

**MEDFORD SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL
MEDFORD SEPAC**

NEWS & INFORMATION

SEPAC Board Members ~ School Contact

Issue September 2010

In June 2010, SEPAC reorganized. Parents may now contact your school representative for special education-related questions. Contacts are...

Early Childhood,
Brooks & Roberts Elementary,
Curtis-Tufts,
Medford High School, &
Medford Vocational School

Contact: Kathy Aluia at kaluia@comcast.net or 781-956-8770

McGlynn Middle School,
Medford High School,
Medford Vocational School, &
Out-of-District Students (Privately placed by parents or district)

Contact: Mary Finn at maryfinn@comcast.net or 781-391-2353

McGlynn Elementary

Contact: Kathie Hunt at kevinjhunt@aol.com or 781-391-6148

Andrews Middle School &
Columbus Elementary

Contact: Jen Maunsell at falcomaunsell@yahoo.com or 339-221-2002

Columbus Elementary

Contact: Kelly Tello at kellytello@comcast.net

SAVE THE DATES! ~ SEPAC Events & Meetings

September 27 ~ "Meet the Administrators" Medford High School Library at 7pm

October TBD ~ "Red Flags: How to Identify Early Struggling Readers" MABIDA

Date TBD ~ "Effective Communication" Federation for Children with Special Needs

Date TBD ~ "Basic Rights in Special Education"

Medford SEPAC General Business Meeting: The purpose of a general meeting is to plan, review, & discuss SEPAC initiatives and to vote on agenda items that come before the board. Dates: September 14, October 19, November 30, December 14

Meetings are held at the South Medford Fire Station Community Room at 7:00 pm.

Event Information (Outside of Medford)

Registration is now open for TOPSoccer FALL PROGRAM in Somerville: Sept 29-Oct 24
Open to special needs children of all ages & abilities. TOPSoccer (The Outreach Program for Soccer) is a community-based training and team placement program for young athletes with disabilities. Any boy or girl, ages 4-19, who has a mental or physical disability is eligible. This program is open to Somerville and surrounding communities.

TOPSoccer utilizes the Capuano Field (150 Glen Street, Somerville, MA) from 3p-4p.

Contact Kathleen Houghton at khoughton@k12.somerville.ma.us to register.

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For more info, contact John Teves at jteves@rcn.com.

Advances in Diagnosis and Treatment of High-Functioning Autism Spectrum Disorders:

Saturday, Sept 25 from 10:00am-3:15pm
The Starr Center at Mass General Hospital
185 Cambridge Street
Boston, MA

To register, visit www.moodand anxiety.org or call 617-724-8318. Program is free. Registration is required.

Wrightslaw Conference in Nashua, NH: Oct 28 from 8:30am-4:30pm

Hosted by the NH Parent Information Center is offering Special Education Law and Advocacy Training. Pete Wright will be presenting this conference at the Courtyard by Marriott in Nashua.

To register, go to <http://www.parentinformationcenter.org/>

“Using Sensory Stories to Promote Self-Regulation” in Framingham, MA: Sat, Oct 23

Speaker: Victoria Nackley, OTR Location: Therapro, Inc.: 225 Arlington Street, Framingham, MA

Seminar is free and held on Sat, Oct 23 from 9a-11am. Register at info@therapro.com.

MABIDA (Massachusetts Branch of the International Dyslexia Association) Annual Dinner Meeting ~ “Can Multi-sensory Structured Language Succeed in an Urban Classroom? Yes, it can!”

Friday, September 24 at 6:00pm
The MIT Faculty Club
50 Memorial Drive

Cost is \$35.00. To register and for info, go to <http://www.dyslexia-ma.org/>.

“Building a Home”: A conference on the complex issues families face in securing supportive living arrangements for their adult children with developmental disabilities. For individuals with disabilities, the people who love and support them, service providers and innovative thinkers. Planned & organized by MA Families Organizing for Change in collaboration with The ARC of MA, The Arc of Greater Haverhill~Newburyport, EMARC, The Federation for Children with Special Needs and Riverside Community Care.

Saturday, Nov 13 from 8:30am-3:00pm
Brandeis University
Harold Hassenfeld Conference Center
415 South Street
Waltham, MA

To register, contact Asta Orthman at aorthman@riversidecc.org.

Workshops for Executive Function Skill Development with Sarah Ward M.S., CCC/SLP

Registration is open for fall workshops. For info, check out www.executivefunctiontherapy.com

SAVE THE DATE!

2011 Family Leadership Series: February 4 & 5; March 4 & 5; April 8, & 9

More info to come. Event is free. For more info, contact Lauri Medeiros at rjmede@aol.com

2011 Annual Conference of Federation for Children with Special Needs: Sat, March 12

More info to come. For info, check out www.fcsn.org.

Special Education Resources

Special Education in Medford Public Schools:

Special Education in Medford Public Schools:

For contact listing, service information, 504 or Title II resources?

Site link: <http://www.medfordpublicschools.org/departments-programs/special-education-pupil-services/>

List of National and State organizations & government agency websites:

Link: <http://www.medfordpublicschools.org/departments-programs/special-education-pupil-services/links/>

Federation for Children with Special Needs: Trained parent consultants will respond to questions specific to your child's placement or services.

Parent Information Center: 617-236-7210 Website: www.fcsn.org

Consumer Empowerment Funds: Education grants for families

Phone: 617-770-7676 Website: www.mass.gov/mddc/cefp/index.htm

Get Help with Universal Home Design ~ A Message from Leonardi Aray Architects: Do you or someone in your family have a disability? Does your house have barriers like hazardous steps at the front entry, narrow doors, tight hallways or a small dangerous bathroom? Do you need to install a ramp or remodel your bathroom to make your home accessible and safe?

The all-volunteer organization, HomeFreeHome, Ince., provides free and low cost architectural design services to people with permanent disabilities who need to remove barriers and open up access in their homes.

To apply for these services, fill out an application/questionnaire on HomeFreeHome's website at <http://homefreehome.org/>. HomeFreeHome will review all applications, evaluate the feasibility of your proposed project and (if you are selected), assign a local volunteer architect.

To request that an event be posted on the next newsletter, change your email address, or remove yourself from the Medford SEPAC email listing, contact kaluia@comcast.net. Posting requests are subject to review of the SEPAC Board.