

Wakefield Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC)

Minutes: October 7, 2021

Executive Board: Ann Herzog, Chrissy Loftus, Kris Martone-Levine, Carol Lombardi
Present: 11 people

Meeting called to order: 6:45p by Ann Herzog

Welcome everyone to the first SEPAC meeting of the 2021-2022 school year. This is an exciting start and it's also a bit of a reset since COVID impacted our ability to meet and to host events last year. We would typically approve meeting minutes at this time, but we would like to give everyone a chance to review the minutes from our last meeting in 2019, so those will be distributed and posted for everyone to see before they are considered for approval.

We ask for your patience and your grace as we move forward. We are all parents of children with disabilities who are volunteering our time and doing our best work to benefit children in the district. We are embracing the growth mindset and learning so much about the SEPAC process.

We thank Carol Lombardi for offering a Basic Rights presentation tonight following our meeting.

Typically, we would post an agenda 48-72 hours in advance of the meeting as per Open Meeting Laws. I apologize, but we were not able to meet that deadline for this meeting because of a technical glitch. So, while we can discuss some things tonight, and have a conversation, no decisions or votes will be made tonight. We have scheduled an annual meeting for November 8 separate from any educational presentation so that we will have time for discussion.

We distributed the SEPAC bylaws with this meeting invitation, and they will also be sent with the November 8 meeting invitation. We will be voting on these in November so please review them. You are welcome to share any thoughts now - but we just have a few minutes before the presentation - or email us feedback at WakefieldSEPAC@gmail.com by November 1. We will discuss further and incorporate feedback at our November meeting.

We will also be holding our annual elections in November. The SEPAC positions are co-chairs, secretary, treasurer and member-at-large. If anyone is interested in these positions, please let us know via email by November 1. Email is our preferred communication. WakefieldSEPAC@gmail.com

Our SEPAC Annual Meeting will be on November 8 at 7pm. Information will be coming out about that, along with the last meeting minutes and a copy of the unamended bylaws for review.

We have a Special Education Panel on November 17 at 7pm.

New business: None

Motion to adjourn: 7:00p by Chrissy Loftus

Respectfully Submitted: Kris Martone-Levine