Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC)

North Caldwell Public Schools

Current In-District Programs

Preschool

- 2 half-day PreK-3 inclusion classes
- 2 half-day PreK-4 inclusion classes
- 1 full day Preschool Disabilities Class

Grandview/Gould

- In-Class Resource (co-taught) Classrooms
- Resource Center (small group subject-area) Classrooms
- Multiple Disabilities/LLD (self-contained) Classrooms

Related Services

- Speech/Language
- OT
- PT
- Behaviorist/ABA

What is a SEPAC?

A Special Education Parent Advisory Council, or SEPAC is a state-mandated, district-level, parent-driven group charged with providing input to the local school district on system-level challenges in special education and related services.

The North Caldwell Special Education Parent Advisory Council exists to fulfill the requirements of the New Jersey Administrative Code 6A:14-1.2 (h):

"Each district board of education shall ensure that a special education parent advisory group is in place in the district to provide input to the district on issues concerning students with disabilities."

Who can be a member of a SEPAC?

Parents are the core members of a SEPAC. This includes parents of children with disabilities who have an IEP or 504 and are educated in schools within or outside of a student's home district.

Other members may include:

- School leaders, including the Director of Special Services and/or members of the Board of Education
- Teachers, CST members, and other school professionals
- Former students
- Other parents committed to improving education in their district
- Community leaders

SEPAC Membership & Executive Committee

Council Membership

All parents of a child with an IEP or 504

Executive Committee

1-2 families of students from Preschool, Grandview K-3, Gould 4-6, and Out of District depending on interest

Other Executive Committee Members

Director of Special Services, Superintendent

Selection

Google Interest Form was sent to all eligible families. Random selection due to high interest.

Roles and Responsibilities

All members should:

- Understand the function of SEPAC
- Maintain knowledge of regulations pertaining to the special education/504 process
- Attend and participate in SEPAC meetings

Executive Committee should:

- Participate in outreach activities that extend to the larger community
- Distribute information to families when needed
- Establish connections with the NCPE and sending district SEPACs
- Act as liaisons to families of students with disabilities and the District in order to share concerns with District leaders
- Take minutes at meetings and share with all SEPAC members

School District Leader should:

- Coordinate meeting logistics
- Direct parents to appropriate personnel when individual concerns arise
- Communicate meeting information to all SEPAC members

SEPAC Executive Committee

- **Preschool Representatives**: Evan and Kristina Sarti
- **Grandview Representative**: Courtney Kober
- **Gould Representatives**: Natalie Neubauer; Deanna and Jamie Copeland
- **Out-of-District Representative**: Raline Sexton

SEPAC Structure

- **Full SEPAC meetings will be held 3 times a year**
- **Executive Committee will meet 2 times a year**
- **All members will respect confidentiality, listen without judgment**
- **Discussion will focus on district-level, systemic issues**

LOOKING AHEAD

General Meetings

- Dates for 2026-2027 school year to be announced soon

Events

- Grandview and Gould Back to School Nights
- Lunch and Learn with the NJ Special Education Ombudsman

https://canva.link/lunch-and-learn-flyer

Awareness

- Website (under construction)

THANK YOU!