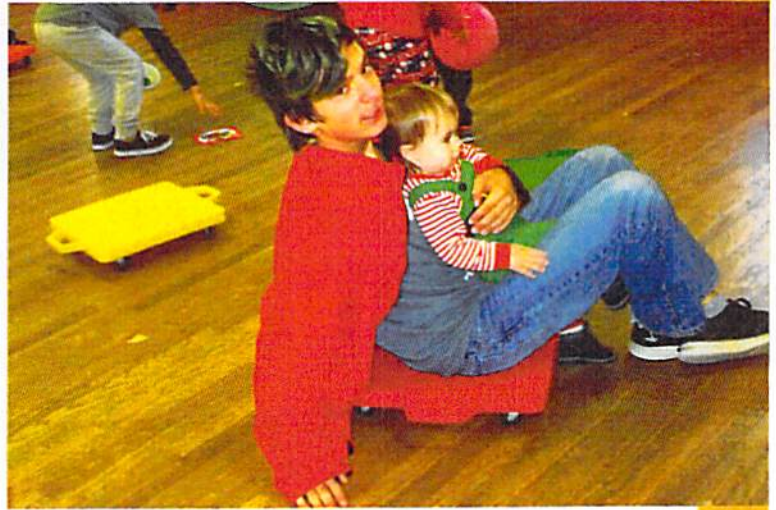


TAUNTON SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL



What's happening with the Taunton SEPAC?



IN THIS FIRST EVER EDITION, YOU CAN LEARN...

What is a SEPAC?

Who can take part?

*How can I reach
the Taunton
SEPAC?*

*How can I find
out about future
events?*

*How can I learn
more about the
IEP process?*

WHAT IS A SEPAC?

MA special education law, known as Chapter 766, requires school districts to establish a PAC, & assigns both an advisory & a participatory function to the PAC. Read from Section 3 of Chapter 71B that pertains to PACs: "...The school committee of any city, town, or school district shall establish a parent advisory council on special education. Membership shall be offered to all parents of children with disabilities & other interested parties. The parent advisory council duties shall include but not be limited to: advising the school committee on matters that pertain to the education & safety of students with disabilities; meeting regularly with school officials to participate in the planning, development, & evaluation of the school committee's special education programs..."

WHAT HAS OUR SEPAC DONE LATELY?

We have hosted workshops on special education rights, MCAS, & dyslexia. a winter wonderland family party, summer camps, activities, & resource fair for all abilities, collaborated with the YMCA on offering Y Abilities programming, attend early intervention's quarterly transition planning meetings, are members of the district's Social Emotional Learning Community Input Team, met with DESE as part of the state's review of Taunton's special education program, assisted in spreading the survey link & contact info so all families could provide their personal feedback, hold quarterly meetings with the SPED department, regularly attend school committee meetings, advise families on their options in the SPED process, share helpful links & articles on social media, hosted comedy show & Home Plate dining fundraisers.

HOW CAN I REACH THE TAUNTON SEPAC?

The Taunton SEPAC is easy to find and welcomes anyone- families, district staff, and community members- to reach out, follow us on social media, join our email list, attend events, & volunteer! These are the best ways to keep up with our current news and happenings.



inclusion
a right not a privilege

LET'S KEEP IN TOUCH!

Facebook: Taunton SEPAC

Twitter: @TauntonSEPAC

Email: TauntonSEPAC@gmail.com

Website & Email List Signup:
www.tauntonsepac.org

Phone: 508-802-4763



WHAT'S COMING UP THIS FALL?

Meet & Greet with Business Meeting

Thursday, September 19th, 6-8pm

E.Pole School Library, 215 Harris Street

We are pleased to invite the community to our casual meet & greet. Supporters of special education are welcome including families, teachers, staff, administrators, & member of the community. Meet other families, find support & new connections, & ask any questions you have about the special education process including evaluations, eligibility, IEP's, & 504's. Light refreshments to be served.

Basic Rights in Special Education Workshop

Presenter: Federation for Children with Special Needs

Date TBA, Likely in October

E.Pole School Library, 215 Harris Street

Join us for a workshop on student and family rights in the special education process. Handouts and slideshow will be provided. An educated parent is a more effective IEP team member! Light refreshments to be served.

Understanding IEP's

Thursday, November 7th, 6-8pm

E.Pole School Library, 215 Harris Street

Angela Ferreira, Educational Consultant with The Arc of Bristol County, will be joining us to present on the different part of the IEP document, what types of information belongs in each section, & how to become more comfortable & confident with reading & using the document. We will have blank IEP's available to take notes on & if you would like to bring a copy of your own child's IEP to directly write notes on, please feel free. Light refreshments to be served.

Meet & Greet with Business Meeting

Thursday, December 5th, 6-8pm

E.Pole School Library, 215 Harris Street

Join members of the Taunton SEPAC executive board for a casual meet and greet and business. We will have time to socialize, enjoy refreshments, & conduct a brief meeting.

Winter Wonderland

Saturday, December 14th, 11am-1pm

Girls Inc of Taunton, 131 Arlington Street

Save the date! We're pleased to host our third annual Winter Wonderland family friendly event. More details to come.