

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

May 13, 2019

Presentations/Workshops



District 89 –
Toolbox for defiant behavior- Strategies for Success

Emily Shields, Barb Layer and Wendy Barickman

In addition, CASE administrators are working with the districts regarding ongoing trainings for next year including paraprofessional training, behavior plan facilitation, co-teaching and assistive technology.

CASE Relocation Plan Update

- Met with Adam Thoma from HKM Architects and discussed various configurations and innovative ideas for maximizing future space. Adam will provide some outside consultation to CASE as the plans developed by the building architects are being finalized.
- Met with Neil Perry (D44) who is facilitating current building project
- Presented Power Point to Special Education Directors
- May 29 – first visit to potential sites with realtor
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Coalition of Schools Educating Mindfully

Mary and Cindy met with Tracy Heilers to discuss future partnership opportunities. COSEM is holding a summer conference and CASE is providing some behind-the-scenes support. We will also offer teachers the opportunity to participate in a cohort (5 dates) focused on mindfulness and its application to the school and classroom setting next year. We are very excited about this opportunity!

The Behavior Code book study

Cindy D'Ambrosio and Gene Olsen facilitated their final meeting of the book club they began this year to dive deeply into Jessica Minahan's book, The Behavior Code. Staff presented new and improved behavior plans incorporating Jessica's work with the FAIR plan that resulted in positive student outcomes.



State Representative Amy Grant (Wheaton)

Cindy D'Ambrosio, Mary Furbush and Emily Shields met with Representative Grant in Springfield earlier this year and recently set up an observation of CASE Vision services at Franklin Middle School in Wheaton. Representative Grant met Mary and Emily at the school and got to see O&M Specialist Samantha Beck and Vision itinerant Teacher Christina Mora working with a student. The student explained to Representative Grant how he had previously attended the SASSED vision program classroom but had been back in his home school for 3 years. He talked about being able to walk to school, do things with friends and how working with his CASE teachers has enabled him to be independent.



CASE Business Managers Update

All of the CASE districts made MOE and this month Sarah and Jerry have been going to each district to discuss planning how to transition the grant. Now that each district has specific numbers to work from, the conversations were concrete and detailed about ensuring that each district will be able to make MOE over the next two years even with IDEA funds flowing directly to them.

CASE Special Education Directors Meeting

Everyone shared current and anticipated openings. We also discussed Smarter Steps which is a subscription program that is designed to assist teachers in writing better goals. We will discuss this at our next meeting. The next meeting has been changed to early June and during that meeting we will review the Needs Assessments. Emily shared with the team that she is interested in becoming a Unique Learning trainer as they continue to expand their program and its ability to integrate into existing curricular goals.