

East Central Ohio Parent Mentors

Date: January 8, 2020 at 10:00 am

Parent Mentors in Attendance: Rachel Barnhart, Tonya Buchanan, Angie Forte, Tammy Jacobs.

Others Present: Laryssa Beatty, OCECD.

This was our third region meeting for the 2019-2020 school year. The meeting was held at the Cracker Barrel in Cambridge, Ohio. All parent mentor attendees provided an update which follows.

Parent Mentor Updates:

Rachel Barnhart: I am doing a training January 14, 2020 for all the behavioral health staff at MVHC. The training will be an overview of ETR and IEP's. I have a council meeting on January 15, 2020. I have a lot of really in depth cases currently that I am working on right now. Tonya and I will set up a parent mentor table at the Autism Walk on May 2, 2020.

Tonya Buchanan: I have been working a lot on trainings. On January 28, 2020, I will present "Understanding the Special Education Process" in the morning and then in the afternoon I will present "Your Child's Individualized Education Program." These topics were requested by the County Board of DD in Guernsey County. On March 4, 2020, I am having a secondary transition training in Guernsey County. I had a district recently request a training on understanding the results of the ETR and the differences of the ETR testing. I do not have a date set yet, but I am working on that. In between trainings and working with families, I have been very busy.

Angie Forte: I have been attending ETR meetings. I service a catholic school and it has been difficult working with them. Sometimes the catholic school does not like providing the services and then the parents usually bring the students back to the home school. I have two big cases one in which I have a student that is not completely blind, but has definite vision disabilities. This student needs front row seating, use of an I-pad, and notes printed in large print. I have been attending meetings with these parents.

Tammy Jacobs: I completed the sensory friendly movie on December 13, 2019. It went very well. I really enjoy coordinating and attending the movie. We had 158 in attendance. There was some issues with payment last year. The autism support group used to pay for the movie and the group disbanded a couple of years ago, so I am working on a smoother payment system for the local theater and the districts. I have been quite busy attending transition, ETR, and IEP meetings, as well as, taking new parent referrals.

Guest Updates:

Laryssa Beatty: I requested feedback from the parent mentors regarding OCALICON 2019. All parent mentors provided positive feedback stating they attended good key notes and sessions.

Next Meeting Date: Our next meeting will be held on March 12, 2020, during the lunch hour of the Parent Mentor Spring Conference.