

# Highland Park Special Education Parent Advisory Council

## **Partnership, Collaboration, Advocacy**

The purpose of the Highland Park Schools Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC) is to:

- Advocate for high quality special Education programs and service
- Advise the district regarding special education issues
- Assist the Director of Education Services in identifying needs
- Encourage and facilitate communication and mutual support among the families, school and community.

SEPAC functions similarly to a PTA/PTO and provides support and services to parents of special education children who live within Highland Park. The main focus of SEPAC is to involve parent's in their child's educational experience, provide peer assistance and function as an advisory committee on topics impacting special education. SEPAC functions as a network of parents and guardians sharing information, experiences, and resources in a respectful and supportive atmosphere. Research studies show that parental involvement in education can have a positive influence and lead to improved student performance.

Parents and guardians of children with special needs, interested community members and district educational professionals are invited to be members of SEPAC. Highland Park SEPAC will host informative workshops and meetings throughout the school year on a variety of topics related to children with special needs. Upcoming events can be found on the district website under the Department of Educational Services

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**SEPAC email: [HPSEPAC@gmail.com](mailto:HPSEPAC@gmail.com)**

**Visit our Website:** <http://highlandparksepaciaeducationparentadvisorycouncil.yolasite.com/>

**Please consider becoming a member of SEPAC.** Information can be found on the Highland Park School Website ([www.hpschools.net](http://www.hpschools.net)) through the links for District Information / Educational Services.

Questions regarding SEPAC? Please call Department of Educational Services (732) 572-6990, ext. 1201

The Highland Park Special Education Parent Advisory Council fulfills the requirements of the New Jersey Administrative Code 6A:14-1.2(h): 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.