CARLISLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS www.carlisle.k12.ma.us
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JOINT SCHOOL COMMITTEE SPECIAL EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE (SESC) AND SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SEPAC) MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2026, 9:30 AM

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE, CARLISLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND REMOTE ACCESS VIA ZOOM

Present – School Committee: Lynette Kelleher, Sharon Whitt
Present – School Administration: Jim O'Shea, Superintendent; Deb Bookis, Vice Principal; Mary O'Regan, Assistant to the Superintendent
Present – SEPAC Member: Jessie Pescatore
Present via Zoom – SEPAC Member: Meredith Bielecki

Pursuant to Governor Healey's approved legislation, H. 62, a bill extending authorizations for all local boards, commissions, and committees to hold public meetings remotely or in a hybrid format Extended Timeline, amending Section 30A of Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, most recently amended by Section 40 of Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, and replacing the current expiration date of "March 31, 2025" with "June 30, 2027." Therefore, this meeting of the Carlisle School Committee is being conducted via remote participation in order to ensure public access. Members of the public can access the meeting via live stream at:
Topic: SESC/SEPAC Joint Meeting
Time: May 28, 2026 09:30 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Join Zoom Meeting
https://carlisle-k12-ma-us.zoom.us/j/85640314448?pwd=cVM2zIgMlnyqiJtHpE8rDtVhYJyqxb.1
Meeting ID: 856 4031 4448
Passcode: 665532

I. **Call to Order** - Ms. Whitt called the meeting to order at 9:35 AM.

II. **Review of 2025-2026 School Year**

- Families and students are excited about the addition of the TimberNook program in collaboration with ESY. Currently seven students registered and administration will send out a reminder communication to families regarding the program.
- The SOA Plan was submitted. A final update on the current plan will be submitted during the 26-27 school year and then the cycle will begin again. There was discussion of how aspects of the plan support students.
- This year CPS applied to the Flutie Foundation for a grant with support from the SESC. In the coming months, members will continue to look for grant opportunities.
- The Unified Sports programs have made strides during the year with collaboration from WBYC. Programs include cross country, backyard games, as well as recess support.
- SEPAC has received praise for the expansion of the preschool program for the 26-27 school year.
- APPLE Program initiatives continue. Ms. Pescatore will follow-up with district staff to review special education web pages.

- SEPAC Board is seeking more participation from families. There was a suggestion to combine events with Concord SEPAC. Current members are making a push to get more board members but finding it challenging to get parent participation. Ms. Bielecki volunteered to assist in recruitment of members and suggested getting Special Educators involved to support SEPAC. There was discussion of partnering with surrounding districts in the future and to bring back more informal parent coffee hours.
- The plan is to continue joint SESC and SEPAC meetings for the upcoming year as they have been valuable over the past year.
- SEPAC members voiced a concern of not being heard during the interim superintendent search.
- During the Director's absence work has been done, and continues, to ensure that students and families are being supported appropriately. SEPAC asked that if an administrator does not know the answer to a special education related question or what next steps should be, to stop or pause and reach out for support.

III. Public Comments - There were no public comments.

IV. Adjourn
The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary O'Regan
Assistant to the Superintendent
May 28, 2026