



JOIN US

We invite you to join our Whitman-Hanson SEPAC. Our meetings are open and we welcome and encourage new members.

We are an all-volunteer parent group that comprises guardians, educators, and interested community members.

Our goal is to work with all parties to improve the learning experience of the students in our community and to foster understanding, support, and respect for all children.

Visit our website today to learn about upcoming meetings and events or email to join our mailing list.



www.whrsd.org/curriculum/special-education/sepac

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DID YOU KNOW...

In Massachusetts, children aged 3 to 21 may receive special education or related services. State law also requires school districts to create a Parent Advisory Council (PAC) that meets regularly to advise the School Committee on matters that pertain to the education and safety of children with special needs. [603 CMR 28.07(4)]

The Whitman-Hanson SEPAC meets regularly. District and school administrators and School Committee members attend SEPAC meetings.



WELCOME

TO THE WHITMAN-HANSON SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY

Providing parents with information, community connection, and resources about children with learning differences and special needs.

Serving in an advisory role to the school committees and school administrators on the programs and needs of all

WHY GET INVOLVED

- Become educated about the special education process and understand how best to advocate for your child.
- Learn about special education services for children at each of the schools.
- Ask questions of and gain support from other parents of children with specialized learning needs.
- Voice concerns and advocate for improvements in school programs and policies through participation at meetings with administrators and school committees.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Whitman Hanson Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC) is to work towards the understanding, respect, support, and appropriate education for all children with special needs in our community as follows:

- Providing families support, information, and training on the Special Education process and the laws that govern their child's right to a free and appropriate education in the least restricted environment
- Networking and sharing resources to better support our children's needs
- Working in partnership with the school district to create and improve positive outcomes for students with disabilities
- Promoting education, communication, and programs in our community



WHAT WE DO

- Empower parents to help their children grow with our schools and community.
- Offer information about education programs and topics of particular interest to parents.
- Connect parents with other parents to share experiences, exchange information, and support one another.
- Provide a forum for parents to ask questions, get answers, and discuss concerns.
- Plan community-wide programs on relevant topics with nationally recognized experts.
- Meet regularly with school and district administrators to discuss general education and special education services, policies, and programs.
- Advise school committees on matters and programs that involve the education, health, and safety of children with special needs.
- Sponsor an annual basic rights seminar for parents to learn their legal rights and protections under state and federal laws, including the Americans with Disabilities Act and other safeguards that ensure that all students receive a Free and Appropriate Public Education.