

Swampscott Special Education Parent Advisory Council

On Facebook: Swampscott Special Education Parent Advisory Council

Email: SWASEPAC@GMAIL.COM

[Swampscott.k12.ma.us/student support services](http://Swampscott.k12.ma.us/student-support-services)

The Swampscott Special Education Parent Advisory Council is the local parent advisory council for the Swampscott school district, mandated by the Massachusetts Chapter 766 Regulations. We are a member of the Massachusetts Association of Special Education Advisory Councils and SPEDwatch.

We host meetings and workshops throughout the school year, and at times will collaborate with local PACs. Meeting announcements will be done in several ways: Email, Facebook, District Flyers, Swampscott Patch, & Town Notices. We will also have meetings entered on the school district's master calendar.

The PAC has given back to the community in several ways:

- Two benches donated to the accessible playground at Abbott Park
- Donation to Jackson Park Playground for a sensory slide
- Theater seat donated to the Swampscott POPS as a part of the "Save Me a Seat" Campaign
- Served on various search committees for the hiring of administration
- Available to provide support to families on special education laws and resources
- Being part of PAC means having a voice in the direction of Special Education in Swampscott

Workshops: The first workshop we'll be planning is the **Basic Rights Workshop**. This workshop provides an introduction to a student's rights and the district's responsibilities under the **Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)**, Massachusetts Special Education Law and **Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)**. This workshop can be attended by families, teachers, administration, or any interested party as it discusses the special education eligibility process, IEP development, decision making, and monitoring the student's academic progress, at no cost to our families.

How can you help?:

Presently there are three co-chairs and three members, there needs to be more involvement to represent the needs of the many children in the district. The PAC has well established relationships in the district and community and the time commitment is minimal. One of our goals for 2018, is to have two liaisons representing each of the five schools. Please send us an email if you are interested in helping us out. Our first meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 5th at 9am. The meeting will take place in the Superintendent's Conference Room located at the Swampscott Middle School on 207 Forest Avenue.

Respectfully,

SEPAC Co-Chairs: Lisa Julien-Hayes

Nicole Levy