

Medford Parent Advisory Council for Special Education

General Business Meeting

July 25, 2011

Medford Public Library



Agenda

Organizational Overview

- ❑ Meeting notes from April 2011 SEPAC Business Meeting
- ❑ SEPAC Organization
- ❑ SEPAC Presence
- ❑ How we have participated in the District
- ❑ Next Steps...
- ❑ Community Participation



SEPAC Organization

- Structure (as of July 2010)
 - Created Representatives at School level
- By-Laws (as of July 2010)



SEPAC Presence

- School Committee ✓
- Administration ✓
- Teachers
- Parent Community
- Medford Community
- Beyond Medford ✓



How we have participated in the District

- Input/Impacted policy
 - Bullying; Social Probation
- Identified problem resolution process for parents and administration
- Participate on city-wide and school-based committees
- Inform parents (Early Intervention to Grade 12; emphasized periods of transition)
 - Workshops; E-newsletter; High School Transition Fair; Turning 3; Preschool to Kindergarten; Fliers; MPS webpage



Next Steps...

- Follow-through on previous initiatives
 - Rollout Problem Resolution process
 - Confidentiality
 - Advocates: What makes an individual an advocate in MPS?
 - Bullying (adults modeling appropriate behavior)
- Increase workshops to at least 1 per month (topic based on disability awareness month)



Next Steps (continued)...

- Improve web presence
 - MPS web page (event dates; board members; by-laws; open meeting law; public records law)
 - Explore website option; resources for parents
- Surveys (parents, teachers)
- Review By-laws



Next Steps (continued)...

- Forming a “Special Education Resources Committee”
 - Parent Coffee Hours
 - Suggest topic-based w/speaker
 - Thoughts on location?
 - SEPAC Newsletter
 - “Resource Fair” for parents (location?)
 - Website
 - Share “Special Education” topics in the news



Event Planning

- Coffee: “How’s your transition going?”
- MassPIRC Workshop (Pick 1)
- Federation (Basic Rights & Pick 1 additional)
- Language-based disabilities
- “Including Samuel” & “Labeled Disabled” Films
- “Getting Organized”
- “Think Kids”



Awareness Months

- Collecting list to add to newsletter
- Will send email to board w/current listing
- Will request input from MPS community as well



Community Participation

This is an opportunity for business meeting attendees to bring up additional agenda items.

Meeting will go no later than 8:50pm.