

SPEDPAC of Bedford
Monthly Meeting: October 12, 2010
Meeting Notes

- I. Special Olympics Young Athlete Program
 - a. Bill Jones visited with us today to discuss the Young Athlete Program, and his goal of establishing this program in Bedford.
 - i. Program is for ages 2-7 and a committed Practice Coach is required to implement the program.
 - b. Next Step: Bill to draft email and Lynn to send email blast to group explaining program and Practice Coach requirements. Direct interested people to website: <http://resources.specialolympics.org>

- II. Updates on school visits
 - a. Pam shared her update on BEEP Open House. Huge success – 6 new parent names added to email list, warm welcome from Chris Lassonde
 - b. Pam/Lynn shared update on visit with RBS principal – Molly McMarthy. Molly had many good ideas for workshops/needs for which SPEDPAC could contribute/help as follows:
 - i. Exec functioning with Sarah Ward
 - ii. “Culture of Wimps”: are we coddling our kids too much and causing increased anxiety and depression in today’s youth?
 - c. Pam/Lynn to meet with Kathy Conlin on 10/19/11

- III. RBS Special Ed ideas for SPEDPAC involvement (follow-up from Molly):
 - i. Adaptive swing for playground
 - ii. iPads for the special ed. dept.
 - iii. Boardmaker Plus (software)
 - iv. Professional Dev. ideas: Home/School Behavior (consistency and carryover), Behavior/Communication for Students with Autism. If this is something you're interested in, Mary Ellen Spain and Melissa Sheridan have some names of potential presenters. I'm sure one or both of them would be happy to talk further about it with you.
 - v. Venetia Reilly (PT) is looking for a foot pedal strap for a stationary bike in the cardio room at the HS. This would help to make the bike safe for the special ed. students (with physical challenges) to use it.

- IV. Next steps:
 - a. iPad Training: Pam/Lynn to discuss with Kathy and then continue to determine best next steps, Nancy to conduct additional research into best training
 - b. CEUs: what topics and presenters qualify someone to give CEUs in our district? Lynn/Pam to discuss with Kathy Conlin
 - c. Lynn to discuss social/emotional workshop ideas mentioned above with Marty Reese (consider Dr. Fish?)
 - d. Legislative Updates: Pam to schedule a meeting next year with Mary Ellen to give update

- e. Moore Center: TBD (still trying to determine topic for Maureen)
- f. Social Bridges: Vince to follow-up
- g. Bobcats presentation: Pam to contact Sherry Daisy and Sue Mullen about an evening talk for SPEDPAC to raise awareness of this program