

West Milford Township Public School's Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC)

What is SEPAC about?

SEPAC stands for Special Education Parent Advisory Committee. Special Education Parent Advisory Groups are required for all school districts in New Jersey. The purpose of these groups is to provide opportunities for parents and community members to offer input to their district's special education programs.

The State of New Jersey Department of Education Administrative & Code for Special Education, Chapter 14, and code 6A:14--1.2(h) states that: *Each board of education shall ensure that a special education parent advisory group is in place in the district to provide input to the district on issues concerning students with disabilities.*

Who is SEPAC?

SEPAC is an independent volunteer group and its effectiveness within the district is dependent on the participation of parents coming to meetings, discussing special education topics and learning about more special education.

Who can become a SEPAC Committee Member?

- Parents and/or guardians of students with disabilities and Individual Education Programs (IEPs).
- Adult students with IEPs
- 504 parents

What is the purpose of SEPAC?

This is a parent forum to share ideas, bring attention to issues that affect the students and provide solutions. It will also give parents an opportunity to share experiences about their child, the interaction with the West Milford Township schools, what works or what does not work for children. Parents learn from other parents' topics, questions and advice and this is a forum where it can take place.

Secondly, SEPAC hosts Special Education Parent Workshops to help parents become better informed about special education topics and by conducting informational meetings featuring guests and topics that deal with Special Education needs.

Is West Milford Township Public Schools SEPAC an official part of The West Milford Township Public Schools District or the Board of Education?

No. SEPAC is a separate, independent volunteer group. The West Milford Township Public Schools SEPAC works in a cooperative effort along with the West Milford Special Services Department.

How do we achieve our goals?

Parent involvement, parent support, and parent input will make SEPAC effective within the school district and benefit students with disabilities. Parents are encouraged to suggest topics for Special Education Parent Workshops.

Want to learn more about SEPAC?

You are welcome to attend a meeting and for additional information, please go to the West Milford Township School District website, www.wmtps.org, and click the Special Services tab, then click on SEPAC.