

**Special Education District Advisory Committee
2021-22 Mid-Year Report for Board of Education**

February 2022

**Administrator Co-chairperson: Deanna Sinfield
Co-chairperson: Payal Maniar**

For 2021-2022, SEDAC is continuing its work on the following charges:

- **Transition support:** SEDAC ad-hoc committee is working on one-page guides for parents whose children will be moving from one school level to another (preschool to elementary, elementary to middle school, middle to high, high school to transition). The team has reached out to identify current practices and provide input. The goal of the documents is to share what families can expect, the rough timelines of events, and considerations for important decisions that will have to be made.
- **Restorative justice:** SEDAC ad-hoc committee has been collaborating with Dr. Satinder Hawkins and sharing ideas and suggestions on how disability can be incorporated into our social justice curriculum. Members worked to identify elementary school level literature that highlights neurodiverse populations and stories. These books will continue to be provided to teachers for use in lessons to support inclusion and the over-arching belief that neurodiverse learners along with students from diverse backgrounds need to be seen, heard, and understood in classrooms. In addition, ad hoc committee members will brainstorm ideas and make suggestions for event content for a weeklong effort on promoting disability awareness and understanding in our community (tentatively planned for fall 2022). Members of this ad hoc committee will also identify select relevant historical events, disability rights movements, policies, activism, etc. that could be incorporated into our high school social studies curriculum.
- **Human Development Education:** In 2021, UC-Lend offered a one-time training on this topic to district students and parents. The ad hoc committee hopes to engage UC-Lend in presenting again in 2022. The committee is working with social workers from UC-Lend to provide developmentally appropriate information on human development for our 5th grade through middle school populations. Presentations in this area will be held with student and potentially parents and via Zoom after school hours. The committee met and identified key possible areas to be covered in the presentations and has reached out to UC Lend to set up a meeting.

In addition to these charges, SEDAC continues to discuss the impact of funding and legislation on our students with neurodiverse needs. SEDAC consistently reviews programs available, school climate, current legal liabilities, and pre-referral to special education practices. SEDAC supports the District's commitment to provide services that are relevant to the changing needs of our student population.