

WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Pupil Services Committee
April 11, 2023
6:30 p.m.
Spellman Education Center

AGENDA

•	Public Comment of Agenda Items	
★	Approval of February 13, 2023 Committee Meeting Minutes	Ms. Chester
★	Approval of March 13, 2023 Committee Meeting Minutes	Ms. Chester
★	Review and Approval of Sweet, Stevens, Katz and Williams contract renewal	Ms. Kleiman
	Presentation on paraprofessional support in the district	Ms. Wyatt and Ms. Kleiman

★ Indicates Committee Voting Item

Public Comment Protocol

- Residents wishing to make public comment on agenda items must register prior to the start of the meeting.
- Public comments on agenda items will be taken at the beginning of the meeting prior to voting.
- Policy 903: Public Participation in Board Meetings governs public comment.
- The committee chair or designee will call residents in the order in which they signed in.
- A three-minute timer will be projected on the screen and will start after the speaker gives their name and township/borough.

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WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Pupil Services Committee

February 13, 2023
Spellman Education Center Board Room A
Start: 6:36 pm – Finish: 6:54 pm

Attending Committee Members:

☒ Kate Shaw (Chair) ☒ Joyce Chester ☒ Daryl Durnell ☒ Laura Detre

Other Board Members:

☒ Gary Bevilacqua ☒ Karen Fleming ☒ Karen Herrmann ☒ Sue Tiernan ☒ Stacey Whomsley

Administration:

☒ Kalia Reynolds ☒ Wayne Birster ☒ Melissa Kleiman
☒ Sara Missett ☒ John Scully ☐ Jeff Ulmer

Public Comment: None

Items on Agenda:

- Approval of January 9, 2023 Pupil Services Committee Meeting Minutes
- ~~Review and Approval of the Peacemaker Center Contract~~ Removed
- Review and Approval of Chapter 339 K-12 Comprehensive Counseling Plan

Pupil Services Committee Actions/Outcomes to be placed on the February 27, 2023 Board Agenda for approval:

Agenda Item	Vote
Approval of the January 9, 2023 Pupil Services Committee Meeting Minutes	4-0
Review and Approval of the Peacemaker Center Contract Removed	Vote
Review and Approval of Chapter 339 K-12 Comprehensive Counseling Plan	4-0

Board Consent Agenda Items: None

Items to be discussed at a later date: None



**WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Pupil Services Committee**

**March 13, 2023
Spellman Education Center Board Room A
Start: 6:30 pm – Finish: 7:04 pm**

Attending Committee Members:

☒ Joyce Chester ☒ Daryl Durnell ☐ Laura Detre

Other Board Members:

☒ Gary Bevilacqua ☒ Karen Fleming ☒ Karen Herrmann ☒ Sue Tiernan ☒ Stacey Whomsley

Administration:

☒ Kalia Reynolds ☐ Wayne Birster ☒ Melissa Kleiman
☒ Sara Missett ☐ John Scully ☐ Jeff Ulmer

Public Comment: Judi DiFonzo commented on Special Education monitoring.

Items on Agenda:

- Approval of February 13, 2023 Pupil Services Committee Meeting Minutes

Pupil Services Committee Actions/Outcomes to be placed on the March 27, 2023 Board Agenda for approval:

Agenda Item	Vote
Approval of the February 13, 2023 Pupil Services Committee Meeting Minutes	No vote

Board Consent Agenda Items: None

Items to be discussed at a later date: None



Special Education Paraprofessionals



What is a Paraprofessional's Role?

Paraprofessionals are key staff members in a student's success.

- Encourage independence
- Manage behaviors that impede learning
- Flexible to changes within student's program
- Provide support for academics, life skills, mobility and social skills.
- Supportive to physical and emotional health

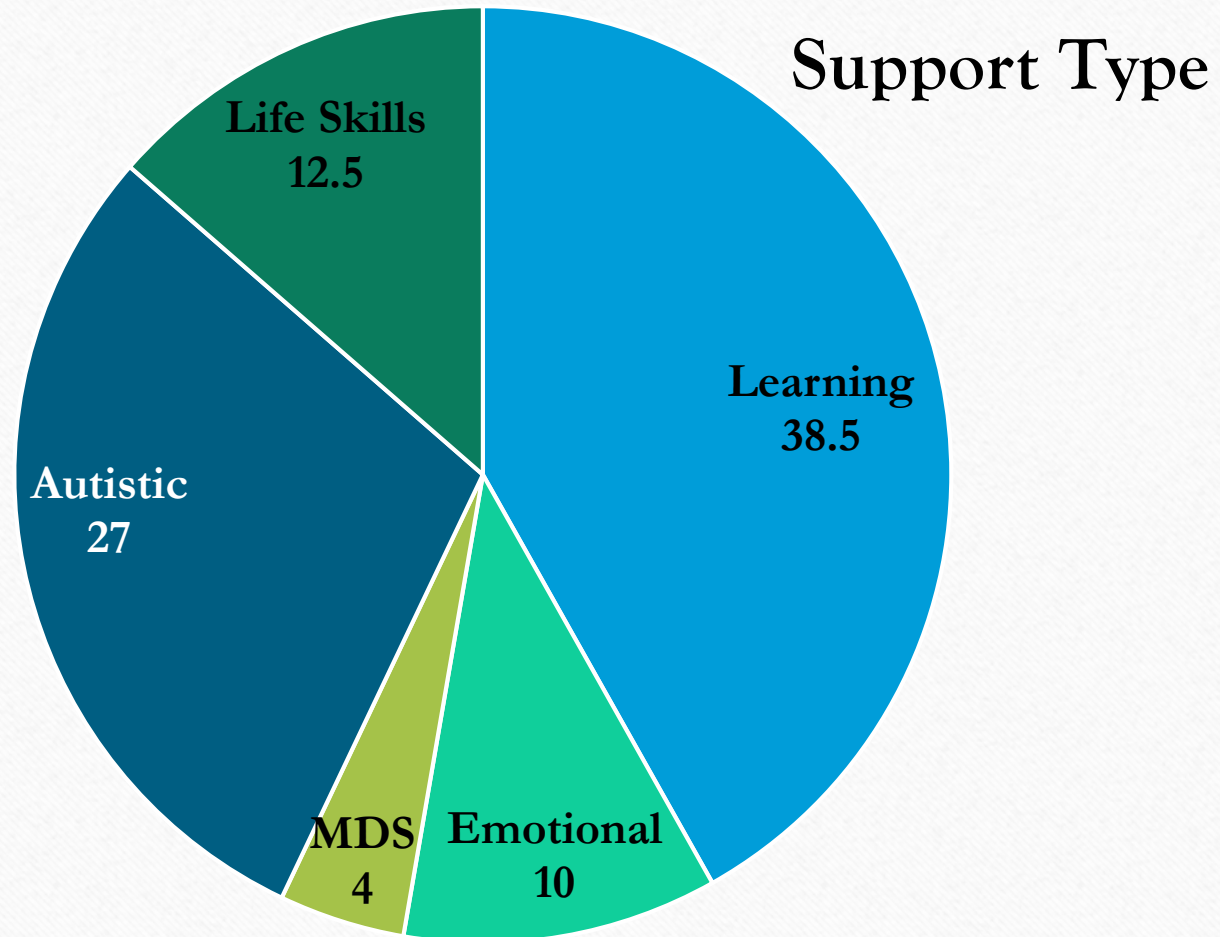


IEP Supports

The West Chester Area School District staffs paraprofessionals throughout its special education support classrooms. Those support rooms include:

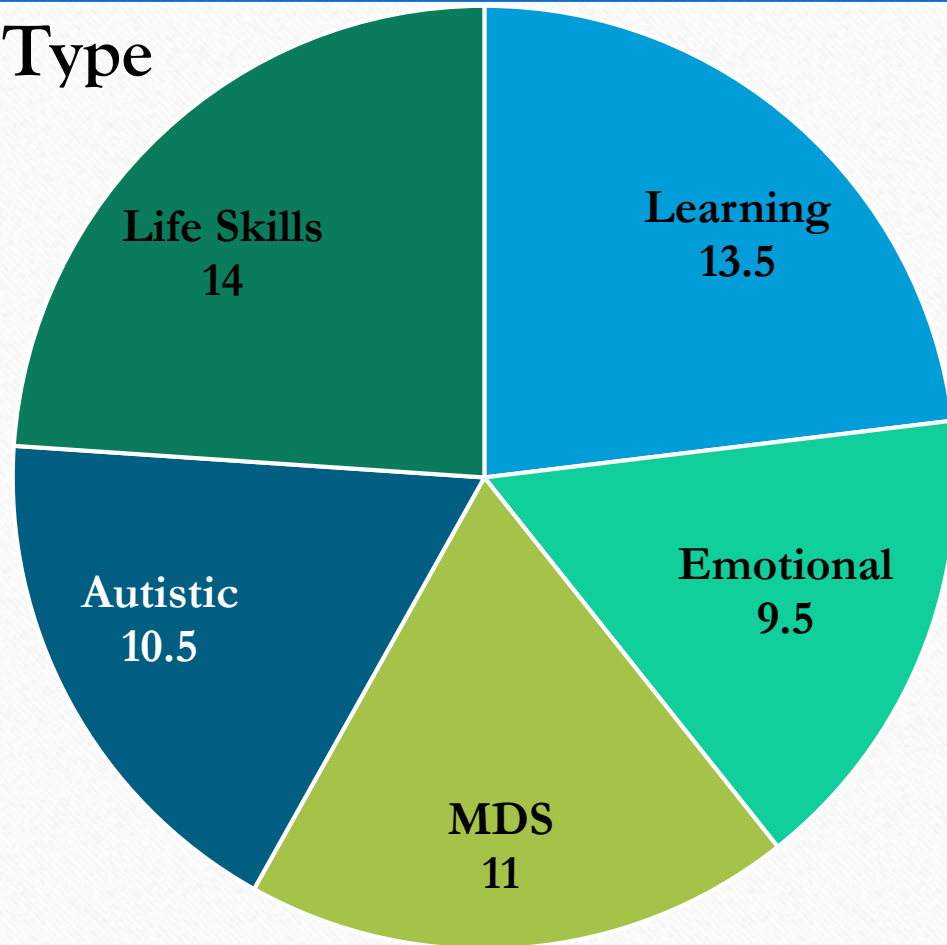
- Life Skills
- Learning
- Emotional
- Autistic
- Multiple Disabilities (MDS)
- Physical

92 Elementary Paraprofessional Positions



58.5 Secondary Paraprofessional Positions

Support Type



Registered Behavior Technicians (RBTs)

We are so excited about this **NEW** position. An RBT is a paraprofessional certified in behavior analysis. RBTs assist in delivering behavior-analytic services and practice under the direction and close supervision of a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA).

- 12.0 Approved in budget
 - One for each autistic support classroom K-12
- 5.0 hired to date
- Competencies evaluated by Behavior Coordinator on Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB) standards

Professional Development for Paraprofessionals

- Executive Functioning 101
 - Educators response to challenging behaviors
 - Building your Toolbox for Engaging Learners
 - Seizure Protocols
 - Crisis Prevention Intervention (CPI)
 - ALICE-School Safety
 - ADHD-Increasing focus and engagement
 - QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer)
 - Universal Strategies to Support Positive Behavior
 - What is Effective Communication?
 - Intensive Skills Training VB-MAPP for autistic support
- Mental Health: Recognizing and Addressing Concerns in the Classroom
 - Challenges of Living with High Functioning Autism
 - Permission to Feel
 - Co-Regulation and Resilience
 - Behavior plans, Functions of Behavior & Positive Reinforcement
 - Connecting with & supporting Gen Z and Alpha
 - The Power of Storytelling in Education
 - Maybe you should talk to Someone
 - Students who use AAC: Toolbox to Support Students
 - The Upstanders: Effects of Cyber Bullying (stopbullying.gov)

New Evaluation Tool

The WCASD is in the draft stages to change the Paraprofessional's annual evaluation tool to align with State competencies.

The 10 Core Competencies Include:

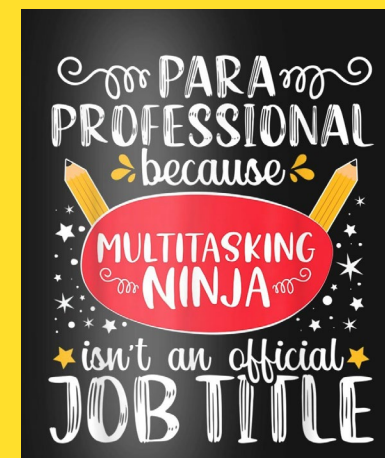
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|--|------------------------------------|
| 1. Foundations of Special Education | 6. Language |
| 2. Development and Characteristics of Learners | 7. Instructional Planning |
| 3. Individual Learning Differences | 8. Assessment |
| 4. Instructional Strategies | 9. Professional & Ethical Practice |
| 5. Learning Environment & Social Interactions | 10. Collaboration |



Paraprofessional Appreciation Day

April 3, 2023

*Take the time
to thank a
Paraprofessional!*



Why I appreciate my Paraprofessional?

*Mr. Desmond always takes his time
to help me with my computer.
-M.G. @ ILTH*

*I like Mr. Mike
because he is a
boy like me.
He helps me film
in Video
Production class.
He can be silly
with me.
-E.L. @ EHS*

*I love Ms.
Terry
because she
helps me
accomplish
my jobs and
goals
-D.S. @ RHS*

*I am grateful
for Miss Amy &
Mrs. Moore.
They are hard
workers and
making sure I
am doing the
same thing.
They are the
best PCA's in
the district that
I know.
-L.S. @ ILTH*

*I like Mr. Jalen
because he takes
me to the sensory
room and plays
ball with me at
tennis.
-N.A. @ EHS*

*Mrs. M, thank you for
helping me with
everything at school!
You are the best helper.
-J.B. @ RHS*