021, at Lindop School 2400 S. 18th Ave, Broadview, IL 60155 from 10:00 AM-1:00 PM by appointment only.

District 91 will be hosting a vaccine clinic on Monday, November 22, 2021. The two site locations are:

Betsy Ross Elementary School
1315 Marengo Ave
Forest Park, IL
8:00 AM-7:00 PM

Grant-White Elementary School
147 Circle Ave
Forest Park, IL

8:00 AM- 7:00 PM

Q. PAEC Program Updates

The **Business Office** is finalizing calculations for PAEC staff that are eligible for tuition reimbursement in hopes of submitting to the Board in December for payment to the employees.

PAEC's annual audit report is complete and is in the partner's final review stages. The Business Office plans to have the audit presentation at the December Board meetings.

Out of District Tuition bills have been finalized and mailed to the respective districts.

The Business Manager/CSBO continues to look at the current costing model for mid-year reviews and future billing. She had the opportunity to meet with several other cooperatives to better understand the cost models used in the surrounding areas for Special Education Cooperatives. These were more of an informal meeting to see if the models are comparable as it relates to allocating direct and indirect costs. They all seem very similar and the district will make sure it produces the best costing model available to bill member districts in a timely and accurate manner.

A draft of the fiscal year 22/23 budget process calendar for PAEC has been completed and will be presented to the Governing Board for approval at the December meeting.

The business office will start preparing the necessary financial documents and information for PAEC's upcoming contract negotiation in the spring.

Human Resources (HR)

HR is gearing up the Wellness Screening event scheduled for Friday, November 19th, 7 am-11 am in the PAEC High School gym. We hope to get at least 50% of the Blue Cross Blue Shield subscribers to participate to receive a refund on the premiums currently paid to Educational Benefits Cooperative (EBC).

Dr. Whitaker mentioned that if we can receive 50% participation, we could receive approximately 11,000.00 back. It was stated that we are not there yet, but we are hopeful. Some staff are fearful of privacy issues.

Other HR highlights:

- Terminated 4 people from Businessolver System (Employee Benefits Administration Technology).
- Onboarded 4 new permanent employees (includes: background checks, new hire paperwork & benefits setup sessions)
- Processed & updated info to give access to 21 employees to the Global Compliance Network Training system to complete monthly required training

- Completed Affordable Care Act (ACA) requirements for the 3rd quarter.

Information Technology (IT)

The IT department is hoping to interview more candidates soon to fill the open IT Specialist position. Though short-staffed, the IT department continues to address help requests in a fair and timely manner. The PRI to SIP circuit conversion was supposed to take place in October, but the Call One technician had to reschedule for early November. ECF funding for HotSpots has been approved and the IT department has been in touch with the vendor for SPI invoicing. We are awaiting approval for second wave funding requests for iPads, Chromebooks, and laptops. Our Insurance provider is mandating MFA, multi-factor authentication, for all permanent staff users. The IT department will be looking into the project of establishing MFA for all PAEC full-time staff. This needs to be implemented before Jan 1, 2022.

Buildings & Grounds

Jorge Quinones was promoted to Maintenance effective 11/01/2021. Subsequently, a vacancy for an evening custodian will be posted shortly and a replacement will be named in the coming weeks. The water heater in B4 has been working after a thorough cleaning was completed, no need for a replacement. West 40 finalized the annual Health, Life & Safety review and reported no deficiencies at this time. e Plumbing, Midcity Plumbing & Calumet City Plumbing.

PAEC Early Childhood Program

October was a busy month in the Early Childhood program. We had two new children start, two children transitioned from the half-day cross-categorical program to the full-day EC autism class, and two children returned to their respective districts. The two district-bound preschoolers had made significant progress and benchmarking data indicated they were ready for the faster pace and reduced instructional support of a larger classroom. We wish them all the best!

Our EC staff have truly worked hard despite being short-handed this month. We have a 1:1 program assistant out on FMLA and we are still trying to hire another individual aide. We have been very fortunate that we have had retired staff willing to come back and lend a hand to help our youngest children attend and benefit from the program with their support.

PAEC Therapeutic Day Elementary School

October is Fire Safety Month and the students participated in various activities learning about Fire Safety. The students also received a visit from the Maywood Fire Department, which included a tour of the truck and some great fire hats.

The students are participating in academic instructional groups to meet their needs. The student's that require progress monitoring are continuing with their groups and

interventions have been adjusted to reflect the progress of the students. The progress monitoring will be completed using FastBridge. Interventions will be revised or continued based on the data. Quarter 1 has just been completed and all quarterly updates will be sent to parents.

PAEC Elementary has supported our cooperatives by participating in meetings, interventions, and tours for parents when needed.

The staff will continue to participate in weekly team meetings to review the progress of social/emotional and academic interventions.

There were 11 student time-outs and no police incidents for October.

PAEC Therapeutic Day High School

Happenings

During October, we celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month. Hispanic Heritage month began on Sep 15, 2021 This year's theme for Hispanic Heritage month is traveling through Latin Countries. The plan was for our school to be turned into an airport on October 15th. To accomplish this, we had a door decorating contest with each door representing a different Latin Country. For example, your door could have a gate for departures and arrivals, etc. so the students can "travel" to different Latin Countries. Projects included a small description of their Independence from Spain, 5 interesting facts about that country, and a small video clip approximately 5 minutes in duration showcasing the chosen country. This year's winning design, facts, and video came from room 102 Ms. Bujulka's room. Additionally, we had a taco truck come into the parking lot to purchase tacos as a snack for staff and students.

Maintenance of the building

The building continues to be thoroughly cleaned and sanitized daily and when there has been a potential COVID Exposure. Cleaning and sanitizing happen immediately once a student or staff shows signs and symptoms leave the building or when we are notified of potential exposure.

Restraints

Restraints	4
Police Calls	0
Process return meetings	6

Registration and other important dates

We continue to register new students at the high school.

Covid - 19

To date, we had two reported cases of COVID. Through contact tracing, students and staff that may have been exposed were tested and quarantined. Any student or staff member that was fully vaccinated and produced a documented negative test result could return to school. Anyone not fully vaccinated was quarantined for ten

days and on remote learning. After the quarantine period, students were able to return to school provided no covid symptoms were present.

PAEC Therapeutic Day High School Vocational Program Updates

- Mr. Loving continues the Custodial Program with students. First-quarter evaluations have been completed. At this time we have six students participating. We have tasks to complete at the high school and the elementary school. Mr. Loving continues to accept applications and conduct interviews. He is looking for more training opportunities on campus due to the high level of interest from the students.
- Mr. Loving is working on establishing the recycling program now that we have a paper recycle bin on campus.
- Mr. Loving states that he provides students seeking employment with job leads.
- Dr. Bujalka is working with students to complete their transition planning questionnaire and interview. This includes reviewing their current transition plan and goals as indicated on their IEP.
- Dr. Bujalka continues the senior group to address post-secondary education goals in the transition domains as well as a forum in which to discuss graduation-related topics. Participation is optional for students who are anticipated to graduate and will not take the place of individual sessions to address transition goals.
- Dr. Bujalka continues to discuss with each credit-deficient student their credits and anticipated graduation date based on Proviso's requirements. We currently have 22 students enrolled in Apex (our credit recovery program). Thus far this school year we have had four completed Apex courses.
- Dr. Bujalka posts daily in Google Classroom to address the transition domains. This past month she has focused on obtaining and maintaining employment for students.
- Dr. Bujalka continues doing the Casey Life Skills Assessment and a Career Clusters Inventory with students. Administration of these assessments will likely carry on throughout the 2nd quarter.

PAEC Academy at Divine Infant

PAEC Academy had a fire drill with the Westchester Fire Department. The staff and students did well.

Staff was able to complete all the Infinetec and GCN training for August through September.

Picture Day was on Oct 5, 2021.

No students were excluded from school for medical reasons. All of the students are up to date with physicals, vaccinations, etc.

About half of our students participated in Walktober. Walktober is a group of students and staff that go for a walk in the neighborhood during lunchtime. It is a nice break for the students to be outside. Staff points out various reasons for walking and enjoying the neighborhood. We handed out participation certificates to all students who participated. Many students are now walking in their neighborhoods with family members.

Students were allowed to dress up for Halloween. Classes trick or treated in the cafeteria, one class at a time. Each classroom did Halloween activities in their classrooms. Social distancing was followed.

The students are settling into the school environment. Students are already showing progress in various areas. All of them seem happy to be back in school and not remote.

PAEC Center

The month of October was testing month. SANDI tests on every student were performed. Baselines were obtained and next semester we will have updates on student growth. FAST benchmarks will be completed in November. Fastbridge testing was done by the Proviso East students.

Students are acclimated back to in-person learning. We continue to struggle with staffing shortages. Staff stepped up and covered for one another as needed.

Halloween was in the air! As COVID is still hindering our ability to host the Haunted House fundraising activity, the Special Events Committee proposed a COVID-friendly Halloween celebration. Each classroom decorated a table in the lunchroom, each student was given a lunch bag to decorate and a pumpkin decorating contest was held. Each classroom was afforded time in the gym to view others' work. The students (and staff) enjoyed the event!

Unique Curriculum continues to be used, albeit online. The national toner shortage has spurred the creative use by teachers of online learning while in the classroom.

PAEC Center Vocational Program/Transition Program

Currently, there are 6 students employed competitively. Unemployed students are directed to apply for competitive employment via in-person, or direct contact with employers. These students are monitored via one-on-one meets, emails, and/or text messaging. When students apply for competitive employment on their own, they are instructed to send screenshots of completed applications. We also keep records of applications that students complete with me and/or staff.

Students that are currently employed are on the chart below:

	Employment	Hours	Job
1	Taco Bell	15 hours per week	Crew
2	Symphony Nursing Home	15 hours per week	Activity Aid
3	AMC	25-28 hrs per week	Busser
4	White Castle	16-20 hrs per week	Stocker/Maintenance
5	Brookfield Zoo	20-25 hrs per week	Food Service Associate
6	Dollar Tree	20-25 hrs per week	Sales Associate/ Stocker

Students are only working at one volunteer site right now (PAEC Academy). We are not working Community job sites right now, due to Covid and the safety of our students.

We have 5 new students enrolled who are currently being trained to complete job tasks, answer interview questions, complete job applications, and more. They are not ready to go out and interview yet. I have continued to set up individual meetings with Transition students. We have completed interest surveys, we are practicing mock interviews and completing mock applications. One of the four is currently interviewing. We also attended a job fair to practice speaking with prospective employers, regarding competitive job opportunities.

PAEC Intervention Team

District 87

Jefferson Primary School

Three PAEC Interventionists are currently assigned to Jefferson where there have been several new behavioral referrals for intervention and support. They continue to work closely with the school principals and teachers to provide consultative behavioral support and classroom management for specific students identified through building a student support team and previous behavior support. All three have been active in student support meetings, IEP meetings as well as communicating with parents. The interventionist continues to progress monitor and implement new interventions and supports accordingly.

Whittier Primary School

Currently, there is one specific interventionist at Whittier working closely with one student identified with behavioral concerns. There has also been a new referral for a kindergarten student with significant needs. An interventionist will observe and collect data on this student and meet with related services to discuss observational findings. This interventionist has worked closely with building administration as well

as parents and grandparents in supporting previous students both in school and at home.

Sunnyside School

Two Behavior interventionists have been providing intensive support for a 3rd-grade student with significant behavioral concerns. The interventionist has collaborated with administration, PAEC psychologists, social workers, and occupational therapists in collecting data to present to parents regarding diagnostic placement as well as providing relevant information for a case study with this student. The interventionists have worked closely with parents to provide a behavior plan including specific interventions and supports.

District 88

Lincoln Elementary School

Currently, there have been three recent behavioral intervention referrals for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd-grade students. Observations have not been fully completed. However, once completed the coordinator will meet with a behavior interventionist to review data and further investigate possible behavior intervention and support for each student.

District 92

Lindop School

Currently, three students are receiving Behavioral Intervention. A kindergarten student and two 3rd grade students. The behavior intervention coordinator has provided observational data as well as met with and collaborated with both the classroom teacher and the special education resource teacher. The current interventionist has worked extensively with 3rd-grade teachers in presenting data and reporting on specific interventions that have proven to be successful as well as updating and implementing new supports.

District 93

Hillside School

Consultative behavioral intervention continues for one special education Kindergarten student at this school. This student was previously in the EC PAEC program and has since returned to his home school. The Behavior Interventionist has been observing and collecting data while simultaneously supporting the classroom teacher with implementing behavioral and classroom supports and interventions as well as working closely with the school psychologist and social worker. The interventionist has participated in the implementation of a behavior plan to help support this student. Recently, another behavior referral has been placed for an additional student at Hillside. Informal observation is forthcoming.

District 209

Currently, there are 3 Behavior interventionists at Proviso West High school working with grade-level principals in supporting students and providing academic and social-emotional assistance as well as academic support and retention. Behavior Coaches have worked closely with grade-level administrators to identify students for support as well as collaborating with guidance counselors and social workers.

At Proviso East there are currently two interventionists working closely with past students as well as evaluating new behavior referrals to identify any new students in which support is needed. The current Behavior coaches continue to progress monitor all students as well as work with grade-level administrators to identify new areas of concern. Supports provided have included executive functioning skills, peer mediation, academic/behavior support, and mentoring for building social and life skills.

PAEC OT/PT Department

Staff adjustments: None at this time.

Adjustments to the website: None at this time.

Activities of the department:

1. The AT team is continuing to conduct SETT meetings to address educational needs for struggling students.
2. The OT/PT/AT Lead attended the Special Events meeting for PAEC Center via Google Meet on 10-04-21 from 8:00 - 8:30 AM.
3. The AT Team attended a staff meeting on 10-06-21 at PAEC Center from 8:30 AM- 9:30 AM.
4. Our AT Team & OT/PT Team has helped run the Virtual Wheelchair Clinic on Oct. 06, 2021, with Dave Cingano the AT Rep from Numotion.
5. Orthotic Clinic will not be in October but on 11-17-21 with Gwen Blunk, an orthotist from Hanger Clinic at PAEC Center.
6. The SLP on the AT Team began attending a conference called Closing the Gap 2021 via Zoom on 10-11-21 and it goes until 10-13-21. The Closing the Gap Conference is an annual conference for Assistive Technology in Special Education, Rehabilitation, and Everyday Living. The AT SLP presented at the conference and the title was: AAC for Preschool: A review of AAC options, research, and personal experiences.
7. The OT/PT Department attended their monthly staff meeting on 10-14-21 in-person and via remote on Zoom from 11:30 am - 1:30 pm.

8. We have received a donation from Mr. Pedro Escalona for a Rifton Pacer K640 Gait Trainer. Donation Letter attached. This gait trainer will be used in the PAEC programs for student use. See pictures below.
9. The OT/PT/AT Lead attended the PAEC Security-Safety Committee Meeting on 10-20-21 from 10:00 - 11:00 AM via Zoom.
10. For our institute day on 10-22-21, our OT/PT Department had a PT meeting for the PTs to discuss issues regarding qualifying students for PT and reviewing our current testing materials from 8:30 - 10:00 AM. Therapists watched webinars on diversity from Infinitec titled: Engaging Families 01: Creating a Welcoming, Engaging Families 02: Recognizing Diversity, and Understanding Diversity in Our Schools. They also were to watch throughout October the webinars titled: Slip and fall prevention, Erin's Law and Support for Traumatized Youth, and Educator Ethics.
11. One of our OTs attended the following in-services over the last month: Reasoning with Unreasonable People: Focus on Disorders of Emotional Regulation by Paula Butterfield, Ph.D. on 10-15-21 from 8:15 AM - 4:00 PM in Oak Brook.

Donated Rifton Pacer K640 Gait Trainer.



PAEC Psychologist Department

- Hillside psychologist Dayle Ashley-Harding and psychologist intern, Lindsey VanDerAa, are facilitating a reading intervention group utilizing the Process Assessment of the Learner- Reading and Writing program (PAL-RW). They meet with 5 students daily to practice sound/symbol relations, blend sounds, identify sight words, read and discuss books, and write letters, words, and sentences to improve the students' literacy skills.
- As part of Anti-bullying month, Dayle Ashley-Harding and Lindsey VanDerAa are providing an anti-bullying program with the 6th-grade students.

- Hillside school psychologist intern Lindsey VanDerAa, along with the Hillside social worker, is implementing an executive functioning group.
- Dr. Michael Cermak and Mary Therese Geary attended the Illinois School Psychologists' Association fall conference, which was held virtually on Friday, October 15th, and Friday, October 22nd. Topics included: SEL/Social Justice; Legal Special Education; Mental Health; Ethical Problem Solving; and Family/School Collaboration in Mental Health. Information will be shared at the next psychologists' meeting.
- Training for the ADOS-2, a tool to assess possible Autism Spectrum Disorder, will be held at PAEC on Thursday, November 4th, and Friday, November 5th. Psychologists that will be attending include Dr. Paola Gonzalez-Bonet, Dayle Ashley-Harding, Melissa Gomez, Leslie Davey, and Robin Zimmerman, psychologist interns Emely Rovira and Lindsey VanDerAa, and District 88 psychologist Angelica Kordecki.
- PAEC psychologist Robin Zimmerman assisted the PAEC transition classrooms housed at Proviso East H.S. with their fall benchmarking with Fastbridge. The students will be assessed in the winter and spring to measure students' growth.
- Psychologist Dr. Michael Cermak, is supervising Loyola Chicago school psychology practicum student Kristen Bialek. Kristen will work with Dr. Cermak at Sunnyside Elementary and MacArthur Middle Schools.
- Psychologist Dr. Paola Gonzalez-Bonet is supervising full-time school psychologist intern Emely Rovira in the District 87 blended PreK/EC program along with the PAEC EC program.

PAEC Social Work Department

1. Ms. Lisa Allen, LCSW, Ms. Dana Gutmann, LCSW, Ms. Lisa Pirrello, LCSW, and Ms. Ziomari Rivera, MSW (PAEC School Social Workers-PAEC High School Therapeutic Day School) have been providing social work services to the students at PAEC High School Therapeutic Day School and have been working with these students on the following: Self Regulation (emotional & behavioral), Conflict Resolution, Decision Making Skills, Anger Management Skills, Development/Management of Positive Relationships, Goal Achievement Action Plans, Positive Coping Strategies, and Problem Solving Skills. Additionally, Ms. Gutmann has been an active member of the Student Incentive Committee and Ms. Pirrello has been an active member of the Staff Morale Incentive Committee at PAEC High School.
1. Mr. Michael Irgang, MSW, and Ms. Lindsey Holsten, LCSW (PAEC School Social Workers-PAEC Elementary School) have been continuing to service students individually and in small group social work sessions. Both social workers have been working with students who have transitioned back from being psychiatrically

hospitalized by collaborating with outside agency personnel. Additionally, Ms. Holsten worked closely with the PAEC Custodians and Waste Management to coordinate and arrange for the recycling program to include a giant bin on the PAEC Property, making it convenient for all PAEC Program personnel to drop off items, throughout the workday, to be recycled.

1. Ms. Monette Carlos, LCSW (PAEC School Social Worker-Early Childhood Program) continues to provide social work services to 4 classrooms which include 2 full-day autism classrooms, 1 multi-needs classroom, and 1 cross-categorical classroom. Currently, In the Autism/Multi-Needs Classrooms, Ms. Carlos is doing centers and teaching play sequences using pictures. Ms. Carlos models and demonstrates for 2-3 weeks and gives the teachers the pictures to use with their toys. The repetition and visuals help these students play with toys functionally. In the Cross-Categorical Classroom, group topics covered include: listening, focusing, and following directions. Additionally, Ms. Carlos has printed pictures (first/then strategies) and social stories for the teachers to use throughout the school week, for extra reinforcement of skills.
1. Ms. Kenya Dockens, LCSW (PAEC School Social Worker-Hillside School) has been providing the following social work services to the students at Hillside School: 5th-grade social workgroup is working on coping strategies; 7th-grade social workgroup is working on Bullying and Understanding & Managing Stress; and 5th-8th Middle School Talk on Community, Bullying & School Expectations. Additionally, Ms. Dockens coordinated high school information night and participated in CPI Training at Hillside School.
1. Ms. Elizabeth Baldi, MSW (PAEC School Social Worker –Proviso East High School) has been continuing to provide school social workgroups to the TST Program based on grade level (Freshman/Sophomore, Junior/Senior, Senior+/Transition). Ms. Baldi's small social work group interventions are focusing on emotional regulation and coping skills. Additionally, Ms. Baldi is meeting with students that require individual, 1:1 social work support. Most are presenting with a history of trauma and complex family dynamics in addition to difficulties functioning in the school environment. Areas of focus that Ms. Baldi is covering for these students include building coping skills, problem-solving skills, and maximizing their school potential.
1. Ms. Donna Kuchera, MSW (PAEC School Social Worker –Proviso West High School) in addition to continuing to provide weekly school social work services to the freshman special education students on her caseload, Ms. Kuchera has planned, coordinated, and is in the development stages of establishing a revolving set of 5-6 weekly social work group lessons (Anger Mngmt, Anxiety, Social Skills, Behavior Mngmt, etc.) for students returning from out of school suspensions. The idea is for them to be connected to a Social Worker and learn a better way of doing things at school (to keep them out of trouble). Ms. Kuchera

will also be an active member of the MTSS Team and participate in monthly meetings with the Special Services District Coordinator.

1. The next REQUIRED PAEC School Social Work Dept. In-Service Training will be:
Date: Friday – November 12, 2021
Time: 10:00AM-1:30PM
Topic: Sexual Development in Children
(Will satisfy the Cultural Competency/Mandated Reporting State Requirement)
Speaker: Ms. Melinda Gronen, LCSW of Gronen Counseling

PAEC Speech/Language Department

- The lead SLP is looking to hire a full-time SLP for D88- Lincoln Primary.
- The Speech-Language Department had a meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 19 at 11:00 am in the PAEC Center boardroom and virtually. Topics of discussion included IL Licensure through IDFP, Embrace DS logging and Medicaid billing, required training through Infinetec and GCN, etc.
- Elizabeth Rotert, AT SLP, presented to the SLPs on Oct. 19 from 1:30-2:30 pm - AAC for Preschool: A review of AAC options, research, and personal experiences.
- Several SLPs will be participating in the ADOS (Autism Diagnosis Observation Schedule) training on November 4th and 5th, presented by Dr. Marrea Winnega.

PAEC Special Olympics

Basketball season has begun for the PAEC Special Olympics. We have 30 student-athletes who are participating this year. Three teams, PAEC Tigers, Bulldogs, and the Pacers along with 4 individual skills athletes. We are in the process of scheduling games for the season. So far we have 4 games scheduled against Hinsdale South and Downers Grove South High Schools. Practices for the Bulldogs will be at PAEC Center on Mondays, Pacers will practice on Tuesdays at PAEC Center and the Tigers will also practice on Tuesdays at PAEC Academy. Individual skill practice will be on Fridays at PAEC Center. Special Olympics Staff will be attending a regional meeting on November 10th to discuss various updates for Special Olympics IL and changes for the upcoming year. We look forward to our first games coming up in mid-November. LET'S GO PAEC!

XI. OLD/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None at this time.

XII. OTHER/ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE BROUGHT BEFORE THE GOVERNING BOARD

Mr. Richardson questioned whether PAEC has any programs that are available to assist the Hispanic population. Are there programs that could help non-speaking English

parents? Mr. James mentioned that PAEC doesn't currently have programs like that, but it is possible to look into and budget for the next school year.

Does PAEC have a PTO? Currently, there is no PTO, however, in the past PAEC programs had Principal Teas in which some parents participated. This program hasn't been enforced since the onset of the pandemic.

Mr. James mentioned that although we have not had the Principal Tea, we had a good turnout for Parent/Teacher Conferences this year that were held virtually.

Mr. Dawson mentioned that parents share resources with each other in PTO meetings. This can be a good tool for additional resources for PAEC programs. Mr. James stated that he will speak with Superintendent Dr. Suchinski to look into how District 93 set up for PTO and program for non-English speaking parents.

Mr. Clark-Smith asked whether PAEC received any grant monies for after-school programs. Dr. Whitaker explained that PAEC is in the process of applying for the Esser Grant. We haven't spent anything at this point. The grant has to address learning loss. Some examples for use of the Esser Grant are:

1. After school programs
2. Summer school
3. Food
4. PPE
5. Curriculum

The grant can be spent over the course of three years.

Ms. Clark-Smith asked about the HotStuff Program and what we need to do to bring that back. Mr. James explained that PAEC lost the grant for the HotStuff Program a few years ago. It was also mentioned that PAEC is in the process of trying to rebuild the relationship with PLCCA. Ms. Clark-Smith stated that she will assist with meeting with PLCCA

One of the biggest problems that PAEC has had in trying to secure afterschool programs has been transportation.

PAEC has continued to provide the Special Olympics for students after school

The next Governing Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 15, 2021.

XIII. BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

- A. Donation Letter for Mr. Pedro Escalona for a Rifton Pacer Gait Trainer Model K640. Dr. Barnicle researched the item from Rifton and the total according to the paperwork for this donation is \$3,880.00.

XIV. CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Wagner moved to convene into Closed Session at 6:56 PM, under Section 2(c)(1) of the Open Meetings Act to consider litigation against PAEC that has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal and to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or

dismissal of a specific employee(s), specific individual(s) who serve as an independent contractor(s), specific volunteer(s) of the Board, or legal counsel for the Board as presented. Ms. O'Connell seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

District 87	Ms. O'Connell	Aye
District 88	Ms. Clark-Smith	Aye
District 92	Mr. Dawson	Aye
District 93	Mr. Richardson	Aye
District 209	Mr. Wagner	Aye

5 Ayes

Motion Carried

Ms. O'Connell moved to adjourn the Closed Session of the Governing Board at 7:07 PM and to return to Open Session. Mr. Richardson seconded the motion

Roll Call:

District 87	Ms. O'Connell	Aye
District 88	Ms. Clark-Smith	Aye
District 92	Mr. Dawson	Aye
District 93	Mr. Richardson	Aye
District 209	Mr. Wagner	Aye

5 Ayes

Motion Carried

The Board voted on item VII-C

C. Approval of settlement agreement concerning collection dispute.

Approval and release of a settlement agreement between PAEC and Value Auto Mart in the amount of \$300.00.

Mr. Richardson moved to recommend to the Governing Board to approve the settlement agreement and release between PAEC and Value Auto Mart in the amount of \$300.00 as presented in Closed Session. Ms. Clark-Smith seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

District 87	Ms. O'Connell	Aye
District 88	Ms. Clark-Smith	Aye
District 92	Mr. Dawson	Aye
District 93	Mr. Richardson	Aye
District 209	Mr. Wagner	Aye

5 Ayes

Motion Carried

XV. ADJOURNMENT

Recommended Motion:

Mr. Richardson moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:09 PM for lack of further items to discuss. Mr. Wagner seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

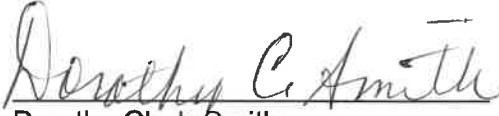
District 87	Ms. O'Connell	Aye
District 88	Ms. Clark-Smith	Aye
District 92	Mr. Dawson	Aye
District 93	Mr. Richardson	Aye
District 209	Mr. Wagner	Aye

5 Ayes
Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,



Brian Dawson
President of the Governing Board



Dorothy Clark-Smith
Secretary of the Governing Board

12/15/21

MJ/TL

