Calvert SECAC Report 2022-2023





Joseph Cormier - Chairperson
Vacant - Vice Chairperson
Ashton Nelson - Secretary
LaShonda Scott - Member at Large
Tina Hall - Member at Large
Director Dr. Kendy Anderson -Treasurer

What is SECAC? Special Education Citizens' Advisory Committee

Per COMAR 13A.05.02.13I each LEA, Local Education Agency, must establish a SECAC to advise the local school system on the needs of students with disabilities within the jurisdiction. Membership is open to those who reside or work in Calvert County, provide educational or community services to CCPS students, are parents or guardians of a CCPS student with a disability.

Calvert SECAC is a Parent/Guardian led committee, dedicated to community education, communication, and the improvement of access to special education services in the county.

Demographics:

Total Student population: 15400+-

Special Education / 504 3600+- Over 10% of CCPS Students Receive some form of Special Education Services. From birth to age 3 through Infants and Toddlers, 3-5 through Child Find and 5-21 in the classroom. Currently there are approximately 1960 +- IEPs and 310 +- IFSPs active in CCPS.

Additionally, Under ADA, CCPS also provides 504 accommodations for approximately 348 Elementary, 372 Middle, and 645 High School students. During the 2022-2023 School Year, SECAC was held virtually for convenience of its membership and hosted the following:

- What To Do During A Traffic Stop Event & Resource Fair
- Presentations during meetings:
 - "The Science of Reading"
 - Secondary Transition
 - Inclusive Education
 - "Thinking about Thinking: What is Executive Functioning'
 - Parks and Recreation Summer Programs
- 6th Annual Calvert SECAC Staff Appreciation Awards





Calvert SECAC Staff Appreciation Awards

> April 20th, 2023

Over 100 parent/guardian nominations for 189 individual staff members were recognized:

Special/General education teachers Instructional Aides Service providers Building services Transportation The 2023 Individual Support Staff Spotlight goes to... Desmond Creek Physical Education Teacher Calvert High School





Mr. Creek was nominated by the Porecki Family

The 2023 Individual Direct Service Provider Spotlight goes to...

Allison Switzer Speech Language Pathologist Mutual Elementary School





Ms. Switzer was nominated by the Beisel Family

The 2023 Individual Special Education Teacher Spotlight goes to...

Gwen DeHenzel Special Education Teacher Calvert Middle School





Ms. DeHenzel was nominated by the Baden Family.

The 2023 Individual Education Plan Team Spotlight goes to... Kimberly Jackson, Special Education Teacher Denise Lennon, Instructional Assistant Elizabeth Taby, Instructional Assistant John Prince, Instructional Assistant

Calvert Elementary School





This team was nominated by the Phillips Family Local Business Partnership Spotlight

Bart Braica

Three Brothers Italian Restaurant

Prince Frederick, MD



This local employer goes above and beyond to help students with special needs develop critical job skills.

Work Based Learning Environment Opportunities

North County

- Safeway Dunkirk
- Calvert Library Twin Beaches
- Miss Bev's Place Dunkirk
- Prime Time Children's & Youth Activity Center
- Chesapeake Grill
- Sneades Ace Home Center
- The Help Association Thrift Store
- The Humane Society
- The Autism Project
- Dunkirk Hardware

<u>Mid-County</u>

- Three Brother's Rest.
- Lord Calvert Bowling
 Center
- Bulrushes Café
- The Lobby Coffee Bar & Cafe
- Big Lots
- Marriott Springhill Suites
- Holiday Inn Express
- Chick-fil-a
- Calvert Library PF
- Emmanuel Church
- Platinum Motor Sports
- Black Belt Academy
- Garner & Duff Florist
- The Spot Thrift Store
- Sneade's Ace Home Center – Charlotte Hall

South County

- The Imaginarium
- Calvert Library Southern Branch
- Sneade's Ace Hardware -Lusby
- Calvert Marine Museum
- The Pier Restaurant
- The Lighthouse Restaurant
- Chesapeake Ranch
 Estates Campground

Feed back from the community:

- Clear communication and improve transparency in decision making.
 - Created a chain of responsibility from the Director through supervisors, school-based admin, direct service providers and case managers.
- More support for participation in athletics and clubs
 - Training for coaches and club sponsors to support students with disabilities.
- Mutually agreeable IEP meeting times.
 - Increase staffing to provide more flexibility in scheduling. Don't restrict IEP meetings to certain days of the week.

Feed back from the community:

- Substitute teachers and support staff do not have access to IEP or specialized training to support the students who need it.
 - HR needs more training time with substitutes beyond what is provided.
- Transportation concerns: Extended time on bus, stop sign cameras, more training for bus aides and building staff regarding mobility devices and safety tie downs.
- Playground Accessibility
 - CC Parks and Rec create accessible playgrounds, partner with them to refurbish or renew elementary sites.

SECAC in the Community:

Supporting Local Law Enforcement in their fundraising for local programs for individuals with Special Needs



Expanding partnerships in local communities and The Judy Center



SECAC in the Community:

Many SECAC members, their families and children attended this years' Inclusive Track and Field and Young Athletes Event



BOCC Autism Awareness Proclamation





Meetings are held virtually via Microsoft Teams. See <u>website</u> or email <u>SECAC@Calvertnet.k12.md.us</u> for links, to be added to our mailing list and more information about upcoming meetings

You make a difference in the lives of children and families. Never underestimate your influence.