

## **What is the AAPAC for Special Education?**

The Ann Arbor Parent Advisory Committee (AAPAC) for Special Education is a district-sponsored organization of parents that represents and supports families and children with disabilities (students with either an IEP or 504 plan) in the Ann Arbor Public Schools.

### **Our mission is...**

to positively impact the education of all students with an emphasis on those with special needs in the Ann Arbor Public Schools by representing students and parents of students needing or receiving special education services by advocating for improvements, acting as a resource for parents, staff and administration, creating opportunities for education, reporting regularly, facilitating communication, clarifying process and creating an actual link between our constituents and the administrators responsible for all aspects of special education in the Ann Arbor Public Schools.

### **Monthly Parent Meetings**

The AAPAC holds public meetings open to all families and staff typically on the first Mondays of October through June at 7:00 p.m. For this school year, we will plan to hold meetings via Zoom. Stay tuned for details and announcements via district email. From 6:15 until 7pm, prior to the public meeting, administrators from Student Intervention and Support Services (SISS), which is AAPS's special education department, and the Section 504 Plan administrator, are available to meet individually with parents who have questions or concerns about their child's services or eligibility for services. The public meeting usually includes AAPS administrators, guest speakers or outside resources on topics that impact our students with special needs. This is a wonderful and effective link between the administration and families of the Ann Arbor Public Schools. Parents have a chance to network with each other at the end of each meeting. Our past meetings' agendas and archives are available on our website.

In addition, the AAPAC Executive Committee meets monthly with the Executive Director of Student Intervention and Support Services and AAPS general education administrators. AAPAC also gives committee reports at Board of Education meetings. Please contact the executive committee (contact information on our website) if you have input for either of those forums.

### **Contact**

I am here to help! My name is Michelle Malewitz and I am the mom to a 2<sup>nd</sup> grader with an IEP. I can be reached at [maxfield.michelle@gmail.com](mailto:maxfield.michelle@gmail.com) Please let me know if you want a parent perspective on your child(ren) possibly needing or being evaluated for special education services, the district's IEP and/or 504 plan processes, or the delivery of services that your child(ren) already receive(s). AAPAC and I can be another resource for you or refer you to other sources for help. All communication will remain confidential. I am open to suggestions for how parents in our own building can support each other at the local level, too. The AAPAC website <https://a2pac.wordpress.com/> lists this year's parent meeting dates and archives, how to contact our executive board, how to join our closed Facebook Group and more.