



Gardner SEPAC Meeting Schedule

Gardner SEPAC meetings are held the last Wednesday of every month unless otherwise noted. All meetings are open to the public. Please attend to learn more about Special Education at Gardner Public School. Check gardnerk12.org or Facebook for more information regarding meeting dates.

SEPAC Contact : Katie Abbott
kabbottGSEPAC@gmail.com
facebook.com/gardnerSEPAC

Important Contacts

Gardner Public School 978-630-1000
On the web : www.gardnerk12.org
Special Education Office 978-630-4076

Schools in the district

Gardner High School 978-632-1600
Gardner Middle School 978-632-1603
Elm Street School 978-632-1673
Waterford Street School 978-632-1605
Gardner Academy f 978-632-1606

The Gardner Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC) is a volunteer organization that serves as a resource and advisor to parents of children with disabilities ages 3-22. Our membership is open to parents and care givers of children who have an Individualized Education Program (IEP), 504 or anyone interested in special education in Gardner. Raising a child with learning differences can be very challenging. Our group offers the opportunity for networking, support and to hear important speakers. By working together with Gardner Public School and the Special Education department we advocate for and support our children with learning differences in order to help them be successful in school and beyond.

For more information about our group, meeting dates and general information check us out at www.facebook.com/gardnerSEPAC

Support for caregivers and
parents of children with
learning differences.



Gardner SEPAC

Gardner Public School
Special Education Parent Advisory Council



Working together for our
children's future.

The mission of the Gardner Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC) is to work for the understanding of, respect for, and support of all children with special needs in the community.

What is a SEPAC?

SEPAC is a formally organized group of individuals committed to the best possible services for children with special needs. A SEPAC:

- Promotes a network of parents and forum to share information
- Advises the school district on special education programs, training needs, and policy
- Promotes communication between PAC members; local, state and national organizations, councils and groups
- Promotes understanding, acceptance and inclusion within the community
- Provides informational forums for parents, students, educators, and professionals

Why get involved?

- To network with other parents in the community.
- To share your own expertise and experiences with other parents.
- To learn about the services available for children with learning issues or differences.
- To learn to advocate for your child's needs more effectively

How SEPAC helps:

SEPAC provides a network of resources and support for parents of students with disabilities in Gardner. Some of those supports include:

- Offering advice parent-to parent about navigating educational services
- Monthly meetings that include family support and informational presentations.
- Helping understanding special education laws, IEPs, 504s, and other available support services
- Collaborating with school administrators, teachers, and school committee to improve the educational opportunities available that promote positive educational outcomes for children with disabilities.

MASSACHUSETTS STATUTE Chapter 71B: Section 3 The School Committee shall establish a parent advisory council on special education. Membership shall be offered to all parents of children with disabilities and other interested parties.

Chapter 71B: Section 1C Each school district shall conduct, in cooperation with the local parent advisory council, at least one workshop annually within the school district on the rights of students and their parents/guardians under the special education laws of the commonwealth.

MASSACHUSETTS REGULATION 603 CMR 28:07 (4) Each school district shall create a district-wide parent advisory council offering membership to all parents of eligible students, and other interested parties.

