



# Special Education Parent Advisory Council

## Minutes

October 30, 2018 Meeting  
Barnstable United Elementary School

**Attendance Head Count:** 13 including officers, parents, and district personnel

**Children in Daycare:** 2

**Guests:** Susan Powers, CORD, Gretchen Arvanitopoulos, CORD, Tara Riley, (MAICE, CCCC) and Doug Terry (Director of O'Neill Disabilities Center, CCCC)

### SEPAC Business Meeting

President Kathy Bent called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., welcomed everyone, and thanked Principal Wojkowski for hosting the meeting.

Kathy stated the purpose of the meeting is to gather input for improving special education to submit to the district administration. Your input can be shared by emailing [barnsepac@gmail.com](mailto:barnsepac@gmail.com), submitting a Comment Form on the SEPAC website ([BarnstableSEPAC.com](http://BarnstableSEPAC.com)), or mailing a printed Comment Form (or sending a note) to P.O. Box 623, Centerville, MA 02632.

### Comments/Suggestions from Parents Included:

- Dylan Pauly, the in-house District Attorney for Barnstable Public Schools, attended to introduce herself. Her interaction in the future with SEPAC – new opportunity to get to know what is important to families. She is willing to return and to answer questions if parents have any. She is interested in the big issues that affect special education. Views SEPAC as helping to address systematic issues.
- Pam Vose, Special Education Coordinator at BHS reported that the half-day professional days have been used for training.
- New software for the IEPs – a parent was in a meeting and the child's IEP could not be pulled up. Special Ed module of the District's student information system (Aspen). Dr. Jezard indicated that training is ongoing. The company is very responsive when questions are asked – determining what question to ask is key. Webinars are being used for training.
- **Comment forms are available at each meeting and on the SEPAC website for those parents who cannot make meetings or who prefer to submit comments anonymously.**

### Disability Services at the College Level

#### Doug Terry – O'Neill Center for Disabilities, Cape Cod Community College

#### Tara Riley – MAICE Program

Doug Terry, Disabilities Specialist at CCCC share information with parents emphasizing the services that are available at the college-level, the procedure for receiving services, and common services typically implemented. He emphasized the process is very different from K-12 in that it is student-driven. Students need to advocate for themselves and make sure they are providing faculty with documentation.

Tara Riley, Coordinator of MAICE Program at CCCC, explained the Massachusetts Inclusive Concurrent Enrollment Program is a state-wide program for students ages 18-22 to receive an inclusive, post-secondary experience. Students in the program are selected by their high schools and receive the support of their district-provided assistant. They take college-level courses – some on an audit basis (no grade) and others for college credit. There have not been

any Barnstable students the past few years and they are hoping students in the District will apply for the program.

**REMINDERS** → Child care is available at every meeting. Meetings are always the last Tuesday of the month. Remember to check Facebook for the updated information or the SEPAC website-- [www.barnstablesepac.com](http://www.barnstablesepac.com).

### **Announcements**

The next meeting is Tuesday, November 27 at Barnstable Intermediate School (Falmouth Road (Rt. 28), Hyannis, MA). The SEPAC meeting begins at 6:00. The admissions staff from **Landmark College**, a college specializing in serving students with disabilities, begins at 6:30. This presentation is appropriate for all parents of students in the high school.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathleen Bent