



The Milton  
**SEPAC**



Advocating for Children with Special Needs



The Milton  
**SEPAC**



# Who Are We?

**The Milton Special Education Parent Advisory Council (Milton SEPAC) is a parent run, nonprofit organization dedicated to providing information, support and advocacy to families with children with special needs in the Milton Public School District.**



# MA Statute/Regulation

**State Statute:**

**Section 3, Chapter 71B**

**State Regulation(s):**

**603 CMR 28.07 (4),**

**603 CMR 28.03(1)(a)(4)**

# MPS Students on IEPs & 504s

| Oct<br>1 <sup>st</sup> | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 |
|------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| <b>IEPs</b>            | 604  | 625  | 600  | 592  | 609  | 629  | 646  | 649  | 580  | 538  | 564  |
| <b>OOD</b>             | 79   | 68   | 71   | 59   | 56   | 51   | 44   | 49   | 51   | 45   | 47   |
| <b>504s</b>            |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | ~28  | 72   | 178  |
| <b>*Total<br/>MPS</b>  | 3594 | 3651 | 3724 | 3768 | 3876 | 3952 | 3921 | 3886 | 3934 | 3944 | 4064 |

\*DESE report

# What kinds of disabilities do Milton students have?

| Disability                   | MPS | Disability                      | MPS |
|------------------------------|-----|---------------------------------|-----|
| Communication                | 105 | Neurological                    | 40* |
| Specific Learning Disability | 96* | Developmental Delay (3-9 years) | 46  |
| Health                       | 76  | Intellectual                    | 34* |
| Autism                       | 65* | Physical                        | 4   |
| Emotional                    | 41* | Sensory-Hearing                 | 5   |
|                              |     | Sensory-Vision                  | 4   |

\*Additional students in Out-of-District placements



# **SEPAC Board 2014-2015**

**Chairperson**

Michelle Connolly

**Vice Chairperson**

Ann Finnegan

**Secretary**

Kevin Lenane

**Treasurer**

Doug Connolly

**Members at Large**

Norah Ferry

Linda Mancini

Shannon Gallagher

Amanda Serio

Clare Keating

Jerry Vitti



# **2014-2015 Goals & Objectives**

- **Strengthen Infrastructure**
- **Improve Communication**
- **Increase PAC Membership**
- **Advocate & Advise District**





# **SEPAC Self-Examination**

**Have to's ~ Want to's**



# **2014-2015 SEPAC Committees**

- **SEPAC Restructuring**
- **Website/Communications**
- **Education & Training**
- **Community Outreach**
- **Advocacy/Advisory**



# **SEPAC Restructuring**

- **Meet state and federal compliance**
- **Create by-laws for operational procedures**
- **Upgrade all modes of communication**
- **Develop system of practices to ensure longevity of organization**
- **Establish committees/liaisons to address various issues more effectively**



# **2014-2015 SEPAC Committees**

- **SEPAC Restructuring**
- **Website/Communications**
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## 2014-2015 SEPAC Committees **Advocacy/Advisory**

### **MA Statute & Regs authorize PAC to:**

- **Provide advice to the district regarding its special education programs and policies including recommendations to those parties in the district responsible for overseeing special education, including the special education director, the superintendent, and the school committee.**
- **Meet at regular intervals with designated school officials and to engage in other activities which enable the PAC to participate in the planning, development, and evaluation of the district's special education programs.**



# **SEPAC Member Concerns**

- **Criteria used to determine ESY and extended day services**
- **Lack of social opportunities and inclusion**
- **Co-taught classroom: resources/supports**
- **Funding/lack of resources cited as reason student cannot receive particular services**
- **Unclear and/or unwritten district policies**
- **Competency portfolios for MCAS/accommodations for PARCC assessment**



# SEPAC/MPS Partnership

**TRANSPARENCY**  
TRANSPARENCY



# Transparency Checklist

**SPED Concern(s)**



**District (written) policy/plan?**



**Compliance/non-compliance?**



**Staff/Parent Training?**



**Advise/Advocate**





## **Advocacy/Advisory SEPAC Priorities**

- **Inclusion/Co-taught classroom**
- **Extended School Year (ESY)/Day Services, Extracurricular Activities**
- **Social/Emotional Curriculum**
- **SPED Achievement Gap**



**Advocacy/Advisory Priorities**

# **Achievement Gap**

**Is MPS an inclusive school district?**

**What policies, strategies and plans are in place to support inclusion?**



**Advocacy/Advisory Priorities**

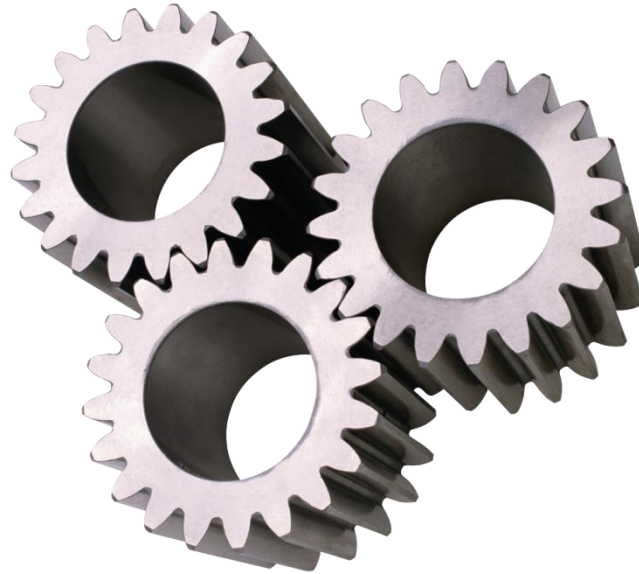
# **Achievement Gap**

- **Special Ed Challenges**
- **District Policy/Resources**
- **Parent Survey**
- **Inclusion Studies/Best Practices**



# **SPECIAL EDUCATION**

**SEPAC • District • Community**



**Advocate • Educate • Participate**

# Thank you!



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