



Barnstable Public Schools

Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC)

August 4, 2023

Welcome to the 2023-24 school year!

First, I would like to thank the Barnstable SEPAC officers, general membership, and everyone else who has supported Barnstable SEPAC in our efforts to improve Special Education in Barnstable.

SEPAC remains committed to making recommendations to the district with the intention of improving the special education services offered to students in Barnstable. Over the last year SEPAC increased the support to individual parents and guardians as we continued to navigate IEPs and 504s.

Our monthly Zoom meetings will resume on September 26, 2023. They will focus heavily on presenting students' rights under the law and strategies for parents and guardians to help to ensure compliance for their children. The Zoom meetings have the Zoom translator function enabled.

In place of our regular meetings in October and April, we will be holding two Saturday morning, In-Person "Meet and Greet" meetings. We'll have coffee and donuts and give the SEPAC membership an opportunity to share ideas and concerns in-person. In addition to our scheduled meetings, please look for SEPAC officers or volunteers at upcoming school open houses.

Why attend SEPAC meeting? *There is strength in numbers!* Your input is needed to help us ensure your children receive the best possible education in Barnstable. Parents/guardians of children, who receive services on an IEP or 504, and others interested in special education, have first-hand knowledge of what their children need in school. This is another 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** are critical to help improve the education of our students with special needs in Barnstable. **SEPAC meetings are the perfect place to receive support and to learn what you can do to help your child be successful.**

Monthly Meetings will be held September → May on the last Tuesday of the Month @ 6:00 p.m. We will be meeting via **Zoom** on the following reoccurring link <https://mybps-us.zoom.us/j/86040153331> **The full meeting schedule is on the back of this letter.** Updates will be provided on the SEPAC website www.barnstablesepac.com if changes to the schedule are made.

***If you would like to receive a monthly update please email us at barnsepac@gmail.com and request to be put on our distribution list. ***

We look forward to seeing you on Zoom at our **first meeting on Tuesday, September 26 at 6 p.m.** We are here to help and support you so please don't hesitate to reach out. Getting involved will help to improve special education services in the Barnstable Public Schools.

2023-2024 Officers: President – **Linda Letourneau**, Vice-President /Secretary- **Bonnie Perry**, Member(s)-at-Large: **Kim Pulsford**

Respectfully, Linda Letourneau