

West Milford Public Schools
Office of Special Services

Special Education Parent Advisory Committee (S.E.P.A.C.)

September 26, 2023

7:00 P.M. - 8:30 P.M.

Items from the Director of Special Services- Dr. Derek Ressa

- Introductions
 - Derek Ressa, Director of Special Services
 - Chrissy Porochniak, Supervisor of Special Services
 - What is SEPAG?
 - Norms Review
- iReady
 - Dan Novak, Director of Education
 - [i-Ready for SEPAC](#)
 - Derek Ressa, Director of Special Services
- CPI training in the district, Administration included
- Resources
 - [Guidance for Graduation Requirements by Content Area for Students with Disabilities](#)
 - [Learning Resource Center–North Satellite Fall Professional Learning Opportunities](#)
 - [Visit the NJ Department of Education’s New Learning Resource Center Website for Resources and Opportunities](#)
 - [TCNJ Hosts Program About Expanding Postsecondary and Transition College-based Program Options for Youth with Intellectual Disabilities](#)
- Structure of SEPAC moving forward
 - Introductions (15 minutes)
 - Items from Special Services (15 minutes)
 - Items from Families (30 minutes)
 - What are items for SEPAG?
 - Learning/training opportunity (30 minutes) if applicable

Items from the S.E.P.A.C. Chairperson- Caitlyn Babcock

- Visions for the district
- Transitions
- CST Protocols - Recommendations being a surprise vs. predetermined

- Sensory Reading Program
- Program updates - CLIMB at PK and Highlander Academy / Prep
- ESY - Protocols for qualifying, designing a robust program, concerns regarding dwindling time
- Therapist Coverage: parents are concerned that there have been lapses of services where therapists have been out for a period of time and the parents have not been made aware that another therapist is covering or that the services are not being done and will need to be made up. Goes back to communication. How can this be changed?
- New Parent FAQ: We are interested in having some frequently asked questions for new parents that we update as parents email us so there is a place where new parents can go to get some quick answers.
- Elective and Scheduling issues
 - Schedule restrictions (believed to be) limiting equal access
 - Highlander exposure to elective
 - Out of District Protocol: how to go about it if an out of district student would like to join a club or be a part of something we offer at WM
 - Support for play: Students who receive support in their IEP who want to participate in the play. How do parents go about getting those students' support for activities like the play?
- SACC for full day preschool
- Social group / SEL programs
- Sensory Headphones Safety Protocol: question was raised about a change in the high school safety protocols where a student with noise canceling headphones needs to keep one ear off to hear fire drill.
- Transportation communication
- Modifications in drop off: Macopin question regarding crowded drop off areas and the possibility of having accommodations for those who may find this overwhelming.