

WPS SEPAC MEETING NOTES
September 27, 2016
7:00 -9:00 pm
Professional Development Room
Westwood Public Schools
District Administrative Offices

Meeting Agenda

Introductions

Attendees (parents/community members)
John Antonucci, Supt.
Charlie Donahue, School Committee liaison
Ann Berry-Goodfellow, Westwood Disability Commission
Abby Hanscom, WPS Director of Student Services

Discussion of Officers/SEPAC structure

M. Fiola Reilly – membership list serve – happy to continue in that role
Other new officers needed
In the interim – discussion of a “steering committee” small group to meet and plan

How to increase communication/Outreach

Investigate if parents of students in out of district placements are on WPS communication lists
Visit other Towns to see how SEPACs are operating and structured there
Remind/revisit putting date and invitation to SEPAC meetings in school newsletters, District wide bulletin, website in more prominent manner
Use of Facebook – closed group
Discussion of SEPAC webpage/blog - sepac has an email westwoodsepac@gmail.com that does not compromise the confidentiality of any members but is not in use yet

Discussion of future topics/speakers/goals of the organization

Basic Rights Presentation – annual requirement/have a previous Federation trained speaker/need to confirm dates
Special Needs Trusts
Guardianship process
Seek input from community via survey tool for topics, interests, ideas for speakers
Create a book group
Transition Services Fair 2017
Parent Panel

Panel with returning graduates to discuss their experience and next steps/Alumni
IEP workshops
Peer-to-Peer list or connection tool
Connections to PTO's attending PTO President Meeting with Supt.

What are the Goals of the SEPAC?

Discussion of required status
Conduit for dialogue and input with District administration
Advocacy for resources/programming/budget
Parent connection opportunities
Sharing of program information
Way to give back to the community
Community Support mechanism
Networking opportunity for parents
Communication opportunity

Overview of services at Westwood High School

Abby Hanscom shared graphic of services

Wrap Up