



Barnstable Public Schools

Special Education Parent Advisory Council

August 21, 2018

Welcome to the 2018-19 school year! This is an important year for SEPAC as we continue to work in the planning, development, and evaluation of special education programs in Barnstable. **Your input and participation** is critical to help improve the education of our students with special needs in Barnstable.

The 2018-19 Officers are: President – **Kathy Bent**, Vice-President – *vacant*, Members-at-Large: **Julie Clymer, Selissa Johnson, Kenneth (Dan) Luechauer, Tracy Miller**

Why Should I belong? *There is strength in numbers!* Membership is free and encouraged for all parents of children who receive services and for others who are interested in special education. This includes not only children on IEPs, but also children on 504s, and parents/guardians who think their children may need services. You will be able to make connections with parents/guardians and get support from others who have similar circumstances.

Do you know:

- **your child should be receiving all services identified in his/her IEP?**
- **your child should receive supports in place for students who are not receiving special education services?**
- **what to do if concerns cannot be resolved with your child's Team?**

SEPAC meetings are the perfect place to talk about these issues and learn what you can do.

Monthly Meetings! Last Tuesday @ 6:00 p.m. each month September through April at **Barnstable United Elementary School** – no meeting in December

- Meetings begin with SEPAC business—communicating what is working and hearing your thoughts, concerns, and suggestions for changes in programs and services. **The information gathered will be presented to Special Education Administration, the Superintendent, and the School Committee. Our focus this year is dedicated to presenting recommendations to improve special education in the District.**
- Special presentations will follow SEPAC business at 6:30 p.m.

Child care, pizza and water will be available as we have done in the past.

The meeting schedule is on the back of this letter. Mark your calendar now. Updates will be provided on both Facebook and the website once all topics and speakers are confirmed.

Visit the website regularly www.barnstablesepac.com or check our Facebook page for updates. A **Comment Form**, a **SEPAC Survey Form**, and the **Wind Beneath My Wings Award Nomination Form** can be found on the website for your convenience. You can email us at barnsepac@gmail.com.

This is YOUR parent advisory council. Be involved and help improve special education services in Barnstable Public Schools.

We look forward to seeing you at our **first meeting on Tuesday, September 25 at 6 p.m. at Barnstable United Elementary School.** The presentation begins at 6:30 p.m. – **Basic Rights in Special Education.**

Respectfully,
Kathleen Bent, President