

CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

135 BERKSHIRE STREET, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02141

January 24, 2025

Via openmeeting@mass.gov

Carrie Benedon
Director
Division of Open Government
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Office of the Attorney General
One Ashburton Place, 20th Floor
Boston, MA 02108

Re: November 14, 2024 Open Meeting Law Complaint filed by John Summers

Dear Director Benedon:

This letter is submitted on behalf of the Cambridge Parent Advisory Council on Special Education (“CPACSE”) and the Cambridge Public Schools to address the issues and concerns raised in the November 14, 2024 Open Meeting Law Complaint filed by John Summers, a copy of which is attached hereto as **Attachment 1**. The CPACSE asserts that this Complaint was not properly filed in accordance with the requirements of 940 C.M.R. 29.05(3) as it was not served on the chair of the CPACSE nor was it filed with the City Clerk for the City of Cambridge. CPACSE also asserts that this Complaint is not timely as the issues detailed in the Complaint did not occur within thirty (30) days of the filing of the Complaint, which is the time period established by the provisions of 940 C.M.R. 29.05(4) for the filing of a Complaint. Further stating, CPACSE maintains that it has not violated the Open Meeting Law and as explained below it has addressed the concerns raised in the Complaint.

The CPACSE maintains that it is not a “public body” subject to the Open Meeting Law as it is not a “body” empowered to act collectively, which is the second prong of the three-part test for determining whether a multi-member entity is a public body subject to the Open Meeting Law.¹ The membership in the CPACSE, consistent with the provisions of M.G.L.c. 71B, §3, is open to any interested person, as a result both its general membership

¹ The three-part test for making this determination is:

1. The entity must be “within” government and not excluded from the definition of “public body”;
2. The entity must be a “body” empowered to act collectively; and
3. The entity must serve a “public purpose.” OML 2021-150 at p. 2 and decisions cited.

Carrie Benedon
Director
Division of Open Government
January 24, 2025
Page 2

and its voting membership, which consists of (a) parent/guardian of a child residing in Cambridge younger than age 22 who has a disability or a suspected disability, with or without an individualized education program, and (b) has indicated an interest in voting on CPACSE matters by either joining the parent support email listserv related to CPACSE or by notifying CPACSE in writing of their mailing address and requesting that notices and ballots relating to matters to be voted on be mailed to such address, is fluid. See CPACSE [bylaws](#) at Section 3. Due to the fluidity of its membership, there is no set quorum of members and has no binding authority to make decisions, except with respect to its election of officers and any other matters as specified in its notice of annual meeting See CPACSE [bylaws](#) at Section 4.2, and in those limited instances the CPACSE's bylaws state, in pertinent part, that: "[w]henever a vote of members is to be held, the presence at a meeting, in person, by absentee or electronic ballot or by proxy, of 11 voting members shall constitute a quorum for purposes of voting on such matter." See CPACSE [bylaws](#) at Section 4.10. CPACSE maintains that while a number of votes has been identified to determine if a vote has passed, that is not the same as having an identifiable and consistent group of individuals that are voting on a matter, as the membership is fluid, the actual individuals voting at any given time can vary.

With respect to the specific concerns that were raised in the complaint regarding not noticing an "annual meeting," the CPACSE has always tried to have a "Round Table" at the start and end of each school year along with community meetings with workshops or speakers during the course of the school year. Copies of the notices that were sent out via ParentSquare, the school department's electronic communication system that is used to relay information to parents/guardians/caregivers about events are attached hereto as **Attachment 2**. Since Covid, the CPACSE has held all election nominations and ballots via Google Forms.² See **Attachment 3**. As CPACSE maintains that it is not a "public body" subject to the Open Meeting Law, it did not maintain minutes of any of its meetings. Similarly, as its membership is fluid, it has not been regularly updating its website. It recognizes that it needs to work on improving and updating its website and still working on trying to identify someone that may be able to help it do so.

² It should be noted that the other topic that was on the agenda for the January 22, 2025 meeting of the CPACSE was elections.

Carrie Benedon
Director
Division of Open Government
January 24, 2025
Page 3

The CPACSE held elections for its current board of the CPACSE in September 2025. The current board consists of the following individuals: Tiara Murphy, Chair; Mei Lu, Co-Chair and Gardite Fougy, Acting Secretary. Zuleka Queen-Postell is the Cambridge Public Schools CPACSE family liaison and has never been a member of the CPACSE board. As an employee of the Cambridge Public Schools, Ms. Queen-Postell serves in the capacity of coordinator for the CPACSE as detailed in Section 9 of the CPACSE [bylaws](#) as well as a member of the board of the CPACSE. Additionally, at its January 22, 2025 meeting, the CPACSE also discussed that it needed more help and was going to send out nomination forms within a week for additional positions.

Although CPACSE maintains that it is not a “public body” subject to the Open Meeting Law, it did notice that it was going to be holding a public meeting with respect to the complaint that had been filed by Mr. Summers. This notice was provided to the City Clerk for the City of Cambridge for posting and also sent out via ParentSquare. When it was brought to CPACSE’s attention that its bylaws required providing membership with two weeks notice of any meeting, it cancelled this December 17, 2024 meeting and provided a copy of the notice of cancellation to the City Clerk for the City of Cambridge for posting as well as sending out a notice of cancellation via ParentSquare. Copies of these notices are attached hereto as **Attachment 4**. See [City website](#). Subsequently, CPACSE sent out a notice for a public meeting with respect to the complaint for a meeting to be held on January 22, 2025 and provided a copy of this notice to the City Clerk for the City of Cambridge for posting along with sending out a copy of the notice of the meeting via ParentSquare. A copy of this notice is attached hereto as **Attachment 5**. See [City website](#).

Although CPACSE maintains it is not a “public body” subject to the Open Meeting Law, it also maintains that it has made a good faith attempt at compliance with the law and has made attempts to remedy the concerns raised in the Open Meeting Law Complaint. Accordingly, if it is determined that the CPACSE is subject to the Open Meeting Law, it should also be found that as set forth in 940 C.M.R. 29.01 that CPACSE was reasonably mistaken about its requirements, and that its conduct should not be considered an intentional violation of M.G.L. c. 30A, §§ 18 through 25.

Carrie Benedon
Director
Division of Open Government
January 24, 2025
Page 4

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions, and thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

/s/ Megan B. Bayer

Megan B. Bayer, Esq.
City Solicitor

/s/ Maureen A. MacFarlane

Maureen A. MacFarlane
Special Assistant City Solicitor

Attachments

Cc: Cambridge Special Education Parents Advisory Council
John Summers

ATTACHMENT 1



OPEN MEETING LAW COMPLAINT FORM

Office of the Attorney General
One Ashburton Place
Boston, MA 02108

Please note that all fields are required unless otherwise noted.

Your Contact Information:

First Name: John Last Name: Summers

Address: [REDACTED]

City: Cambridge State: MA Zip Code: 02139

Phone Number: [REDACTED] Ext. _____

Email: [REDACTED]

Organization or Media Affiliation (if any): _____

Are you filing the complaint in your capacity as an individual, representative of an organization, or media?

(For statistical purposes only)

Individual Organization Media

Public Body that is the subject of this complaint:

City/Town County Regional/District State

Name of Public Body (including city/town, county or region, if applicable): Cambridge Public Schools SEPAC

Specific person(s), if any, you allege committed the violation: _____

Date of alleged violation: 11-1-24, ongoing

Description of alleged violation:

In a determination dated October 28, 2021, and given the docket number OML 2021-150, your office set forth criteria by which to determine the applicability of the Open Meeting Law to three Massachusetts Special Education Advisory Councils (SEPACs).

When a SEPAC lacks membership criteria and/or rules for quorums, you determined that it is not subject to the Open Meetings Law. When a SEPAC is not “empowered to act collectively” for a defined community, you likewise determined that it is not subject to the Open Meetings Law. Conversely, you determined that when a SEPAC does act collectively, even for the limited purpose of removing officers, it is so bound. “We conclude that whether a SEPAC’s leadership group is a public body depends on the structure and role of that group.”

The SEPAC of Cambridge Public Schools, where I am a member and parent, meets the standard, not least because its own bylaws state that it is bound to “any notice requirements under applicable laws, such as the open meeting law.” In addition to that declaration, the membership and quorum stipulations of the Cambridge SEPAC constitute it as a public body according to your standard in OML 2021-150.

Membership and Quorum: The Cambridge SEPAC allows “general members,” which it defines as “any interested party,” but its bylaws create a second category called “voting members.” A voting member is a restricted category: “a parent or guardian of a child residing in Cambridge younger than age 22 who has a disability or suspected disability, with or without an Individual Education Program (IEP).” The SEPAC specifies that only such voting members may attend the annual meeting, and furthermore that the presence of 11 such voting members makes a quorum at the meetings.

Collective action: The structure of leadership’s roles and responsibilities empower it to deliberate on matters that pertain to its jurisdiction as a public body beyond its administrative and ministerial functions. Specifically, the bylaws empower the SEPAC to take collective action on behalf of the membership by defining in detail the number, eligibility criteria, and term of officers; the procedures for officers’ election by voting members; the removal/resignation of officers; and their duties. Such duties include regular communication with voting members and the distribution to voting members of meeting minutes. The bylaws also arrogate to the SEPAC board chair the right to appoint subcommittees and to maintain an advisory board “to assist the officers in carrying out their duties and the work of the PAC.”

All the foregoing elements of the leadership structure led your office to determine that Brookline’s SEPAC was obliged to the Open Meeting Law.

Now for the windup: The bylaws of the Cambridge SEPAC require it to hold “at least monthly meetings between October and May of each school year.” The bylaws also require an annual meeting to elect officers. But the Cambridge SEPAC has given no notices of its meetings, nor posted minutes of its meetings or elections, if any, for more than a year.

Voting members are cut out of the leadership's deliberations and representations. Meanwhile, the SEPAC's officers publish letters in the newspaper and give interviews to the Boston Globe about district education policy, and in doing so, they use their SEPAC titles. Such usage underscores the SEPAC's self-conception as a deliberative body, while misleadingly suggesting that voting members have been given the opportunity to approve these public statements.

What action do you want the public body to take in response to your complaint?

Publication of meeting minutes since October 2023.

Publication of future meetings schedule.

Elimination of misleading and false statements on the website (Friday 'support group').

An actually functional, 21st century website, rather than a collection of google docs.

Recruitment of new leadership. The chair of the SEPAC, Zuleka Queen-Postell, is a longtime staff employee of the district. Karen Dobak has been an officer for at least eight consecutive years. It is time to give other parents a chance to participate in shaping the organization. That means not merely another rubber-stamped election, but an election preceded by a robust campaign of awareness.



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Office of the Attorney General
One Ashburton Place
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

OPEN MEETING LAW COMPLAINT FORM

Instructions for completing the Open Meeting Law Complaint Form

The Attorney General's Division of Open Government interprets and enforces the Open Meeting Law, Chapter 30A of the Massachusetts General Laws, Sections 18-25. Below is the procedure for filing and responding to an Open Meeting Law complaint.

Instructions for filing a complaint:

- o Fill out the attached two-page form completely. Sign and date the second page. File the complaint with the public body within 30 days of the alleged violation. If the violation was not reasonably discoverable at the time it occurred, you must file the complaint within 30 days of the date the violation was reasonably discoverable. A violation that occurs during an open session of a meeting is reasonably discoverable on the date of the meeting.
- o To file the complaint:
 - o For a local or municipal public body, you must submit a copy of the complaint to the chair of the public body AND to the municipal clerk.
 - o For all other public bodies, you must submit a copy of the complaint to the chair of the public body.
 - o Complaints may be filed by mail, by email, or by hand. Please retain a copy for your records.
- o If the public body does not respond within 14 business days and does not request an extension to respond, contact the Division for further assistance.

Instructions for a public body that receives a complaint:

- o The chair must disseminate the complaint to the members of the public body.
- o The public body must meet to review the complaint within 14 business days (usually 20-22 calendar days).
- o After review, but within 14 business days, the public body must respond to the complaint in writing and must send the complainant a response and a description of any action the public body has taken to address the allegations in the complaint. At the same time, the body must send the Attorney General a copy of the complaint and a copy of the response. The public body may delegate this responsibility to an individual member of the public body, its counsel, or a staff member, but only after the public body has met to review the complaint.
- o If a public body requires more time to review the complaint and respond, it may request an extension of time for good cause by contacting the Division of Open Government.

Once the public body has responded to the complaint:

- o If you are not satisfied with the public body's response to your complaint, you may file a copy of the complaint with the Division by mail, by email, or by hand, but only once you have waited for 30 days after filing the complaint with the public body. Mail may be sent to: The Division of Open Government, Office of the Attorney General, One Ashburton Place - 20th Floor, Boston, MA 02108. Emails may be sent to: openmeeting@state.ma.us.
- o When you file your complaint with the Division, please include the complaint form and all documentation relevant to the alleged violation. You may wish to attach a cover letter explaining why the public body's response does not adequately address your complaint.
- o The Division will not review complaints filed with us more than 90 days after the violation, unless we granted an extension to the public body or you can demonstrate good cause for the delay.

If you have questions concerning the Open Meeting Law complaint process, we encourage you to contact the Division of Open Government by phone at (617) 963-2540 or by email at openmeeting@state.ma.us.

Description of alleged violation:

Describe the alleged violation that this complaint is about. If you believe the alleged violation was intentional, please say so and include the reasons supporting your belief.

Note: This text field has a maximum of 3000 characters.

Please see statement attached.

What action do you want the public body to take in response to your complaint?

Note: This text field has a maximum of 500 characters.

Please see attached statement.

Review, sign, and submit your complaint

I. Disclosure of Your Complaint.

Public Record. Under most circumstances, your complaint, and any documents submitted with your complaint, is considered a public record and will be available to any member of the public upon request.

Publication to Website. As part of the Open Data Initiative, the AGO will publish to its website certain information regarding your complaint, including your name and the name of the public body. The AGO will not publish your contact information.

II. Consulting With a Private Attorney.

The AGO cannot give you legal advice and is not able to be your private attorney, but represents the public interest. If you have any questions concerning your individual legal rights or responsibilities you should contact a private attorney.

III. Submit Your Complaint to the Public Body.

The complaint must be filed first with the public body. If you have any questions, please contact the Division of Open Government by calling (617) 963-2540 or by email to openmeeting@state.ma.us.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and understood the provisions above and certify that the information I have provided is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signed: _____

Date: 11-14-24 _____

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| For Use By Public Body | For Use By AGO |
| Date Received by Public Body: | Date Received by AGO: |

ATTACHMENT 2

Toningt's Community Meeting Archived

Zuleka Queen-Postell • 7 months ago • Monday, Apr 29 at 6:04 PM • Undisclosed

SEPAC Monthly Community Meetings

Monday April 29th at 6pm,

"Basic Right of Special Education" workshop viewing

Presenter: Elizabeth Topaz, Senior Trainer, Parent Training and Information Center at the Federation for Children with Special Needs Liz is the Senior Trainer for the Parent Training and Information Center of the Federation and a parent of a young adult with special needs. Today she will discuss basic rights and procedures in the special education system, including referral, eligibility for special education and the basics of developing the IEP.

SEPAC Basic Rights

Monday, April 29 · 6:00 – 7:00pm

Time zone: America/New_York

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/ixo-cdjw-smu>

Or dial: (US) +1 219-654-2403 PIN: 483 579 621#

More phone numbers: <https://tel.meet/ixo-cdjw-smu?pin=8941121606968>

Wed. May 8th. at 6pm, "New IEP" workshop

Wed. June 12th. at 6pm, "End of Year Round Table" meeting with members of OSS and District Cabinet

Announcements

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

As valued members of our school community, your input plays a crucial role in shaping decisions that impact our students and programs. We are currently in the process of selecting the next Executive Director of Special Education, and we want to ensure that we are considering the attributes and qualities that are most important to you.

We invite you to participate in a brief survey to share your thoughts and insights on the attributes you believe are essential for the next Executive Director of Special Education to possess. Your feedback will help us better understand the needs and priorities of our community as we move forward with the selection process.

Please take a few moments to complete the survey. We kindly ask that you complete this survey by April 29, 2024. Your responses will be anonymous and confidential, and will be used to inform the development of interview questions for candidates. Your perspective as a parent/caregiver is invaluable, and we would greatly appreciate your participation in this important process.

Survey Link: [Executive Director of Special Education Survey](#)

Thank you for your ongoing support and collaboration as we work together to ensure the success and well-being of all students in our district. If you have any questions or need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at cdotson@cpsd.us or 617 349 6441.

Sincerely,

Corey Dotson

Chief Talent Officer

For more information, questions or comments please contact

Zuleka Queen-Postell, ZQueen-Postell@CPSD.US

Parent Cafe Today/ Tomorrow's Sensory Friendly Movie "Epic Tails"

Archived

Zuleka Queen-Postell • 7 months ago • Friday, Apr 26 at 9:50 AM • Undisclosed

Join the SEPAC

(Special Education Parent Advisory Council)

**Friday mornings at 10am for our
caregiver support group!**



To join the video meeting, click this link: <https://meet.google.com/wsx-fefg-mrp>
Otherwise, to join by phone, dial +1 252-922-0134 and enter this PIN: 272 774 025#

Look out for communication coming soon for an "Evening Caregiver Support Group"

For more information on SEPAC and our events
contact Zuleka Queen-Postell, zqueenpostell@cpsd.us

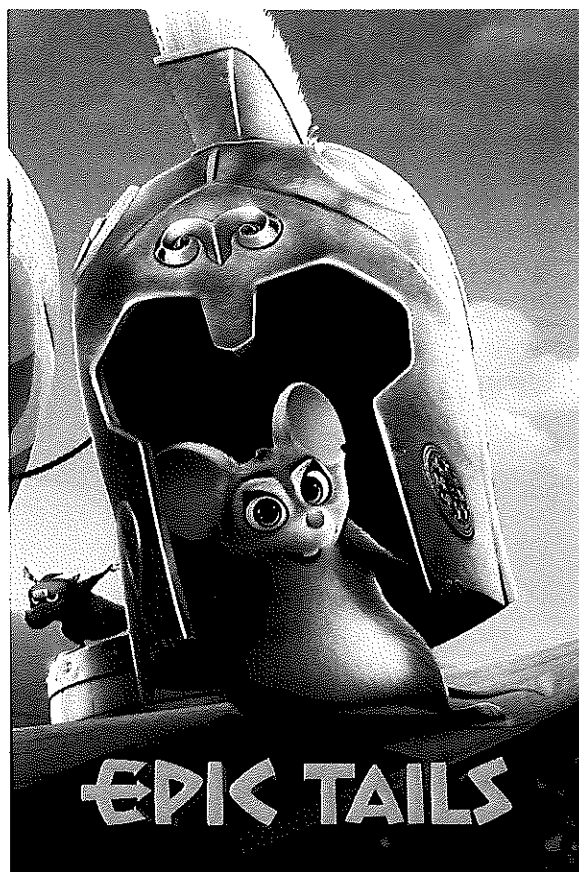
(Special Education Parent Advisory Council)

Tomorrow April 27th!

**FREE monthly matinees for Cambridge students with
disabilities and their families.**

This screening is specially designed to accommodate students with disabilities, who might have difficulty attending a public movie screening. The lights will be turned up, and the sound will be turned down to accommodate children with anxiety or sensory issues. Families can relax while students are free to enjoy the movie in whatever way works for them. Our goal is to create a supportive atmosphere where all will feel welcome and have fun as a family! This movie is not advertised to the general public, and reservations are required.

Doors open at 9:30, Movie Starts at 10am



at

Apple Cinemas

168 Alewife Brook Pkwy, Cambridge

Register [HERE](#)

With next movies showing

May 25th. & June 8th.

SEPAC Monthly Community Meetings

Monday April 29th at 6pm,

"Basic Right of Special Education" workshop viewing

Presenter: Elizabeth Topaz, Senior Trainer, Parent Training and Information Center at the Federation for

Children with Special Needs Liz is the Senior Trainer for the Parent Training and Information Center of the Federation and a parent of a young adult with special needs. Today she will discuss basic rights and procedures in the special education system, including referral, eligibility for special education and the basics of developing the IEP.

SEPAC Basic Rights

Monday, April 29 · 6:00 – 7:00pm

Time zone: America/New_York

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/ixo-cdjw-smu>

Or dial: (US) +1 219-654-2403 PIN: 483 579 621#

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Announcements

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

As valued members of our school community, your input plays a crucial role in shaping decisions that impact our students and programs. We are currently in the process of selecting the next Executive Director of Special Education, and we want to ensure that we are considering the attributes and qualities that are most important to you.

We invite you to participate in a brief survey to share your thoughts and insights on the attributes you believe are essential for the next Executive Director of Special Education to possess. Your feedback will help us better understand the needs and priorities of our community as we move forward with the selection process.

Please take a few moments to complete the survey. We kindly ask that you complete this survey by April 29, 2024. Your responses will be anonymous and confidential, and will be used to inform the development of interview questions for candidates. Your perspective as a parent/caregiver is invaluable, and we would greatly appreciate your participation in this important process.

Survey Link: [Executive Director of Special Education Survey](#)

Thank you for your ongoing support and collaboration as we work together to ensure the success and well-being of all students in our district. If you have any questions or need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at cdotson@cpsd.us or 617 349 6441.

Sincerely,

Corey Dotson

Chief Talent Officer

For more information, questions or comments please contact

Zuleka Queen-Postell, ZQueen-Postell@CPSD.US

SEPAC Announcements and Event Archived

Zuleka Queen-Postell • 7 months ago • Thursday, Apr 25 at 2:44 PM • **Undisclosed**

SEPAC Announcements and Event

Announcements

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

As valued members of our school community, your input plays a crucial role in shaping decisions that impact our students and programs. We are currently in the process of selecting the next Executive Director of Special Education, and we want to ensure that we are considering the attributes and qualities that are most important to you.

We invite you to participate in a brief survey to share your thoughts and insights on the attributes you believe are essential for the next Executive Director of Special Education to possess. Your feedback will help us better understand the needs and priorities of our community as we move forward with the selection process.

Please take a few moments to complete the survey. We kindly ask that you complete this survey by April 29, 2024. Your responses will be anonymous and confidential, and will be used to inform the development of interview questions for candidates. Your perspective as a parent/caregiver is invaluable, and we would greatly appreciate your participation in this important process.

Survey Link: [Executive Director of Special Education Survey](#)

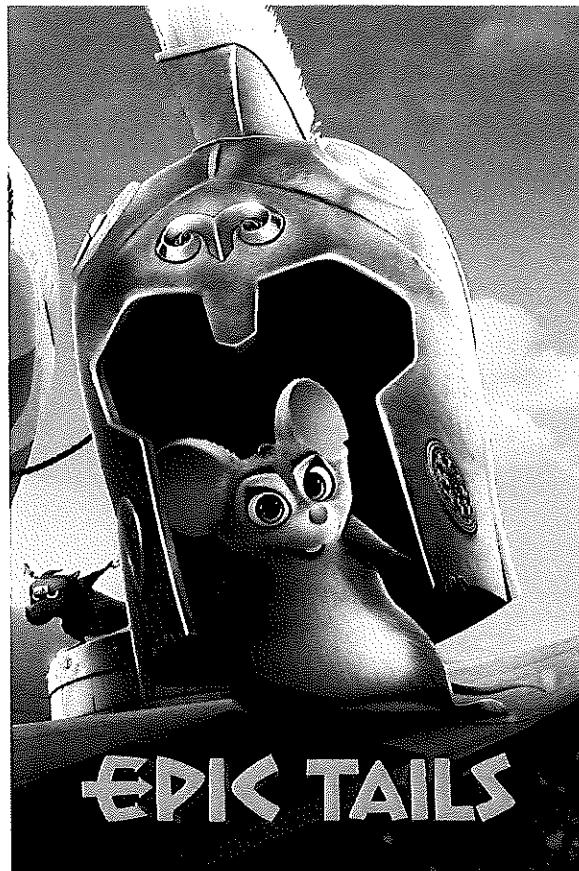
Thank you for your ongoing support and collaboration as we work together to ensure the success and well-being of all students in our district. If you have any questions or need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at cdotson@cpsd.us or 617 349 6441.

Sincerely,
Corey Dotson
Chief Talent Officer

SENSORY Friendly Movie

This screening is specially designed to accommodate students with disabilities, who might have difficulty attending a public movie screening. The lights will be turned up, and the sound will be turned down to accommodate children with anxiety or sensory issues. Families can relax while students are free to enjoy the movie in whatever way works for them. Our goal is to create a supportive atmosphere where all will feel welcome and have fun as a family! This movie is not advertised to the general public, and reservations are required.

This Saturday! Sign up will be sent out Friday April 26th.



With next movies showing
May 25th.
June 8th.

SEPAC Monthly Community Meetings

Join us

Monday April 29th at 6pm
"Basic Right of Special Education" workshop

Wed. May 8th. at 6pm
"New IEP" workshop

Wed. June 12th. at 6pm
"End of Year Round Table" meeting with members of OSS and District Cabinet

For more information, questions or comments please contact
Zuleka Queen-Postell, ZQueen-Postell@CPSD.US

Parent Support Group "Caregiver Cafe" 10am Today Archived

Zuleka Queen-Postell • 8 months ago • Friday, Apr 12 at 9:55 AM • Undisclosed

The next Sensory Friendly Movie April 27!!

Join the SEPAC

(Special Education Parent Advisory Council)

Friday mornings at 10am for our caregiver support group!



To join the video meeting, click this link: <https://meet.google.com/wsx-fefg-mrp>
Otherwise, to join by phone, dial +1 252-922-0134 and enter this PIN: 272 774 025#

Look out for communication coming soon for an "Evening Caregiver Support Group"

For more information on SEPAC and our events
contact Zuleka Queen-Postell, zqueenpostell@cpsd.us

Parent Support Group "Caregiver Cafe" 10am Today Archived

Zuleka Queen-Postell • 8 months ago • Friday, Apr 5 at 9:55 AM • Undisclosed

Join the SEPAC

(Special Education Parent Advisory Council)

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Otherwise, to join by phone, dial +1 252-922-0134 and enter this PIN: 272 774 025#

Look out for communication coming soon for an "Evening Caregiver Support Group"

For more information on SEPAC and our events
contact Zuleka Queen-Postell, zqueenpostell@cpsd.us

No Parent Cafe Today/ Tomorrow's Sensory Friendly Movie "Kung Fu Panda 4" Archived

Zuleka Queen-Postell • 9 months ago • Friday, Mar 22 at 9:00 AM • Undisclosed

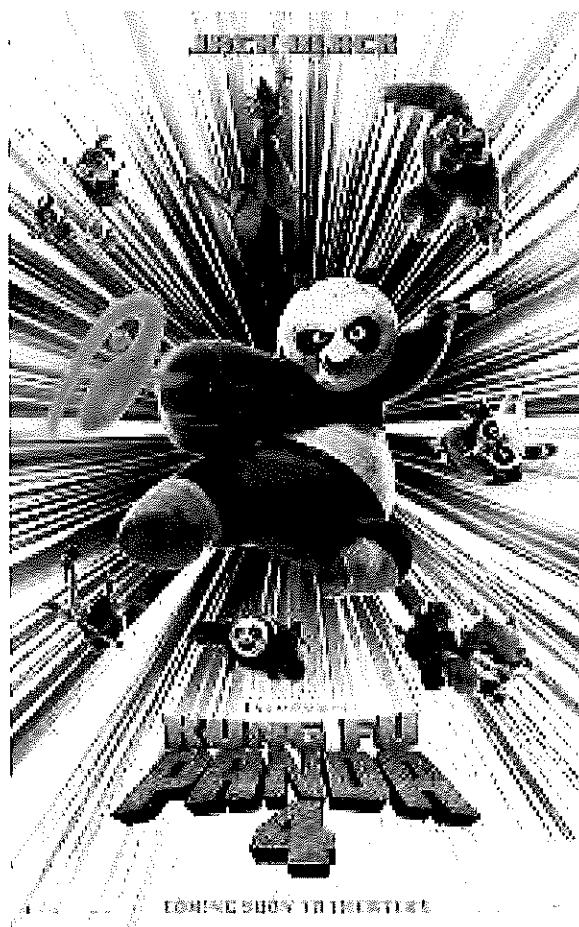
NO Parent Cafe Support Group Today

Join the Sepac

(Special Education Parent Advisory Council)

Tomorrow March 23rd!

FREE monthly matinees for Cambridge students with disabilities and their families.



This screening is specially designed to accommodate students with disabilities, who might have difficulty attending a public movie screening. The lights will be turned up, and the sound will be turned down to accommodate children with anxiety or sensory issues. Families can relax while students are free to enjoy the movie in whatever way works for them. Our goal is to create a supportive atmosphere where all will feel welcome and have fun as a family! This movie is not

advertised to the general public, and reservations are required.

**This Saturday March. 23th,
Doors open at 9:30, Movie Starts at 10am
at
Apple Cinemas
168 Alewife Brook Pkwy, Cambridge
Register [HERE](#)**

Parent Support Group "Caregiver Cafe" 10am Today Archived

Zuleka Queen-Postell • 9 months ago • Friday, Mar 15 at 9:55 AM • Undisclosed

Join the SEPAC

(Special Education Parent Advisory Council)

Friday mornings at 10am for our caregiver support group!



To join the video meeting, click this link: <https://meet.google.com/wsx-fefg-mrp>
Otherwise, to join by phone, dial +1 252-922-0134 and enter this PIN: 272 774 025#

Look out for communication coming soon for an "Evening Caregiver Support Group"

For more information on SEPAC and our events
contact Zuleka Queen-Postell, zqueenpostell@cpsd.us

Parent Support Group "Caregiver Cafe" 10am Today Archived

Zuleka Queen-Postell • 9 months ago • Friday, Mar 1 at 9:55 AM • Undisclosed

Join the SEPAC

(Special Education Parent Advisory Council)

Friday mornings at 10am for our caregiver support group!



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For more information on SEPAC and our events
contact Zuleka Queen-Postell, zqueenpostell@cpsd.us

Tomorrow's Sensory Friendly Movie "Turning Red" Archived

Zuleka Queen-Postell • 10 months ago • Friday, Feb 23 at 4:58 PM • Undisclosed

Join the Sepac

(Special Education Parent Advisory Council)

FREE monthly matinees for Cambridge students with disabilities and their families.



This screening is specially designed to accommodate students with disabilities, who might have difficulty attending a public movie screening. The lights will be turned up, and the sound will be turned down to accommodate children with anxiety or sensory issues. Families can relax while students are free to enjoy the movie in whatever way works for them. Our goal is to create a supportive atmosphere where all will feel welcome and have fun as a family! This movie is not advertised to the general public, and reservations are required.

This Saturday Feb. 24th,

Doors open at 10:30, Movie Starts at 11am

at

Apple Cinemas

168 Alewife Brook Pkwy, Cambridge

Register [HERE](#)

Parent Support Group "Caregiver Cafe" 10am Today Archived

Zuleka Queen-Postell • 10 months ago • Friday, Feb 16 at 9:55 AM • Undisclosed

Join the SEPAC

(Special Education Parent Advisory Council)

Friday mornings at 10am for our caregiver support group!



To join the video meeting, click this link: <https://meet.google.com/wsx-fefg-mrp>
Otherwise, to join by phone, dial +1 252-922-0134 and enter this PIN: 272 774 025#

Look out for communication coming soon for an "Evening Caregiver Support Group"

For more information on SEPAC and our events
contact Zuleka Queen-Postell, zqueenpostell@cpsd.us

Reminder SEPAC Community Meeting, Monday Feb 12th Archived
Zuleka Queen-Postell • 10 months ago • Monday, Feb 12 at 5:48 PM • Undisclosed

Join the SEPAC Community Meeting

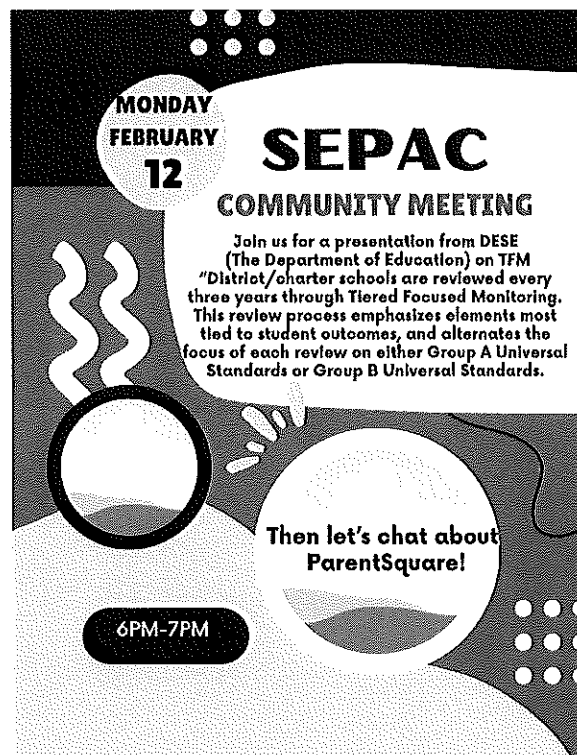
(Special Education Parent Advisory Council)

Monday February 12th

6PM to 7PM

for a 30 min presentation from DESE (The Department of Education) on TFM (Tiered Focused Monitoring).

“District/charter schools are reviewed every three years through TFM This review process emphasizes elements most tied to student outcomes, and alternates the focus of each review on either Group A Universal Standards or Group B Universal Standards.”



Then let's talk about Parent Square

[Link to Join](#)

Join the SEPAC Community Meeting

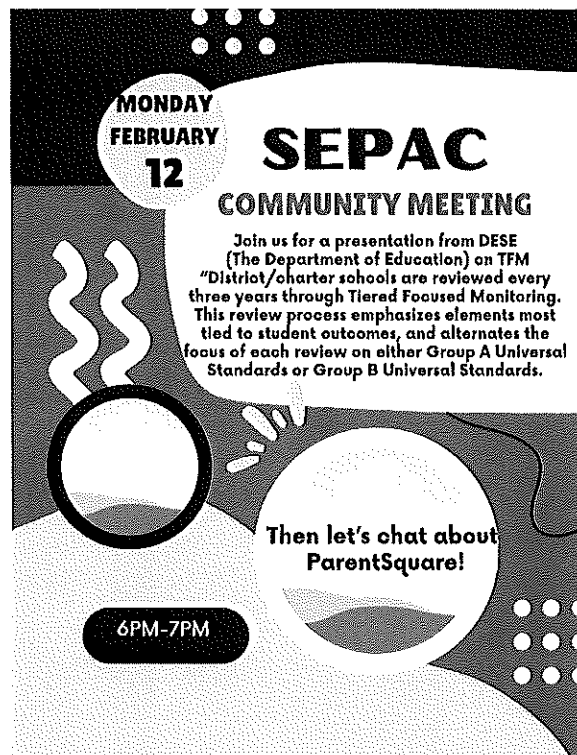
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Then let's talk about Parent Square

[Link to Join](#)

Copy of Parent Support Group "Caregiver Cafe" 10am Today

Archived

Zuleka Queen-Postell • 10 months ago • Friday, Feb 9 at 9:55 AM • Undisclosed

Join the SEPAC

(Special Education Parent Advisory Council)

Friday mornings at 10am for our caregiver support group!



To join the video meeting, click this link: <https://meet.google.com/wsxfefg-mrp>
Otherwise, to join by phone, dial +1 252-922-0134 and enter this PIN: 272 774 025#

Look out for communication coming soon for an "Evening Caregiver Support Group"

For more information on SEPAC and our events
contact Zuleka Queen-Postell, zqueenpostell@cpsd.us

Parent Support Group "Caregiver Cafe" 10am Today Archived

Zuleka Queen-Postell • 10 months ago • Friday, Feb 2 at 9:55 AM • Undisclosed

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(Special Education Parent Advisory Council)

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Parent Support Group "Caregiver Cafe" 10am Today Archived

Zuleka Queen-Postell • 11 months ago • Friday, Jan 19 at 9:59 AM • Undisclosed

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Parent Support Group "Caregiver Cafe" 10am Today Archived

Zuleka Queen-Postell • 12 months ago • Friday, Dec 22 at 9:55 AM • Undisclosed

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(Special Education Parent Advisory Council)

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Tomorrow's Rescheduled Sensory Friendly Movie "Wish" Archived

Zuleka Queen-Postell • 12 months ago • Friday, Dec 15 at 4:11 PM • Undisclosed

Join the Sepac

(Special Education Parent Advisory Council)

FREE monthly matinees for Cambridge students with disabilities and their families.

This screening is specially designed to accommodate students with disabilities, who might have difficulty attending a public movie screening. The lights will be turned up, and the sound will be turned down to accommodate children with anxiety or sensory issues. Families can relax while students are free to enjoy the movie in whatever way works for them. Our goal is to create a supportive atmosphere where all will feel welcome and have fun as a family! This movie is not advertised to the general public, and reservations are required.



This Saturday Dec. 16th,

Doors open at 9:45 Movie Starts at 10am

at

Apple Cinemas

168 Alewife Brook Pkwy, Cambridge

Register [HERE](#)

Parent Support Group "Caregiver Cafe" 10am Today Archived :

Zuleka Queen-Postell • 12 months ago • Friday, Dec 8 at 10:01 AM • Undisclosed

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This Saturday Dec. 9th,

Doors open at 9:45 Movie Starts at 10am

at

Apple Cinemas

168 Alewife Brook Pkwy, Cambridge

Register [HERE](#)

Don't forget to register for tonight's Community Budget Meeting! Archived

Zuleka Queen-Postell • 12 months ago • Wednesday, Dec 6 at 2:33 PM • Undisclosed

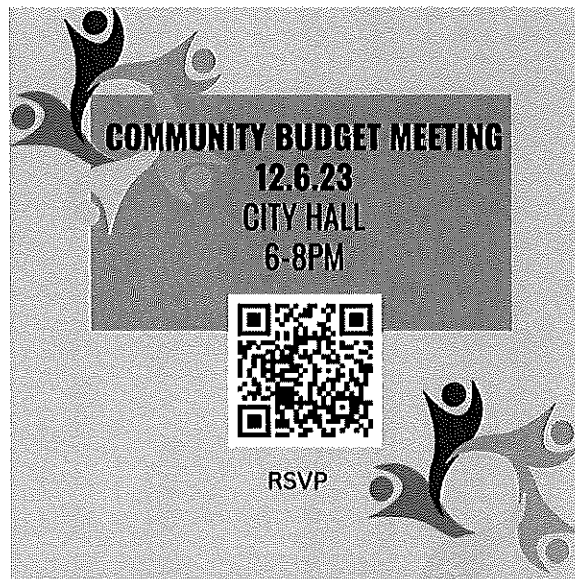
Hello SEPAC Members,

Looking forward to seeing you tonight!

Please join us to improve the process for feedback from parents and caregivers!

At this event, **school council members and caregiver group leaders** will learn more about the budget process, engage in conversation about the district and your school, and provide feedback to shape community budget meetings starting in January 2024.

The meeting will be held on **Community Budget Event on December 6th from 6 - 8PM at City Hall!**



Event Details:

- **Date:** December 6, 2023
- **Time:** 6 - 8PM
- **Venue:** City Hall!

Kindly complete the [registration form](#) to confirm your attendance.

This meeting was designed by a group of CPS staff and caregivers as part of a co-design process to improve the feedback process for the district's budget for the 2024-2025 school year. We look forward to seeing you there!

Community Budget Meeting Archived

Zuleka Queen-Postell • about 1 year ago • Friday, Dec 1 at 8:48 AM • **Undisclosed**

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Parent Support Group "Caregiver Cafe" 10am Today Archived

Zuleka Queen-Postell • about 1 year ago • Friday, Dec 1 at 9:55 AM • Undisclosed

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(Special Education Parent Advisory Council)

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For more information on SEPAC and our events
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Parent Support Group "Caregiver Cafe" 10am Today Archived

Zuleka Queen-Postell • about 1 year ago • Friday, Nov 17 at 9:55 AM • Undisclosed

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Copy of SEPAC Community Meeting Monday at 6pm Archived

Zuleka Queen-Postell • about 1 year ago • Monday, Nov 13 at 5:55 PM • Undisclosed

Remember to the SEPAC for our November Community Meeting

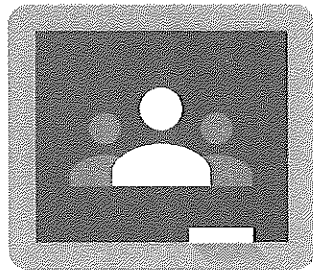
Monday November 13th @6pm

To join the video meeting, click this link: <https://meet.google.com/ndx-mhge-utq>

Otherwise, to join by phone, dial +1 984-500-4411 and enter this PIN: 303 438 571#

To view more phone numbers, click this link: <https://tel.meet/ndx-mhge-utq?hs=5>

For informative presentations on



Google Classroom Gaurdian Summery



ASPEN

Come learn about Google Classroom Gaurdian Summery, but better see how you student is doing with assignments. Caregivers of students in 6-12 grades will learn how to navigate Aspen and how you see things like your students grades, absents and more.



We will also hear from PYD (Partners for Youth with Disabilities) to learn about the resources they provide for ages 6-26, to name a few Mentoring and Career Readiness.

SEPAC Community Meeting Monday at 6pm Archived

Zuleka Queen-Postell • about 1 year ago • Saturday, Nov 11 at 9:00 AM • Undisclosed

Remember to the SEPAC for our November Community Meeting

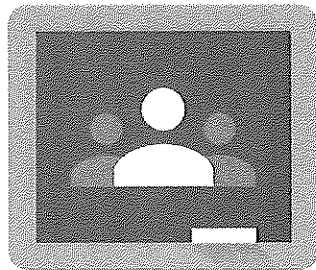
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Copy of Parent Support Group "Caregiver Cafe" 10am Today

Archived

Zuleka Queen-Postell • about 1 year ago • Friday, Nov 3 at 9:53 AM • Undisclosed

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For more information on SEPAC and our events
contact Zuleka Queen-Postell, zqueenpostell@cpsd.us

Reminder: SEPAC Community Meeting is Oct. 23 at 6PM Archived
Zuleka Queen-Postell • about 1 year ago • Monday, Oct 23 at 9:59 AM • Undisclosed

Join us tonight for our SEPAC Community Meeting Monday Oct. 23 @ 6pm

To join the video meeting, click this link: <https://meet.google.com/ndx-mhge-utq>


Otherwise, to join by phone, dial +1 984-500-4411 and enter this PIN: 303 438 571#


To view more phone numbers, click this link: <https://tel.meet/ndx-mhge-utq?hs=5>

Please join us for this
month's SEPAC
community meeting
Monday Oct. 23 @ 6pm

<http://meet.google.com/ndx-mhge-utq>

We are excited to share that OSS and District
Staff will be joining us to present on ELA
Dept and Math Initiatives, new screeners and
Q&A!


Siobahn Mulligan
Director of
Mathematics for
Cambridge Public
Schools


Emily Bryan
Director of
ELA/Literacy in
Cambridge Public
Schools

We are excited to hear from district staff Siobahn Mulligan, Math and Emily Bryan ELA/ Literacy will be joining us to present on Dept initiatives, new screeners and a Q&A!

Rescheduled: SEPAC Community Meeting is Oct. 23 at 6PM Archived

Zuleka Queen-Postell • about 1 year ago • Monday, Oct 16 at 5:23 PM • Undisclosed

**Tonights SEPAC Community Meeting has been rescheduled to next
Monday Oct. 23 @ 6pm**

**Sorry for any inconvenience that schedule change may have
caused.**

**We are excited to share that OSS and District Staff will be joining us
to present on ELA Dept initiatives, new screeners and Q&A!**

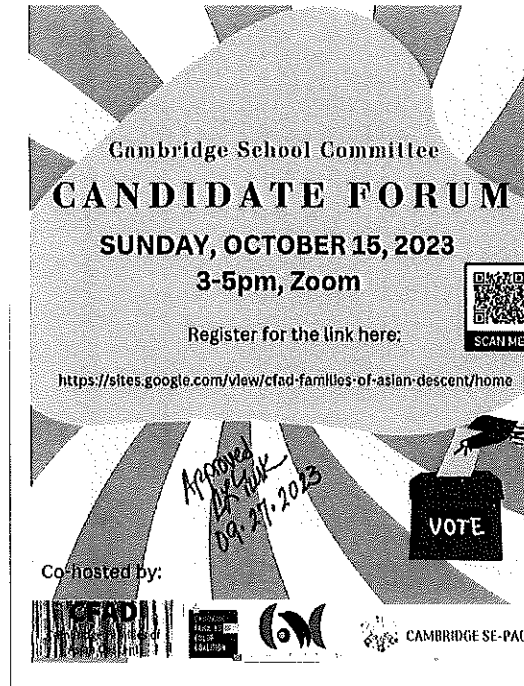
School Committee Election Candidate Forum Archived

Zuleka Queen-Postell • about 1 year ago • Friday, Oct 13 at 12:56 PM • Undisclosed

School Committee Election Candidate Forum

Sunday Oct. 15th | 3pm-5pm

Please join us for a caregiver-organized School Committee Candidate Forum via [Zoom](#).



Come hear from the candidates running for School Committee.

Get informed before you vote in November.

Your voice matters!

Register to get the Zoom link https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_yHk10NOhSm6w5IH5KMq5Qw

The Cambridge School Committee is a seven member board. Six members are elected at large. The Mayor, who is elected from and by the nine elected City Council Members, serves as Chair of the School Committee. The School Committee determines overall School Department policy and budget, and hires and supervises the Superintendent.

The forum is co-hosted by Cambridge Families of Color Coalition (CFCC), Chinese American Association of Cambridge (CAAC), and Cambridge Special Education Advisory Council (SE-PAC).

Learn more about the candidates at <https://sites.google.com/view/cfad-families-of-asian-descent/home/vote-for-school-committee>

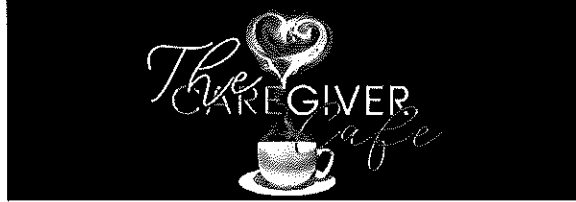
Parent Support Group "Caregiver Cafe" 10am Today Archived

Zuleka Queen-Postell • about 1 year ago • Friday, Oct 6 at 9:50 AM • Undisclosed

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(Special Education Parent Advisory Council)

Friday mornings at 10am for our caregiver support group!



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For more information on SEPAC and our events
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CAMBRIDGE

DIVERSABILITIES DIGEST

Special Education Parent Advisory Council

October 2, 2022

Hot Topics

Welcome!

The Cambridge Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC) is an all-volunteer organization of parents and caregivers of students with disabilities in Cambridge Public Schools. Our mission is to work for understanding of, respect for, and support of all children with special needs in our community. Informal and facilitated gatherings give our diverse community the opportunity to share experiences, learn new information to empower you as your child's most important advocate, and offer one another advice and encouragement.

We warmly welcome all families of students with disabilities in Cambridge to join us at our Family Dinner Nights, Sensory-Friendly Movies, Support Groups, and other activities. Online you can find us through [our website](#), [our Facebook Group](#), and on [Twitter \(@Cambridge_SEPAC\)](#).

If you aren't sure how to connect, call SE-PAC Family Liaison Zuleka Queen-Postell at 617.593.4402, and she will tell you what's coming up that might be a match for your needs.

We are looking forward to meeting you,

Cambridge SE-PAC Leadership

Community Meetings

Join the SEPAC!

School Committee Special Education & Student Supports Sub-Committee

Wednesday Oct. 4th | 5pm

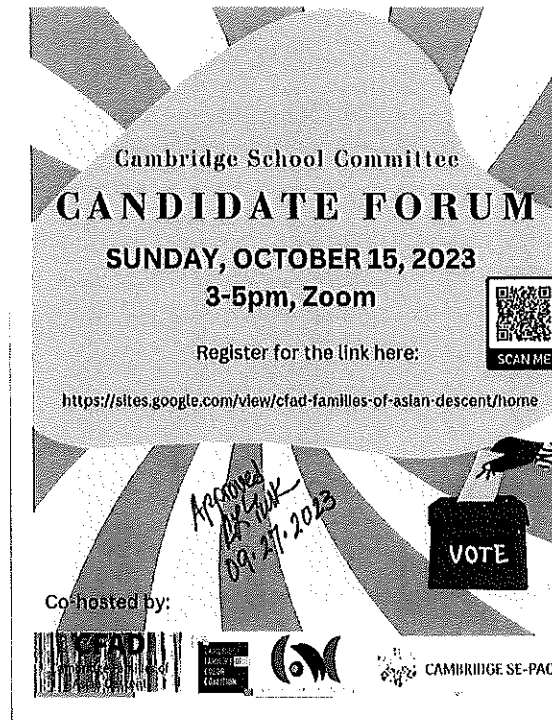
https://secure1.cpsd.us/school_committee/

https://secure1.cpsd.us/school_committee/notices/2023-10-04_2023-09-28.pdf

School Committee Election Candidate Forum

Sunday Oct. 15th | 3pm-5pm

Please join us for a caregiver-organized School Committee Candidate Forum via Zoom.



**Come hear from the candidates running for School Committee.
Get informed before you vote in November.
Your voice matters!**

Register to get the Zoom

link https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_yHk10NOhSm6w5IH5KMQ5Qw

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SEPAC Community Meeting

Monday Oct. 16th | 6pm

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To view more phone numbers, click this link: <https://tel.meet/ndx-mhge-utq?hs=5>

Upcoming Events

Sensory Friendly Movie

Saturday Oct. 28th | Doors open at 9:30am, movie starts at 10am
Apple Cinemas, 168 Alewife Brook Pkwy



This month's movie title and the sign up will be sent the Friday before the movie.

FREE monthly matinees for Cambridge students with disabilities and their families.

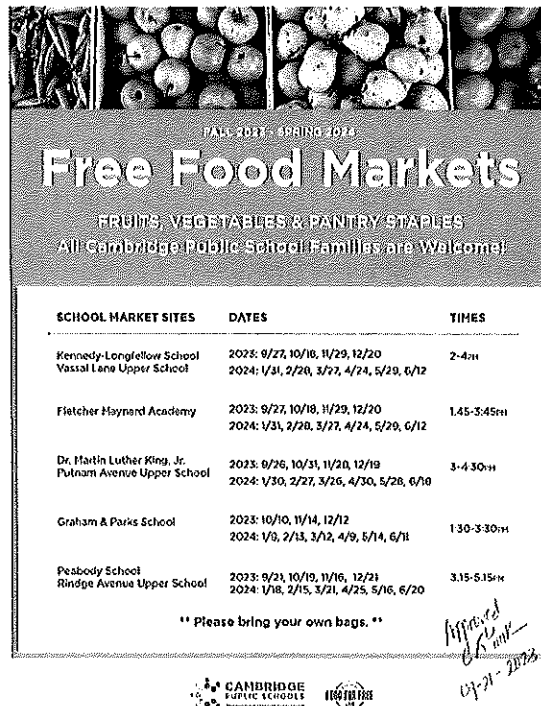
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Resources

- Join the Cambridge SE-PAC email list! This parent run Google Group is open to Cambridge parents of children with disabilities or special needs. To join, email Margo at mliverson@mindspring.com. In your message indicate you are a parent or caregiver of a child on an IEP or 504 and live in Cambridge.
- [A Parent's Guide to Special Education](#)
 - [Spanish Version](#)
 - [Portuguese Version](#)
- [Massachusetts Special Education Parental Guide](#)
 - [Spanish Version](#)
- [CPSD Office of Student Services / Special Education](#)
- [Federation for Children With Special Needs](#) Provides resources, training, information, and support for parents and caregivers. Website information and video presentations are available in

multiple languages.

- The Arc of Massachusetts Through advocacy, programs that promote inclusion, and engaging the community, The Arc creates tangible changes in the community and in the lives of people with disabilities.
- Boston Central Greater Boston Family & Kids Events Calendar
- Massachusetts Special-Needs Event Calendar Conferences, family happenings, speakers & more.
-



FALL 2023 - SPRING 2024

Free Food Markets

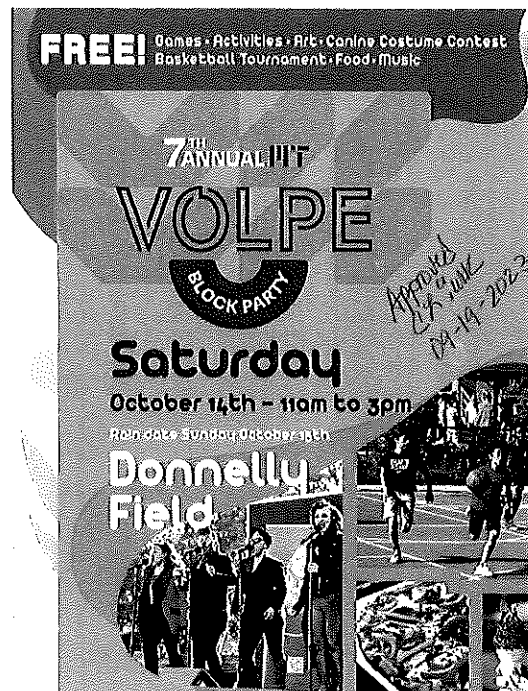
FRUITS, VEGETABLES & PANTRY STAPLES
All Cambridge Public School Families are Welcome!

| SCHOOL MARKET SITES | DATES | TIMES |
|---|---|-------------|
| Kennedy-Longfellow School Vassal Lane Upper School | 2023: 9/27, 10/18, 11/29, 12/20 2024: 1/31, 2/20, 3/27, 4/24, 5/29, 6/12 | 2-4pm |
| Fletcher Haynard Academy | 2023: 9/27, 10/18, 11/29, 12/20 2024: 1/31, 2/20, 3/27, 4/24, 5/29, 6/12 | 1:45-3:45pm |
| Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Pulnam Avenue Upper School | 2023: 9/26, 10/31, 11/20, 12/19 2024: 1/30, 2/27, 3/26, 4/30, 5/28, 6/10 | 3-4:30pm |
| Graham & Parks School | 2023: 10/10, 11/14, 12/12 2024: 1/9, 2/13, 3/12, 4/9, 5/14, 6/11 | 1:30-3:30pm |
| Pesbody School Rindge Avenue Upper School | 2023: 9/21, 10/19, 11/16, 12/21 2024: 1/18, 2/15, 3/21, 4/25, 5/16, 6/20 | 3:15-5:15pm |

** Please bring your own bags. **

*Approved
CB
04-21-2023*

CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS



FREE! Games • Activities • Art • Canine Costume Contest
Basketball Tournament • Food • Music

7TH ANNUAL VOLPE BLOCK PARTY

Saturday
October 14th - 11am to 3pm
Rain date: Sunday October 15th

Donnelly Field

*Approved
CB
04-19-2023*

Now Casting! **FAMILY OPERA** **Now Casting!**
 North Cambridge Company
 presents a reprise of our 2014 opera

Rain Dance

Music by
Stuart Hancock

Libretto by
Donald Sturrock

The story of animals on the South African savannah facing a drought, the tyrannical lion whom they elect to lead them, and their unlikely hero, a brilliant but neurotic and politically apathetic rabbit.



Chorus/solo roles for adults and children age 7 & up. Under 10 requires a participating adult. No experience necessary!
PERFORMANCES:
 March 16-17, 2024
 March 23-24, 2024

Come let us hear your voice! Everyone gets in!

October 14 to 22 (on Zoom or in person) by appointment
 To schedule, call (617) 835-3162 or email auditions24@familyopera.org
 In person location: 23 Norris St, Cambridge, 02140, accessible by 77, 83 buses, Davis Square T



See our auditions page for everything you need to know about joining our company: auditions, registration, rehearsal, volunteering, and more! Includes details and audition pieces for lead roles and more challenging ensembles. No preparation required for supporting roles and main chorus.

www.familyopera.org



Cambridge Youth Soccer
 Fall Season



Space still available for fall season. More information about our programs at cambridgeyouthsoccer.org

Register to play at:
www.cambridgeyouthsoccer.org
 Sign up now!

*Approved
 CAC
 09-19-2023*

Financial aid available at any level for anybody who asks!

Mission

The mission of the Cambridge Parent Advisory Council on Special Education (SEPAC) is to work for an understanding of, respect for, and support of all children with special needs in the community.

SEPAC Contacts

Zuleka Queen-Postell
Special Education
Parent Advisory Council Family Liaison
zqueen-postell@cpsd.us
617.593.4402

<https://cambridgesepac.org/>

Parent Support Group "Caregiver Cafe" 10am Today Archived

Zuleka Queen-Postell • about 1 year ago • Friday, Sep 29 at 10:06 AM • Undisclosed

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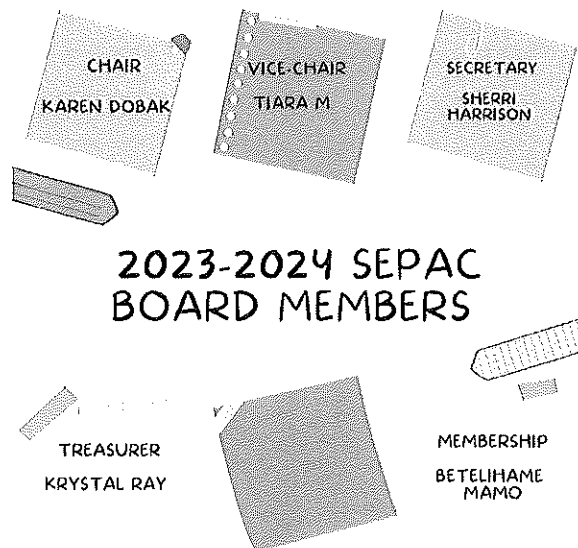


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For more information on SEPAC and our events
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2023-2024 SEPAC Board!



2023-2024 Board

Chair: Karen Dobak

Vice-Chair: Tiara M.

Secretary: Sherri Harrison

Treasurer: Krystal Ray

Membership: Betelihame

Tomorrow's Sensory Friendly Movie "Paw Patrol" Archived
Zuleka Queen-Postell • about 1 year ago • Friday, Sep 29 at 2:57 PM • Undisclosed

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at

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168 Alewife Brook Pkwy, Cambridge

Register [HERE](#)

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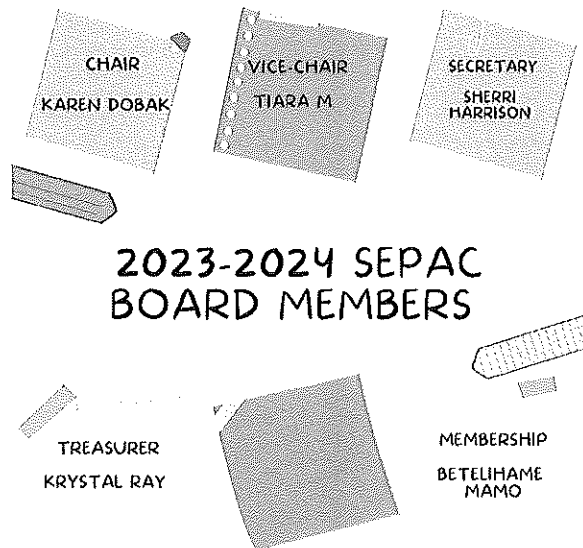


To join the video meeting, click this link: <https://meet.google.com/wsx-fefg-mrp>
Otherwise, to join by phone, dial +1 252-922-0134 and enter this PIN: 272 774 025#

Look out for communication coming soon for an "Evening Caregiver Support Group"

For more information on SEPAC and our events
contact Zuleka Queen-Postell, zqueenpostell@cpsd.us

Welcome the 2023-2024 SEPAC Board!



2023-2024 Board

Chair: Karen Dobak

Vice-Chair: Tiara M.

Secretary: Sherri Harrison

Treasurer: Krystal Ray

Membership: Betelihame

ATTACHMENT 3

From: Zuleka Queen-Postell via ParentSquare <donotreply+e5491d77-4bd6-48e2-b33a-38cd358dc636@parentsquare.com>
Date: Fri, May 24, 2024 at 2:13 PM
Subject: Sensory Friendly Movie & SEPAC Nominations
To: <zqueen-postell@cpsd.us>

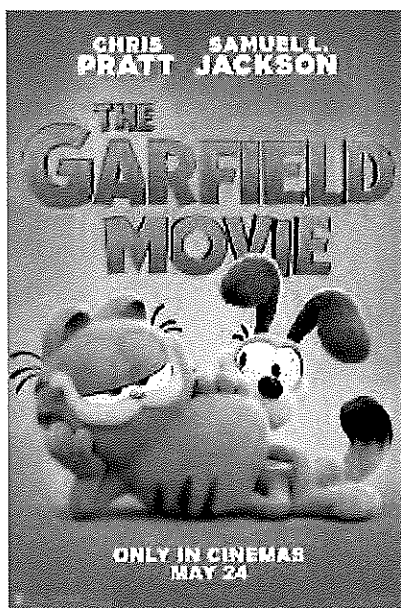


Cambridge Public Schools

Zuleka Queen-Postell posted in ASD, Active 504, OSS, Special Start - OSS

Sensory Friendly Movie & SEPAC Nominations

Join the Sepac
(Special Education Parent Advisory Council)
Tomorrow March 25th!
FREE monthly matinees for Cambridge students with disabilities and their families.



This screening is specially designed to accommodate students with disabilities, who might have difficulty attending a public movie screening. The lights will be turned up, and the sound will be turned down to accommodate children with anxiety or sensory issues. Families can relax while students are free to enjoy the movie in whatever way works for them. Our goal is to create a supportive atmosphere where all will feel welcome and have fun as a family! This movie is not advertised to the general public, and reservations are required.

This Saturday May 25th,
Doors open at 9:30, Movie Starts at 10am
at
Apple Cinemas
168 Alewife Brook Pkwy, Cambridge
Register HERE

It's time for SEPAC Election! Please nominate yourself or another caregiver!



Officer Roles & Responsibilities

Work in a collaborative and advocacy role with the CPS Office of Student Services, Administration, and School Committee.

Serve as a resource to parents and families of children with disabilities and speak on behalf of the PAC in matters of CPS policy or practice.

Oversee PAC meetings and identify workshop topics, supported by the liaison who is responsible for organizing meetings and workshops and conducting family outreach.

In general, officers contribute 10-15 hours of your time per month. For example, as in attending board meetings, as well as, facilitating and attending community meetings. The SE-PAC leadership team (officers and liaison) work collaboratively to accommodate individual schedules and needs as much as possible.

Nomination Form

SEPAC Monthly Community Meetings

TBD

"End of Year Round Table" meeting with members of OSS and District Cabinet

For more information, questions or comments please contact

Zuleka Queen-Postell, ZQueen-Postell@CPSD.US

[View](#), [Appreciate](#) or [Reply](#)

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From: Zuleka Queen-Postell via ParentSquare <donotreply+d2de37e8-7fdb-500d-9f2b-0cbd886c1b22@parentsquare.com>
Date: Tue, Sep 10, 2024 at 12:58 PM
Subject: Welcome Back!! Board Election Ballot!
To: <zqueen-postell@cpsd.us>



Cambridge Public Schools

Zuleka Queen-Postell posted in DTD - Eligible (All), DTD - Eligible (In-City), ASD, Active 504, OSS, Special Start - OSS

Welcome Back!! Board Election Ballot!



September 10, 2024

Hot Topics

Welcome Back!

We would like to give a warm welcome back as we begin the second week of school year 2024-2025!

What is the SEPAC?

A Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC) is a group of people who advise school districts on special education programs and policies. SEPACs are required by Massachusetts law, and membership is open to parents of children with disabilities and other interested parties.

SEPACs promote:

- **Communication:** A network for parents to share information and communicate with local, state, and national organizations
- **Understanding:** Acceptance and inclusion of children with special needs in the community
- **Advocacy:** For the best possible services for children with special needs

SEPAC 2024-2025 Elections!

As the school year was wrapping up last spring, there were many factors that put a pause on SEPAC Elections! We would like to thank you for your patience and invite you to fill out the election ballot at this time. [Election Ballot](#)

Community Meeting

More information to come!

These are monthly meetings that all SEPAC members are invited to (all families who have a student on an IEP or 504 plan are members). The meetings typically include, time to discuss SEPAC goals/initiatives along with an informational workshop.

Upcoming Events

Stay tuned!!

Resources

- [Federation for Children with Special Needs](#)
- [Parent/Professional Advocacy League](#)

Mission

The mission of the Cambridge Parent Advisory Council on Special Education (SEPAC) is to work for an understanding of, respect for, and support of all children with special needs in the community.

SEPAC Contacts

Zuleka Queen-Postell

SEPAC Board Email

*Special Education
Parent Advisory Council
Family Liaison*
zqueen-postell@cpsd.us
617.593.4402

[sepac_board_2024-2025@
googlegroups.com](mailto:sepac_board_2024-2025@googlegroups.com)

Cambridge SE PAC
[135 Berkshire Street | Cambridge, MA 02141](https://www.cambridgesepac.org/)
617.593.4402 | <https://www.cambridgesepac.org/>

View, Appreciate or Reply

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Closed form message

The form "C-PAC Sensory-Friendly Movie " is no longer accepting responses. Try contacting the owner of the form if you think this is a mistake.

Custom confirmation message

Thank you for submitting your nomination!

Nominations for SE-PAC Officers and Volunteers

* Indicates required question

Process

We invite you, as a caregiver of a CPS student on an IEP or a 504, to nominate either yourself or someone else to join the Cambridge Special Education Parent Advisory Council Board!

It is a state law that all school districts maintain a Special Education Parent Advisory Council, open to all families whose student is identified as needing special education. You are automatically a member of the Cambridge SEPAC!

Please submit your nomination form by Monday June 3rd, 2024. Election ballot will be sent on Tuesday June 4th, and new officers will be announced on Wed June 12th.

Officer Roles & Responsibilities

Work in a collaborative and advocacy role with the CPS Office of Student Services, Administration, and School Committee.

Serve as a resource to parents and families of children with disabilities and speak on behalf of the PAC in matters of CPS policy or practice.

Oversee PAC meetings and identify workshop topics, supported by the liaison who is responsible for organizing meetings and workshops and conducting family outreach.

In general, officers contribute 10-15 hours of your time per month. For example, as in attending board meetings, as well as, facilitating and attending community meetings. The SE-PAC leadership team (officers and liaison) work collaboratively to accommodate individual schedules and needs as much as possible.

Candidate *

Address *

Email Address *

Phone Number *

In what office is the nominee seeking to serve? *

Note: If running for Co-Chair please select Other and type Co-Chair with (name of other co-chair)

- Chair
- Vice Chair
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- I only want to volunteer

Not interested in running for office, but wish to volunteer!

- Communications Subcommittee
- Events Subcommittee
- Afterschool Equity SubComm
- Out of District Students Subcommittee
- Special Education & Student Supports Committee
- Curriculum and Achievement Subcommittee
- Dyslexia Subcommittee
- Autism Subcommittee
- Mental Health Subcommittee
- Behavioral Health Subcommittee
- I would like to start a Subcommittee

Please share a little bit about yourself. What disabilities, schools, or placements * do you have personal experience with? Do you have professional or volunteer experience that might be helpful for members to know about?

Why/how do you wish to serve as a SE-PAC officer? *

Please complete this nomination form Monday June 3rd, 2024

This form was created inside of Cambridge Public Schools.

Google Forms

Cambridge SE-PAC Leadership Team Election Ballot 2024-2025

Each year, the Cambridge Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SE-PAC) holds an election of our leadership. If you are the parent/guardian of a child with special needs (1) living in Cambridge or (2) attending Cambridge Public Schools, you are a member of the SE-Pac and entitled to vote in this election.

The mission of the Cambridge Special Education Parent Advisory Council is to work for understanding of, respect for, and support of all children with special needs in the community.

- Our purpose is to educate and support parents in advocating for their children.
- Our goal is to have an active network of parents who work together to provide the best services and programs for our children.
- Our guiding principle: Services are determined by the needs of the child, not the availability of programs or resources.

Running as a slate are Tiara Murphy, Mei Lu, Krystal Ray, Gardite Fougy and Meriel Marmanillo!

All meetings are free and open to the public, and parents/guardians wishing to participate with the SE-PAC leadership are always welcome. For more information please see our website, www.cambridgepacse.org or contact Zuleka Queen-Postell at zqueenpostell@cpsd.us

Please cast your vote by Friday Sept. 13th.

* Indicates required question

Tiara Murphy: Co-Chair

I currently at the moment do not have any disabilities but my son is on an IEP. I have served on SEPAC this past year.

I bring with me experience from serving on other boards and love to help others when I possibly can. I love learning and networking with others.

Mei Lu: Co-Chair

My son Ethan Grade 10 at CRLS has both Treacher Collins Syndrome and ASD/ADHD/ID. I started a charity in Hong Kong to help children with sleep apnea. At the end of 2022, Ethan and I moved to Cambridge from HK. I am currently a LEND fellow and just started part time with the FCSN. I have been advocate for disability rights in DC and MA with Ethan.

To make sure special education is a priority for CPS. To make Cambridge a more inclusive community for our children.

Krystal Ray:

I am a mother of two children in CPS with Disabilities, I have been teaching for 7 years and have 20 years experience working with people of all ages I have experience working with individuals with disabilities and exceptional needs and worked for many years as a Behavior Specialist! I volunteer for a number of organizations, serve in my church as family ministry leader, urban missions member, and lead an Autism Walk group each year in honor of my son with ASD!

I am passionate about Families in Cambridge, Children and families with exceptional needs and I would love to make an impact and be the best support!

Gardite Fougy:

I have three children with social emotional needs, 20 yr old son with Autism, 15 yr old daughter with ADHD, and a 12 yr old son with ADHD and a learning disability. I also have been a family partner for Riverside Community Care for over 9yrs I have had over 100 families I've served over the yrs. I would love to continue to serve on the SEPAC board to help families in the district, As a parent of children with social emotional needs I'm here to serve the best way I can.

Meriel Marmanillo

My child has been diagnosed with ASD and I have numerous years of experience working with individuals with MI. I have worked in healthcare for a few decades and feel I can share and support families who are less experienced and familiar.

I would love to be a part of the SEPAC Board.

1. I am a Cambridge caregiver of a child(ren) with disabilities or special needs. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes

No

Other:

2. Do you vote to approve the slate of candidates listed below? *

Mark only one oval.

Yes

No

3. Would you like to join the to SE-PAC Leadership Team? Whether it's as a planner, *
timekeeper, school or pta liaison, or volunteer, we would love for you to join us in
whatever capacity you feel comfortable with!

Mark only one oval.

Planner

Timekeeper

School or PTA Liaison

Social Media Support

Listserve Support

Chair/Start a Sub-Committee

4. What workshops, events, or activities would you like to see the SEPAC organize? *

This content is neither created nor endorsed by Google.

Google Forms

ATTACHMENT 4

From: Zuleka Queen-Postell via ParentSquare <donotreply+d2de37c6-7fdb-500d-9f2b-0ebd886c1b22@parentsquare.com>

Date: Mon, Dec 16, 2024 at 5:59 PM

Subject: Canceled: Tomorrow's SEPAC Meeting will be rescheduled



Cambridge Public Schools

Zuleka Queen-Postell posted in your feed

Canceled: Tomorrow's SEPAC Meeting will be rescheduled

This meeting is canceled. A meeting will be rescheduled in January at a time when more caregivers are able to attend. We will be working together to increase transparency and collaboration.

SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING NOTICE



There will be a special meeting of the Board of the Special Education Parent Advisory Council on December 17, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. via Google Meet for the purpose of discussing a November 14, 2024, open meeting law complaint brought against the Special Education Parent Advisory Council's board by a Cambridge caregiver.

For questions or comments please contact
Zuleka Queen-Postell, ZQueen-Postell@CPSD.US

[View](#), [Appreciate](#) or [Reply](#)

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Special meeting of the Board of the Special Education Parents Advisory Council-CANCELLED

Tuesday December 17, 2024
11:00 AM

[Add to my Calendar](#)

Location

Goggle Meets

[Get directions](#)

Description

CANCELLED

SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENTS ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING NOTICE

There will be a special meeting of the Board of the Special Education Parents Advisory Council on December 17, 2024 a 11:00 a.m. via Goggle Meets for the purpose of discussing charges brought against the Special Parents Advisory Council and its board with respect to the November 14, 2024 open meeting law complaint filed by John Summers. The board may convene in executive session and votes may be taken.

Attendees may attend the meeting by visiting

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/tss-hnqo-oeq>

NOTICE

CANCELLED

Tags

◀ [Public Meetings](#)

Page was posted on 12/11/2024 1:54 PM

Page was last modified on 12/16/2024 3:06 PM

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Cambridge SE-PAC

DECEMBER 12, 2024DECEMBER 17, 2024

Cancelled: SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENTS ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING NOTICE

Cancelled: Tomorrow's SEPAC Meeting will be rescheduled. **A meeting will be rescheduled in January at a time when more caregivers are able to attend. We will be working together to increase transparency and collaboration.**

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Attendees may attend the meeting by visiting

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/tss-hnqo-oep> (<https://meet.google.com/tss-hnqo-oep>)

DECEMBER 10, 2024DECEMBER 12, 2024

Join our online community!

If you are a parent/caregiver of a student in Cambridge Public Schools and would like to be part of our online list-serv, please fill out this [form](#)

(<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1MICHoc83XLaxWkUBN9hBlk8zIgGGTsZrYAyE38jy4cg/edit>). Also join our [Facebook group](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1773969919498005) (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1773969919498005>)!

DECEMBER 10, 2024DECEMBER 12, 2024

From: Zuleka Queen-Postell via ParentSquare <donotreply+d2de37c8-7fdb-500d-9f2b-0ebd886c1b22@parentsquare.com>
Date: Wed, Dec 11, 2024 at 12:22 PM
Subject: [External] SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENTS ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING NOTICE Dec 17th
To: <zqueen-postell@cpsd.us>



Cambridge Public Schools

Zuleka Queen-Postell posted in DTD - Eligible (All), DTD - Eligible (In-City), DTD - Rider, ASD, Active 504, OSS, Special Start - OSS

SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENTS ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING NOTICE Dec 17th

SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENTS ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING NOTICE



There will be a special meeting of the Board of the Special Education Parents Advisory Council on December 17, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. via Goggle Meets for the purpose of discussing charges brought against the Special Parents Advisory Council and its board with respect to the November 14, 2024 open meeting law complaint filed by John Summers.

The board may convene in executive session and votes may be taken.

Attendees may attend the meeting by visitingVideo call link: <https://meet.google.com/tss-hnqo-oep>

For questions or comment please contact Zuleka Queen-Postell, zqueen-postell@cpsc.us

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ATTACHMENT 5

[External] Re: SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING NOTICE

Tuesday, January 7, 2025 at 7:48:27 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: zqueen-postell@cpsd.us Zuleka Queen-Postell

On Tue, Jan 7, 2025 at 7:07 PM Zuleka Queen-Postell via ParentSquare <donotreply+d2de37c8-7fdb-500d-9f2b-0ebd886c1b22@parentsquare.com> wrote:



Cambridge Public Schools

Zuleka Queen-Postell posted in your feed

SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING NOTICE

SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING NOTICE

There will be a special meeting of the Cambridge Special Education Parent Advisory Council on January 22, 2025, at 6:00pm via Google Meet for the purpose of discussing a November 2024 open meeting law complaint brought against the Special Education Parent Advisory Council's board by a Cambridge caregiver and to discuss the nomination process and election for the Cambridge SE-PAC board.

SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING NOTICE

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Attendees may attend the meeting by visiting <https://meet.google.com/zywaxzlkjkb>.

Attendees may attend the meeting by visiting <https://meet.google.com/yyv-wztk-jke>.

Postponed

Unfortunately the January 8th Workshop: Basic Rights: Understanding the IEP which was due to be presented in English, translated in Haitian Creole, Spanish, and Amharic has been postponed due to the presenter being ill. The new date will be shared ASAP. Thank you for your understanding.

For questions and comments please contact Zuleka Queen-Postell, ZQueen-Postell@CPSD.US

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Special Meeting of the Cambridge Special Education Parent Advisory Council

Wednesday January 22, 2025

6:00 PM

[Add to my Calendar](#)

Location

Google Meet

[Get directions](#)

Description

SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING NOTICE

There will be a special meeting of the Cambridge Special Education Parent Advisory Council on January 22, 2025, at 6:00pm via Google Meet for the purpose of discussing a November 2024 open meeting law complaint brought against the Special Education Parent Advisory Council's board by a Cambridge caregiver and to discuss the nomination process and election for the Cambridge SE-PAC board.

Attendees may attend the meeting by visiting <https://meet.google.com/yvv-wztk-jke>.

Tags

Public Meetings

Page was last modified on 1/8/2025 6:02 AM

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