

Promoting understanding, acceptance, and inclusion of all students

Lincoln Special Education **Parent Advisory** Council

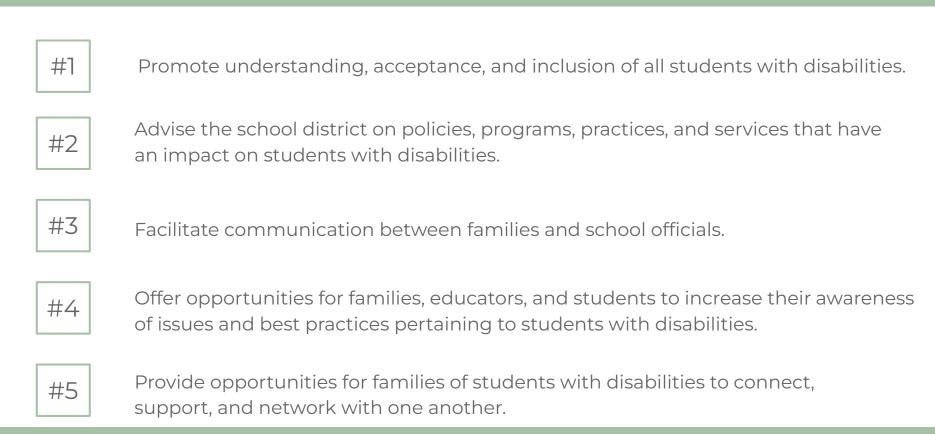
(Lincoln SEPAC)

What is a SEPAC?

A SEPAC is a Special Education Parent Advisory Council. Every public school district in Massachusetts is required to establish a SEPAC whose duties "shall include but not be limited to: **advising the school committee** on matters that pertain to the **education and safety** of students with disabilities; **meeting regularly with school officials** to participate in the **planning, development, and evaluation** of the **school committee's special education programs** (Chapter 71 B, Section 3, Mass. General Law)."

The Lincoln SEPAC has been rebuilding for the past couple of years. In this interim stage, we have developed a strong partnership with the Administrator for Special Education and are looking forward to expanding our collaboration to building-based leadership and the School Committee.

Advocacy, Education, Support



Priorities & Accomplishments in Interim Stage

- Built awareness and visibility:
 - Monthly meetings (virtual)
 - Website, social media, flyers
 - Educational & social events
 - Hiring processes: Administrator for Special Education,
 Coordinator for Student Services
- Built a supportive community of families:
 - Monthly drop-in coffees
 - Family socials
 - Time at meetings to share experiences and concerns

Priorities & Accomplishments in Interim Stage

- Built strong partnership with Lisa Berard, Administrator for Special Education:
 - Monthly meetings with Co-chairs
 - Listening sessions with families (in person and virtual)
- Educational programming:
 - Dr. Christopher Willard: resilience & mindfulness as schools transition from COVID (March 2022)
 - Dr. Erik von Hahn: Establishing a successful interface between home and school (March 2023)
 - Allan Blume, Educational Consultant, on new IEP (coming June 4, 2024)

Priorities & Accomplishment in Interim Stage

- Formalizing SEPAC
 - Bylaws approved: February 2024
 - Board elected: April 2024

Co-chairs: Gabrielle Berberian and Katy Perkins

Secretary: Kara Soo

Membership Coordinator: Michiko Kita

Program/Event Coordinators: Jessica Callow

Maureen (Mo) Slotnik – Hanscom Liaison

School Committee Observer: Yogesh Dayma

Looking Ahead

Survey of Membership and Collaboration Families' with the District **Engagement** Needs **Educational Commitment to Recognition of Programming** AIDE **SEPAC**

Thank You!



Fall SEPAC Social at Codman Farm