



PASE Meeting November 27, 2023

WELCOME!



PASE Agenda



- Welcome, Introductions
- Approve Minutes from October 2, 2023
- Election of the following positions within PASE:
 - Chair: two-year commitment
 - Vice-Chair: two-year commitment
 - Secretary: two-year commitment
- Kent ISD Special Education Advisory Update from October 20, 2023 (formerly the Superintendent's' Advisory Committee)
- Sibshops Presentation (Andréa Vugteveen, Sibshops, Facilitator/Coordinator)
- Table Discussion/Connection
- Discussions related to information sharing in the county
- Public Comment and Closing





HELLO
MY NAME IS

- **Name**
- **District Represented**
- **Age of Child**



PASE FOLDERS

- **Meeting Dates**
 - **Agenda/Minutes (add)**
- **Acronyms**
- **Glossary of Terms**
- **Meeting Handouts**

PASE Minutes October 2023

PASE Meeting Minutes

October 2, 2023

Members Present: Heather Bright, Amanda Dill, Katie Foote, Kassie Franklin, Jen Gard, Marie Griffiee, Heather Kalafut, Lindsey Kloeckner, Sarah Kugler, Barbara Lubic, Aryn Manni, Maria Mora Bowen, Emily Perton, Renae Port, Karen Schwedler, Stacia Thrower, Jen Walli

Guests: Hayley Arit, Caroline Breault-Cannon, Rebeca Coleman, Sheree Harmon, Raechelle Huston, Sara Larkin, Toni Moore, Ashley Mullins, Jann VanAirsdale

Excused: Ashley Bodien, Jenny Craig, Jen Mitchell, Erin Purdy, Erin Richardson, Jordan Smith

I. Welcome and Introductions

Nate Steinberg ...

II. Approve Minutes from April 24, 2023

Minutes were provided before the meeting. Maria Mora Bowen made the motion to approve the minutes and it was seconded by Heather Bright.

III. Superintendents' Advisory Committee Update

The next meeting is October 20, 2023. The meeting will now be called Kent ISD Special Education Advisory.

IV. Purpose of PASE

- A. Mission: To positively impact educational opportunities for children with special needs through parent collaboration and education
- B. Priority Focus for 2023/2024 school year
 1. Meaningful parent engagement in IEP process
 2. Ensuring FAPE in the LRE through a decision making progress
 3. Supporting de-escalation for students in crisis

V. Strategic Planning and Goals for the Year

- A. IEP Abbreviations / Glossary of terms to navigate "alphabet soup"
- B. Getting info out to other parents/districts in effective manner
- C. Transition from high school, what does that look like?
 1. Life planning
 2. Education options
- D. SibShops
- E. What is reasonable to ask for?
- F. Medication resources
- G. Peer-to-peer groups
- H. Documentation on supplemental aids and services page of what services "look like"
- I. IEP vs. 504
- J. Opportunities for students with disabilities outside of school
- K. Accessible playgrounds for students
- L. Parent Panel
- M. How to accommodate/modify electronic work vs. analog assignments

N. Making curriculum functional for students who need to learn more related to basic life skills

O. Recruit & retain special education staff

- If staff are not available, who ensures interventions?

P. How are we reaching out to districts about PASE?

- In school announcements?

VI. Meaningful Parent Participation Presentation/Activity

- A. KISD Belief Statement
- B. IDEA Regulatory requirements
- C. Brainstormed as a group about parent input forms for IEP

VII. Public Comment and Closing

The next meeting is November 27th.

PASE ELECTIONS

Chair: two-year commitment

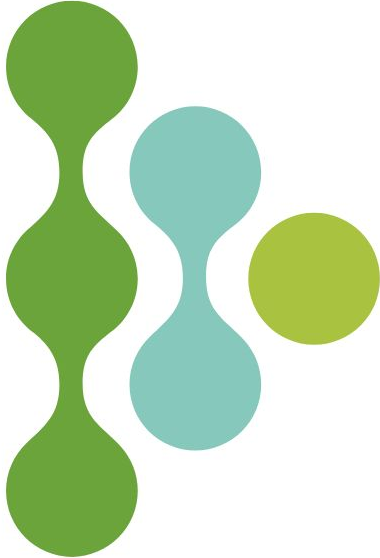
- Preside at all PASE meetings
- Lead the agenda for each meeting.
- Be responsible for keeping the meetings on task and that agenda items are addressed during the allotted time.
- Ensure conversations and presentations are in line with the priorities of PASE established earlier in the school year.

Vice-Chair: two-year commitment

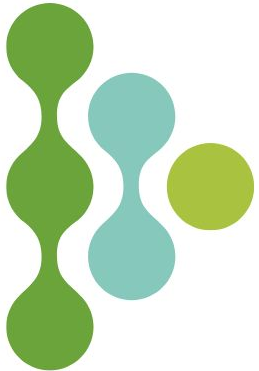
- Act in the absence of the chairperson.
- Perform all duties as assigned by the chairperson.

Secretary: two-year commitment

- Act as the recorder at each PASE meeting.
- Assure that the minutes of each meeting are provided to the special education administrative assistant in order to distribute to members afterwards.
- Perform all duties incident to the office of secretary.



Kent ISD Special Education Advisory Meeting Held October 20, 2023





PASE Priorities

- EP Abbreviations/Glossary of Terms
 - Hinders understanding
- Getting information out to other parents/districts in effective manner (*) ✓
 - What is happening around the county and how can we get that information
- Transition from High School, what does that look like? (*)
 - Life planning
 - Options
- Sibshops ✓
- What is reasonable to ask for?
- Medication resources
- Peer to Peer program-more information about these types of programs
- Documentation on sup aides and services page of what services “look like”
- Parent Connections
- Awareness to different disabilities
- IEP vs 504
- Concept of time of services
- Opportunities for students with disabilities outside of school
- Accessible playgrounds for students and other school environments
- Parent Panel
- How to modify electronic work vs. paperwork
- Making curriculum functional for students who need to learn more related to basic life skills
- Recruit and retain special education staff.
 - If staff not available who ensures interventions
- How are we reaching out to districts about PASE ✓

Sibshops Introductions



_Andréa Vugteveen: Sibshops Facilitator/Coordinator

_Grace, Sibshops Participant

_Emma, Adult Sib and Sibshops Volunteer

_Hannah, Adult Sib and Sibshops Volunteer

_Mia, Adult Sib and Sibshops Volunteer

_William, Sibshops Participant





Sibshops and The Sibling Support Project

[https://youtu.be/ mYxPORJkN4](https://youtu.be/mYxPORJkN4)



Why Sibshops?

Sisters and brothers will likely have the longest-lasting relationship with a sibling with disabilities. During their lives, they will experience most of the unique joys, concerns and feelings that their parents do, yet few will have the chance to talk about their experiences with other siblings who “get it”.



The loneliness that comes with special needs parenting hits home hard. It's those quiet moments when you're up late at night, worrying about the future, or when you're sitting in a room full of people but still feeling isolated because no one truly gets it.

But you know what? You're not alone. There's a whole tribe of us out here, navigating the same rough waters, celebrating the small wins, and holding each other up during the tough times. Let's reach out, share our stories, and remind ourselves that we're part of a community that understands, empathizes, and supports one another. Together, we can find solace in our shared experiences and build a network of strength and resilience.

SIBSHOPS



Did you know?

Sisters and brothers will likely have the longest-lasting relationship with a sibling who has special needs. During their lives, they will experience most of the unique joys and concerns their parents do, yet few will have the chance to talk about their experiences with other siblings who "get it".

Brothers and sisters of children with special needs have a group that's just for them, Sibshops. Two monthly peer support groups are offered in Grand Rapids. If you think your child(ren) would benefit from participating in Sibshops, please contact Andréa for more information or to sign up for our groups.

Our younger group for 6-10 year olds meets on a Saturday morning from 9:30-11:00am

Our older group for 11 year olds and older meets on a Tuesday evening from 6:45-8:30pm

Contact Andréa Vugteveen for more information or to sign up for a group
amvugteveen@gmail.com
616-460-3781

Find us on Facebook @ Grand Rapids Area Sibshops

Sibshops are held at Grand Rapids Christian Middle School
2036 Chesaning Dr SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49506

Participant fee is \$10 per child
Scholarships are available

Children will have the opportunity to

Meet other children who understand the unique experience of having a sibling with special needs

Share their experiences and feelings about having a brother or sister with special needs

Learn more about their sibling's special needs

Learn new ways to cope with the challenges that come with being a sibling of a child with special needs

...and have lots of fun

Winter/Spring Dates

Younger Group

January 13
February 10
March 9
April 20
May 11

Older Group

January 9
February 6
March 12
April 16
May 14



Sibshops are offered year around in both Grand Rapids and Zeeland.

Hard copies of flyers with meeting dated available tonight

Follow us on Facebook

[Grand Rapids Area Sibshops](#)

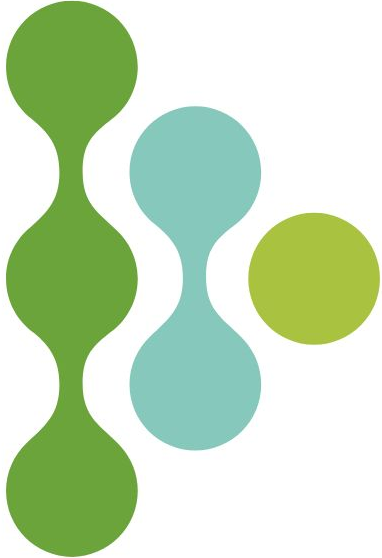
[Ottawa County Sibshops](#)

I'm Grateful for Sibshops because...

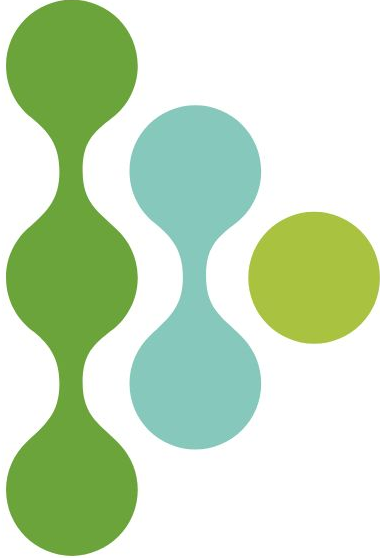
_I feel safe to talk about my sister without judgment.

_I get to talk about things that I don't talk about with my family.

_Sibshops let's me and others be open about experiences and connect with others about what I feel. Sibshops allows me to think deeper about my feelings and what the source of them might be. I'm grateful for Sibshops because it allows me to be me!



I'm Grateful for Sibshops because...



_They are fun and I make new friends.

_I get to talk about my sib.

_It's a fun place to hang out with other sibs.

_I get to meet with people I can relate to.

_The people here get me. Also, I don't have to start from scratch.

_We get to hear about others' experiences and everyone is so nice.



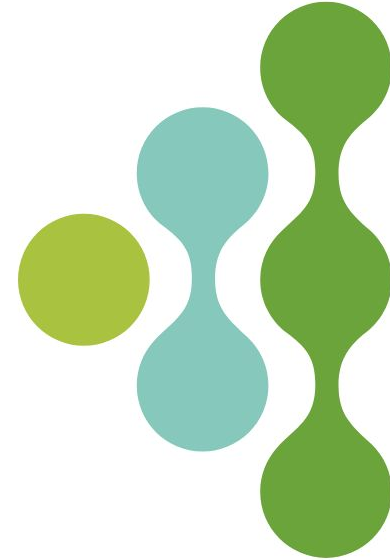
Parent Connection

Discuss the following at your tables:

- Has your family utilized Sibshops? If so, share your experience.
- How do you best feel we can communicate with parents related to resources such as Sibshops?
- Talk about some other resources you have utilized as a parent for your child, yourself or siblings and make a list based on what everyone shares.

Communication and Disbursement of Information and Resources around the county.

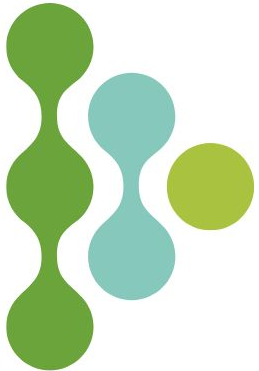
- What are we doing?
- What we would like to do.
- What could we do?
- Ideas?





Q and A

What questions do you have?



Questions:



Kirsten Myers
Assistant Superintendent of Student Services
Kirstenmyers@kentisd.org
616.447.3076

Jennifer Gard
Special Education Parent Liaison, Kent ISD
jennifergard@kentisd.org
616.447.2448

Next Meeting February 5, 2024

