

North Arlington SEPAC

Special Education Parent Advisory Committee (SEPAC)

Role:

- To provide direct input on the policies, programs and practices that impact services and supports for students with disabilities.
- To increase the involvement of families of children with special needs.
- To identify systematic issues and advise on concerns that affect the education, health and safety of students with special needs.

Who Should attend SEPAC Meetings?

- Anyone with a student or students in the North Arlington Public School district eligible for or receiving services under an IEP or 504 plan

Who is the SEPAC parent Leader?

- Angelique Hays is our parent leader for the SEPAC anyone interested in joining the SEPAC executive committee can contact Angelique via email at: northarlingtonsepac@gmail.com

For SEPAC updates and Information please visit or Facebook page at:
[Facebook.com/NorthArlingtonNJSEPAC](https://www.facebook.com/NorthArlingtonNJSEPAC)

Please contact Dr. Lynn Crawford, Supervisor of Special Services at 201-991-6800 x 2100 for additional information regarding specific special education question in general.

Statewide Parent Advocacy Network website www.spanadvocacy.org

SEPAC MEETING NOTICE

September 14, 2016

7:00 PM at the North Arlington High School in the Media Center

A Message From The SEPAC Parent Leader

Hi, I am Angelique Hays, the SEPAC (Special Education Parental Advisory Committee) leader. We are an advocacy organization for all students identified with disabilities in the North Arlington District, comprised of both district professionals and parents.

The state of New Jersey, in the New Jersey Administrative Code 6A: 13-1.2(h), mandates that all public school districts have a SEPAC: "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."

During January 2016, a group of parents who have special needs students in and out of district, met and created the mission statement for our SEPAC: "The mission of the North Arlington's District's Special Education Parental Advisory Committee (SEPAC) is to encourage honest and effective communication, understanding, and mutual respect in a supportive partnership inclusive of all students, parents, educators, and the community-at-large in an effort to ensure the delivery of appropriate services to special education students." Our specific goals include:

- being an advocate for the special needs students and parents by facilitating effective communication between the Special Services Department and parents.
- encouraging parent involvement in the special education program
- providing a forum for sharing ideas, asking questions, gathering information, and offering suggestions
- sponsoring presentations and workshops on a variety of issues generated by parent interest.

We have tremendous potential to have a positive impact on special services in our school district by adding an important voice to the district's dialogue and decision-making process by providing valuable activities for students and parents. SEPAC is here for YOU and welcomes the opportunity to meet and work with you to share resources, thoughts, concerns, and ideas that will support our children. Presently, we need more parental support and participation if SEPAC is to continue to exist. Your participation makes us more effective advocates for our special needs children. Presentations and workshops can only take place with enough participation. We will be asking parents to RSVP to each presentation. Without adequate participation, the presentations will be cancelled.

Please look for all SEPAC announcements on the home pages of the North Arlington School District webpage and Facebook page: [facebook/NorthArlingtonNJSEPAC](https://www.facebook.com/NorthArlingtonNJSEPAC)

Please contact me with any questions or concerns that you would like to discuss.

Again, we exist to help advocate for you and your child.

Sincerely,

Angelique Hays
(SEPAC Parent Leader)
northarlingtonsepac@gmail.com