



Special Education Advisory Council

Minutes

Welcome:

Mary K. Allbright, the Director of Special Education, called the meeting to order.

Approval of Summary:

The summary from the November 11, 2005, meeting was approved with no corrections.

Parent Training Update

The District Support Team Leader discussed highlights from “The Parent Express” trainings. Four sessions were held. The training was designed as an overview of strategies for behavior management.

This presentation was highly welcomed and a suggestion was made that it be repeated next school year. An all day Saturday conference provided for parents, sponsored by the Parent Resource Center was mentioned.

Parent Information Meetings:

Special Friends of The Woodlands was discussed. This group consists of 45 families whose students participate in positive social interactive activities such as bowling and game nights. It promotes the students working together, helping one another with polite communication and behavior.

United Cerebral Palsy (UCP) is having a one-week summer day camp at the YMCA for 15-25 participants. College student volunteers are working with the UCP on a Saturday fun day once a month.

Transition Fair:

The transition fair is scheduled for March 2, 2006, from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at The Woodlands College Park High School. Eight other school districts have been invited to attend. The Newcomers center will attend. The transition fair postcards were mailed to the parents of junior high and high school special education students. Region VI has distributed flyers.

Announcements:

The Director of Special Education shared a plaque that was presented to CISD for a new playground for Special Education students at Lamar Elementary. The Community Associations of The Woodlands, Lamar PTO, and the “Be An Angel Fund” were in partnership for this playground.

Information regarding a web-based program to provide foundational information on autism for parents and educators was handed out. The six module “Teaching Students with Autism: Shaping Programs” can be accessed on the website www.autism.esc4.net by using the following username: **txconroe** and password: **conroe**. This product may be shared with district employees and families of students within the district. Please direct any comments or suggestions regarding this program to the special education director.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.