

**Special Education  
Parent Advisory Committee  
Work Session**



**October 29, 2024**



# Agenda

- Introductions
- Part I: Special Education Plan Review
- Part II: SEPAC Planning Work Session
  - Identifying Key Topics (group work)
  - Wrap-Up Discussion
- Next Steps
  - Next meeting: Tuesday, December 10, 7PM

**NOTE:** This work session is not being recorded to respect the privacy and confidentiality of participants. Materials will be shared after the meeting on the CR website.

Please make sure to sign in and provide your most updated email address for future communications.

<https://www.crsd.org/departments/special-services/special-education-parent-meeting>

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## SEPAC (Special Education Parent Advisory Committee)



"A local SEPAC provides direct input to school district leaders about policies, programs,

Meeting materials will be posted to the webpage following each meeting.

You can find the page at

[www.crsd.org](http://www.crsd.org)



# Introductions

- The Administrative team
- School Board members
- Parents/Guardians





September 24, 2024

**PaTTAN Informational Meeting  
Newtown Middle School  
7:00 PM**

**Questions Submitted by Parents/Guardians**

1. Can you provide an overview of the resources allocated specifically for improving special education within the District (asked on two separate cards)?

***In terms of services, we are expanding our already robust continuum of services by providing new research-based interventions to our identified students. In terms of improving the special education department, we have brought in the Bucks County IU and PATTAN to support new initiatives.***

1. Can you provide information on any recent initiatives or changes aimed at improving special education services within the District?

***Some of the recent initiatives include the following: We have expanded the use of the Read 180- The Code (formerly known as System 44) in the elementary school level. This research-based program is based on structured literacy and has been found to be highly effective with students who have not responded to other programs, as it utilizes an online portion of the program that targets the specific skills that our students are struggling with. The special education department has also identified teachers who are certified in Wilson in our elementary buildings. When there is not a teacher who is certified in Wilson in a building, we work with outside tutors to work with the students who require that level of support. To address weaknesses in oral reading fluency, the district has adopted the Read Naturally Live program which has been effective in increasing fluency. We are also using the Wonderworks program for students who have needs in reading comprehension.***

**Questions/Responses from the  
September 24, 2024 PaTTAN  
information meeting are  
posted on the SEPAC website.**



# What is a SEPAC?

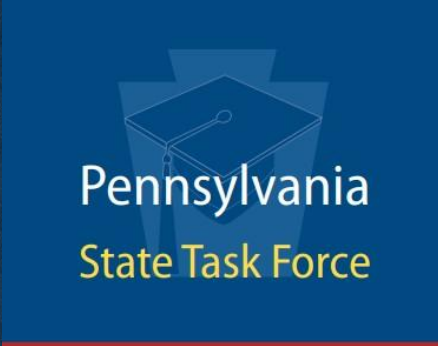
“A local SEPAC provides direct input to school district leaders about policies, programs, practices, and services that have an impact on students with disabilities and their families. Its purpose is to advise, advocate, and offer guidance, not to decide policy.

“These groups are advisory. SEPACs do not have formal authority to issue directives or set policy. *Rather, they make recommendations and provide guidance that can be used by decision makers and local leaders.*”


**Page 9, *A Guide for Local Action***

# What is a SEPAC?

- Modeled on Pennsylvania's Task Force work with IUs (Intermediate Units).
- SEPACs not a requirement under Pennsylvania law.
- SEPAC included in CR 2023-2026 Comprehensive Plan.
- When purpose is actualized, SEPAC works in the best interests of all students.



Pennsylvania  
State Task Force



on the  
Right to Education



# CR Special Education Parent Advisory Committee

## Guidelines for Constructive Conversations

- **Respectful Dialogue**
- **Minimize Distractions**
- **Value Time**
- **Protect Privacy**
- **Focus on the Group's Purpose**
- **Establish Clear Expectations**
- **Cultivate Trust**
- **Practice Active Listening**
- **Embrace Diverse Perspectives**
- **Commit to Mutual Respect**



# Tonight's Purpose

Short-Term Focus	Long-Term Focus
<b>2025-28 Special Education Plan</b>	<b>SEPAC key topics as discussed tonight</b>



## **Part I: Short-term Goal**

# **The 2025-2028 Special Education Plan**



# 2025 Special Education Plan

If you would like to participate in the stakeholder group that will contribute to developing the 2025-2028 Council Rock Special Education Plan, indicate your interest on the sign-in sheet.

Please note:

- *Stakeholders include students, parents, teachers, support staff, administrators, and Board members.*
- *Several required meetings will take place beginning in November 2024 through March 2025.*
- *Facilitated by PaTTAN and the Bucks County IU 22.*



# 2025-2028 Special Education Plan

[Click here to view the 2022-2025 CR Special Education Plan](#)

## What it is:

From PDE: *The [Council Rock] Special Education plan describes the special education programs and services that are provided within the school district and those special education programs and services which are accessed by the school district from outside the school district's geographical boundaries.*

[PDE Special Education Plan Information](#)



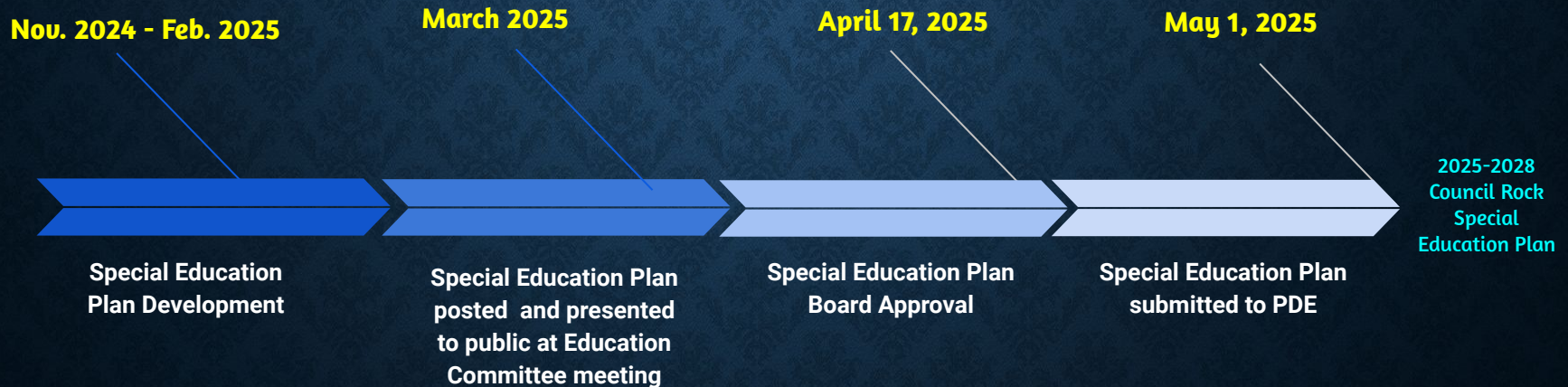


# 2025-2028 Special Education Plan

[Click here to view the 2022-2025 CR Special Education Plan](#)

## Work to begin in early November

- Stakeholder input (parents, teachers, students, support staff, administrators, Board members).
- Commit to attending throughout process (approximately 6-8 meetings).
- Facilitated by BCIU, PaTTAN.
- Required to follow a PDE template.





## Part II: Long-term Goal

# SEPAC Group Activity

Setting the direction of the CR SEPAC moving forward.



## Finding Common Themes

- 8 groups of 7-10
- Supervisors of Special Education or other CR Administrators will serve as Facilitator at each table
- Introductions



## Finding Common Themes

- After discussion on each of the questions, we will transcribe answers to designated chart paper around the room.
- GALLERY WALK – place a checkmark with your marker next to the two items you believe to be most critical.



## Question 1

What are the strengths of the Council Rock Special Education Program?



## Question 2

The following needs were identified at the September 24<sup>th</sup> meeting. Which do you believe are the highest priority?

- The Evaluation Process
- Literacy Instruction
- Summer Programming
- Collaboration between Special and Regular Education
- LRE Data
- Professional Development
- PSSA/Keystone Testing
- What additional Special Education needs should Council Rock add to this list?



## Question 3

What forms of communication do you find most effective for sharing Special Education program information?



## Question 4

What innovative training are you aware of that could benefit our staff?



## Question 5

What Special Education topics would be most beneficial to share with our community?



## Wrap-Up

- Share two “take-away” topics from each group.
- Topics will form framework for next SEPAC meeting.
  - The next meeting is your opportunity to give Council Rock input and feedback on the “ take-away” topics.



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- Departments
- Special Services
- SEPAC



## **Mark your Calendar**

**The next SEPAC meeting is scheduled for**

**Tuesday, December 10**

**7:00 PM**

**Location TBD**

