

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL POPULATIONS  
May 22, 2013**

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. with the following Board members and Board support staff present: Shirley Brandman (chair), Judy Docca, Philip Kauffman, Rebecca Smondrowski (Board member), Laura Steinberg (Staff Assistant), and Glenda Rose (recorder).

Staff members that were present: Chrisandra Richardson, Sharon Gooding, Julie Hall, and Lori-Christina Webb.

Guests: Julie Reiley, Danuta Wilson, Elena Dennis, and Amy Alvarado.

Minutes

The minutes from April 8, 2013, were approved.

The Committee continued exploring concerns raised about developing and implementing IEPs and resolving disputes, as well as defining specific questions to guide a comprehensive review or audit of special education processes. After a review of possible questions generated by the discussion at the April 8, 2013 meeting, committee members further identified areas of possible inquiry. A key area of interest centered on the IEP meeting itself, including the type of training staff receives to ensure that parents are supported as full partners throughout the process. There was further interest in finding out how many parents do not participate in the meeting, as well as the number of parents that refuse to sign the IEP.

Other areas of concern included strategies for supporting students who are exited from special education, looking into any possible impact of pressure from the state and federal government to keep special education numbers low particularly in response to disproportionality, and whether or not available resources have any limiting impact on the development and/or implementation of an IEP.

Committee members were asked to provide Ms. Brandman with any additional suggestions in advance of the next meeting.

The meeting ended at 3:27 p.m.