

UXBRIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Department of Pupil Personnel Services
“Minimizing Obstacles, Maximizing Opportunities...
For *Every* Student!”

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Monthly Report – February 2009

Overview of Activities

- The Department of Pupil Personnel Services is responsible for the following activities throughout the month of February: Update all staffing caseloads, Meet Evaluation Timelines, Continue budget processes, Examine in detail program reviews of our Early Learning Center and Transition Services, Contact early intervention on students/Outreach to other state agencies, Advertise Early Childhood Screening, Professional Development/Implementation, Meet with Key Constituents regarding implementation of school improvement and system wide goals, Walkthrough of Buildings, Begin Resolution, Mediation, Hearing Processes, Plan Extended Year Programs, Complete Medicaid RMTS Reports, and Advertise and promote outreach to the community of Uxbridge, Massachusetts.

Subject Activities

Throughout the month of February, the Director of Pupil Personnel Services met with Uxbridge Public School service providers in the areas of special education, English language education, 504 compliance, Guidance Services, and Health/Wellness. Additionally, the Director of Pupil Personnel Services met with representative of MSB-Services, Inc. and CaseE, Inc, its IEP software provider, in an effort to effectively improve the software platform for the Uxbridge Public Schools administration, faculty, staff and service providers.

The Director of Pupil Personnel Services attended out-of-district IEP meetings in the following communities: Attleboro, Blackstone, Douglas, Plainville, North Attleboro, Millbury, West Boylston, and Worcester, Massachusetts.

The Director of Pupil Personnel Services continues to examine the special education budget on a monthly basis - in cooperation with the School Business Manager and Superintendent of Schools.

The Director of Pupil Personnel Services continues to be an active member of the Administrative Team meeting process twice per month. As well, the Director participates on the Uxbridge Interagency Roundtable, Gifted and Talented Education Team, Response to Intervention (Rti) Implementation Team, and the Uxbridge Public Schools Technology Team.

The Director of Pupil Personnel Services continues to work in partnership with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' Department of Elementary and Secondary Education in the area of grant writing as a means of improving programs and services for students with disabilities.

During the months of December, January, and February, the Director of Pupil Personnel Service is conducting a series of program reviews in the areas of Speech and Language Pathology as well as in the area of autism. Progress reports, preliminary reports and follow up materials/findings will be submitted to the Superintendent of Schools throughout this process.

Throughout the month of February, the Director of Pupil Personnel Services observed all phase one special education faculty and staff at the high school.

This month, the ESL Adult Education Classes begin. The classes will run for eight weeks throughout the months of February, March and April for those parents and families interested in learning English as a Second Language.

On Friday, February 27, 2009, the Director of Pupil Personnel Services participated in the Dr. Suess "Read across America" program at the Taft Elementary School.

Professional Development Activities

The Director of Pupil Personnel Services continues to offer department support in the areas of relicensure guidance/technical support – so that Uxbridge Public Schools special education faculty/staff remain current in the ever-changing laws of the Commonwealth. This technical support and guidance is offered throughout the academic year in partnership with the Department of Education and Framingham State College.

The Director of Pupil Personnel Services continues to be an active member of the English Language Learners Low Incidence Group and the Blackstone Valley Educational Collaborative Regional monthly meeting – as a means of remaining current with local, state and federal legal mandates.

On February 11, 2009, MSB-Services sent CaseE 2.0 trainers to Uxbridge, MA. in an effort to provide professional development to our entire special education administration, faculty and staff on how to operate the latest version of the IEP software platform. The latest 2.0 version was brought online January 23, 2009.

The LSDO sponsored another FREE professional development opportunity to local school districts in Central Massachusetts on "Co-Teaching with Purpose: Strategies for Student Success!" The course was taught by the Director of Pupil Personnel Services and attended by more than 16 educators from around the region – including six from the Uxbridge Public Schools. The event was hosted in the Uxbridge High School library from 4p.m. to 7p.m. on January 29, 2009 and February 5, 2009.

PAC Reports

On February 11, 2009, the Uxbridge Special Education Parent Advisory Council (USEPAC) held its sixth meeting of the 2008-2009 academic year at 6:30p.m. in the library of the Whitin Middle School.

The website for the Parent Advisory Council has been updated and contains numerous items of interest, and support materials for families of children with disabilities. To access this website, go to: http://www.uxbridgeschools.com/pupilservices_pac.shtml

The Uxbridge Public Schools Parent Advisory Council continues to expand its “Lending Library” for Parents/Families with exceptional children. Anyone interested in adding/borrowing an item from the lending library can come to the Central Office location, Suite 207, of Town Hall.

The next meeting of the Uxbridge Special Education Parent Advisory Council will be held on Wednesday, March 11, 2009 at 7p.m. in the library of the Whitin Middle School.

General Department Information

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Upcoming Events

Students with disabilities from the Uxbridge Public Schools will be participating in the Special Olympics of Massachusetts statewide competition in Worcester, MA the weekend of February 28 – March 1, 2009. For more information, please contact the Department of Pupil Personnel Services at 508.278.8648 X111 or go to: <http://www.specialolympicsma.org/>

On Thursday, March 5, 2009, A “Family Fun Night” for Student with Disabilities is planned in the Whitin Middle School gymnasium with Music and Beach Volleyball happening from 7 – 8:30p.m. For more information, please contact Mr. Mike Catalano at the Taft Elementary School at 508.278.8643 or Mrs. Jane Sousa at the Independence Project at 508.779.0388.

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Administrator,



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