

School Committee Chat 2/3/2018

Paul Schlichtman and Len Kardon

Hardy parent – OT services were not being delivered, compensatory services promised by not delivered, was told it is a budget issue, staffing issue but OT there who can take another day, SPED Director put issue back on the school

Group of Bishop parents – classes of 25 or 26, not enough support, what is policy on providing TAs? Was told by other SC member the classes of 25+ get a TA but has not happened, never had a TA but 25 kids since 2nd grade, one TA shared by 3 first grade classes of 25, not sure that full time K TAs should get priority, wanted to know how to best advocate for more resources, consider more flexibility for resources rather than dedicating them to full time kindergarten TAs

Peirce parent – massive issues with bullying at Peirce – wants more resources in bullying prevention in lower grades. Hit or kicked on daily basis in kindergarten by one child – continued in first grade by other students. No formal complaint – was advised not to. Had to leave for private school. Sent letter in January. Does/should SC get report on # of bullying incidents?

General discussion on how parents should communicate with school committee and what to expect, how to get something on agenda. Consider posting info on this on website.

From Arlington parents list discussions –

- want more outdoor recess in cold weather, policy like Lexington with 20 degree windchill standard
- concern about kids not washing hands before lunch and snack, obvious logistical issues but seems problematic during cold and flu season