

Skinner North Diverse Needs Committee Planning Meeting  
February 10, 2023, 8:30 am, Parent Room, Rm 105 OR [Join via zoom](#)

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Q3 and Q4 meeting dates - confirm; Fridays, 8:30am in the Parent Room, and hybrid
  - a. March 10
  - b. April 14
  - c. May 12
3. Caregiver Community Building (led by Boyoung - *anyone is welcome to assist*)
  - a. Next coffee: February 24  
*We will feature Ms. Penn, our Skinner North school social worker. This is a wonderful opportunity to get to know more about counseling and mental health support inside and outside of school. You can also connect with other caregivers of diverse needs students who may have similar questions and concerns. Hope to see you at the meetup! Questions? Email Boyoung - [bh785@nyu.edu](mailto:bh785@nyu.edu)*
  - b. Another date for this year?
  - c. Ideas for topics
    - i. Parent discussion for writing goals / actions for learning plans
    - ii. BH share experience as a HS teacher, which could be helpful for parents - spring (closer to end of year - May)
  - d. Reimbursement
    - i. Received from FOSN for December coffee
    - ii. requesting info for purchase for next coffee
4. Goal Ball ([learn more here](#)) paralympic sport (led by Andy - *anyone is welcome to assist*)
  - a. Andy and Neem have been participating in adult league at Park District
  - b. Re-introduced Park District lead and SN Phys Ed teachers to bring the game to Phys Ed classes
  - c. Contacted Reed Evans about sharing with other visually impaired students within CPS
  - d. Hope to announce info about the game coming to PE classes, take some photos, to share with the whole school community
5. Executive Function parent meeting - *currently nothing planned yet, volunteers needed*
  - a. NB will start thread with AO, JK, JJ and NB
    - i. Aiming for March
    - ii. Find fees for a second consultant option, otherwise we could go with IFC
    - iii. Mostly a care-giver facing: How can caregivers support from home?
    - iv. Aiming for March 20-24, evening, in person, timing tbd, per Katie's advice

- v. Format:
    - 1. Presentation 1
    - 2. Presentation 2
    - 3. Q&A
  - b. To think about: should we eventually have an after school program for EF
  - c. A request from SNDN families last year - specific to students with disabilities
  - d. Was in contact with Cortney Bindrich, [cbindrich@luc.edu](mailto:cbindrich@luc.edu) last year, but open to other providers if anyone knows someone
  - e. AO asked TNP for suggestion: Amie from TNP responded, they don't have a specific program, but could meet to discuss what we would be looking for, confident they can craft something for us
  - f. SN has new curriculum for younger grades already
  - g. A parent meeting could address:
    - i. What are the skills being presented at school (JJ leads this with team for each grade level curriculum)
    - ii. What are the developmentally appropriate skills
    - iii. How families can support at home
  - h. Before spring break would be helpful to put into practice before school year end
  - i. Need to ask Katie if in-person is feasible / advisable
6. ADHD focused book discussion - *currently nothing planned yet, volunteers needed*
- a. about a person/kiddo with ADHD (bookclub style)
  - b. Maybe some of the upper grade kids could lead discussions
  - c. Possible climbing outing
  - d. <https://www.additudemag.com/slideshows/middle-school-books-adhd-characters/>
  - e. NB to email the few ideas and share with JK
  - f. Two more books that JK is looking at
    - i. Counting by Sevens
    - ii. The Reason I jump
  - g. Other Lists:
    - i. <https://www.additudemag.com/slideshows/riveting-books-for-kids-with-adhd/>
    - ii. <https://juliesafrafranski.com/7-books-for-kids-with-adhd/>
    - iii. <https://www.brainbalancecenters.com/blog/top-books-kids-learning-differences-sensory-issues>
    - iv. <https://www.readbrightly.com/inspiring-books-for-adhd-kids-and-parents/>
7. Mental health and well being - parent program - *currently nothing planned yet, volunteers needed*
- a. Idea surfaced during caregiver coffee on 12/2
  - b. Ericson Institute

- c. Any others that cmte might recommend
  - d. Can ask for recommendations from SNDN Google Group
  - e. Ms. Penn, caregiver coffee as a connection to this
  - f. Johanna planning student curriculum for spring re mental health, based on Erika's Lighthouse <https://www.erikaslighthouse.org/>
    - i. And their parent facing presentation <https://www.erikaslighthouse.org/the-parent-handbook-on-childhood-and-teen-depression-1/>
    - ii. CPS staff went through curriculum
8. Website based resources - updates in process
- a. Expand on the process of identification of the potential need for an IEP or 504
    - i. Katie and Johanna to review, provide edits
    - ii. possibly a caregiver-facing flow chart for the process
  - b. We've amassed several photos from two+ years of events and initiatives - running slide show of the work
  - c. Add a resource: [Ableism Packet](#), created in collaboration with Diversity Committee last year
  - d. Add definition: [Ability Inclusive Mindset \(AIM\)](#)
9. Disability Activists and Activism - led by Nootan and Andy - *anyone is welcome to join this awareness effort, for continued brainstorming, research, creating learning tools, etc.*
- a. AO and NB will connect with folks that submitted these to learn more and feature
  - b. Suggestions from SN community so far:
    - i. **Karen Tamley** - Karen Tamley is the executive director of Access Living, an important disability rights advocacy organization here in Chicago. Access Living is a national leader on disability advocacy.  
*Submitted by Erin Aleman*
    - ii. **Justin Cooper** - Justin is the president of Access Living's Young Professionals Council and the Head Marshal of the annual Chicago Disability Pride Parade, and does advocacy work for Advance Your Leadership Power (racial/social justice advocacy group at Access Living) and the Chicago Disability Activism Collective (CDAC). He is a filmmaker and photographer who showed at UIC Gallery 400 in early 2022 in our exterior public art window gallery, <https://gallery400.uic.edu/exhibition/through-my-lens-justin-cooper/> He has previously conducted workshops ( <https://mcachicago.org/calendar/2022/04/common-use-access-praxis-justin-cooper> )  
*Submitted by Lorelei Stewart*

- iii. **Sky Cubacub** - Sky works across multiple media to intersectionally address ableism, sexism, homophobia, and transphobia. Sky runs Rebirth Garments, which "challenges mainstream beauty standards that are sizeist, ableist, and conform to the gender binary." Sky has run workshops (info listed on their website). They were named 2018 Chicagoan of the Year by the Chicago Tribune. Sky will be included in the early 2023 exhibition at UIC Gallery 400.

*Submitted by Lorelei Stewart*

- iv. **Kennedy Healy** - Kennedy founded Crip Crap Media, which is a consulting business that supports people in the media, art, and theatre realms to create disability-friendly media. Kennedy also co-authored this great photo essay, <https://disabilityvisibilityproject.com/2022/02/08/care-during-covid-photo-essay-on-interdependence/>, which we are currently exhibiting at UIC Gallery 400.

*Submitted by Lorelei Stewart*

- c. [Add ideas here!](#)
- d. Via FOSN and as one-sheets available for classroom or families
- e. Maybe 2x per quarter?
- f. Intention is for community-wide learning of what has changed, what needs to be changed, and inspirations to be a part of the change
- g. Could be helpful for students, and also 5 - 6 diverse needs teachers
- h. Could pick up in some way for Buddy classroom events
- i. Share document with Katie Magnuson as we work on it
- j. Potential for student research involvement
- k. Middle school teachers could share with students directly in small groups
- l. Some quick recommendations
  - i. Crip Camp - movie
  - ii. Temple Grandin - activist

10. Nora Project staff training - updates

- a. [Points to Ponder - intro for teachers \(youtube link\)](#)
- b. Updates on when/how

11. FOSN Fall Fest "pixel" activity- Installed in the hallway outside the library!

12. Discussion of new ideas/initiatives - send a poll in spring to inform *next* year: 2023-24

13. LSC sub-committee attendance to deliver report

- a. Wednesday, February 15, 2023 - 10AM
- b. Thursday, March 16, 2023 - 7PM

- c. Wednesday, April 12, 2023 - 10AM
- d. Thursday, May 18, 2023 - 7PM
- e. Evening meetings will be virtual, daytime meetings will be in-person and virtual
- f. Katie can deliver updates on our behalf

#### 14. Resources

- a. [Monthly meeting notes at Skinner North Diverse Needs website](#)
- b. SN has purchased two Nora Project curricula in 2021, but they haven't yet been *formally* rolled out in classrooms.
  - i. [General overview](#) of two curricula
  - ii. Needs access to be granted by Nora Project - if interested in these tools to create something for SN Community, Andy is in contact with Nora Project and can request on your behalf
- c. [Skyline required texts and materials list](#)
- d. [CPS Online Library](#)
  - i. Access SN Library catalog
    - 1. [CPS online library here](#)
    - 2. In the School tab, type Skinner North
    - 3. Then click LS2 PAC
    - 4. Then type keyword / author / title to search
    - 5. You can filter on the left side
    - 6. SN Library assistant, Mahjabeen Syed
- e. [SEL Learning Standards](#)