

**Special Education Parent Advisory Committee**  
**Meeting Notes**  
**May 19, 2026**

The Special Education Parent Advisory Committee (SEPAC) met on Tuesday, May 19, 2026 with 15 attendees joining in person or via TEAMS Webinar.

SEPAC Stakeholders Present: Shelby DiFonzo, Julie Emery Hetland, Kirstin Hanson, Siew Hoon Lim

SEPAC Stakeholders Absent: Katy Barnum, Kelly Ehli, Sarah Weisser, Kelli Bourke, Jason Cresap, Scott Hanson

Attendees: Cassie Jorgenson, Jolene Schue, Kim Myers, Gul Badin, Ophelia Barlow, Eugena Britton Latrice, Marijo Schwengler, Janelle Griggs, Cassandra Black, Emma Franklund, Nicole Schuler

Shelby DiFonzo called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm

**Agenda was presented:**

- Approval of Minutes
  - [SEPAC Meeting Notes 3-31-2026](#)
- Approval of Agenda
- Director of Student Support Services Committee Presentation: [SEPAC 5-19-26 Google Slides](#)
  - Level of Determination Report Card
    - Review current information
    - Discuss formation of a SEPAC work group to review district data and provide feedback
  - IDEA State Advisory Committee Updates
    - Share updates regarding the IDEA State Committee
    - Discuss potential next steps for SEPAC involvement in supporting families
    - Explore possible family engagement and support opportunities for Fall 2026
  - SEPAC Communication Enhancements
    - Review current SEPAC flyer and materials
    - Discuss adding a QR code to the SEPAC website/materials
    - Brainstorm ways to increase visibility and engagement for families
    - Identify what would make SEPAC communication more meaningful, welcoming and easy to access for families.
- Recognition of Audience
  - Please sign up through the chat option of the webinar. Each participant who signs up will have 3 minutes to make a public comment. This meeting is open to the public, but it is not a public forum. The primary focus of the meeting is the business listed on the agenda. Generally only the Council person will acknowledge public commentary. Please be assured, however, that all members welcome and appreciate your comments.
- Success Stories/ Feedback
- Community Events/Resources Available
- Establish Next Meeting Date
- Adjournment of meeting

Tonight's meeting will be informational only due to the absence of Chairperson Katy Barnum

Agenda items tabled until the next meeting

- Approval of meeting minutes from 3-31-2026 meeting
- Discuss formation of a SEPAC work group to review district data and provide feedback
- IDEA State Advisory Committee Updates- Katy Barum

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**Director of Student Support Services Committee Presentation:** [SEPAC 5-19-26 Google Slides](#)

Shelby DiFonzo

- Level of Determination Report Card
  - Review current information

**Recognition of Audience**

- Marijo Schwengler brought up that she has attended a few meetings and still not sure what the SEPAC meetings are about.
- Christina Black offered to help get more families involved.
- Suggestion was made to continue with in person and online meetings in the future.

**Success Stories/Feedback**

- Siew Hoon Lim shared that her son used to not like reading and now he wants to read every night
- Janelle Griggs shared that her son returned to FPS after being gone for 8 years and he has enjoyed TNT and the ABLE games coming to his school.

**Community Events/Resources Available**

- Fargo Parks-Camp-A-Day Program (June-July, Monday - Thursday, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm)  
<https://www.fargoparks.com/youth-programs/adaptive-programs>
- Hip Hop & Hope - <https://www.hiphopandhopetours.org>
- NDSU Transition and Access Program (TAP) - <https://www.ndsu.edu/tap>
- Trollwood Performing Arts School - <https://trollwood.org>
- Back to School night and 6th grade orientation - <https://www.Fargo.k12.nd.us>
- Moorhead Parks-Adaptive Programs (Day Camp, Soccer, Baseball)  
<https://moorheadparks.activityreg.com/selectActivity>
- Hope Inc – Summer Events (adaptive park meetups, bowling, track meets, and more)  
<https://www.hopeinc.org/events>

**Meeting Timeline**

- The next FPS SEPAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Meeting adjourned at 6:18 pm

**Are there topics you would like to discuss?**

Please email Shelby DiFonzo, Director of Student Support Services @[difonzs@fargo.k12.nd.us](mailto:difonzs@fargo.k12.nd.us)