



Acton-Boxborough Special Education Parent Advisory Council (AB SpEd PAC)

Business Meeting

Wednesday, November 19, 2014, at 7:30 pm in the RJ Grey Junior High library

Agenda

I. Call to Order

II. Approval of Minutes

Review and approval of September 24, 2014, and October 22, 2014, meeting minutes

III. Organization/Business Issues

A. Meeting with Superintendent Brand as Part of Entry Plan

- Opportunity to review positives, concerns regarding overall district and special education
- Issues shared included divide between general and special education, budgetary concerns, disconnect between report cards and progress reports, general ed teachers not knowing students are on IEPs, Futures Education findings regarding staffing, school autonomy, MCAS, formative testing, Pupil Services situation

B. Special Education MCAS Performance

C. **NEW** Date Stamping Procedure for Hand-Delivered Documents to Pupil Services

D. Special Education Budget Priorities

E. PAC Potential Signatory to Chapter 71B Letter to State Representatives

F. Parent/Guardian Support Group Subcommittee Update

G. Potential PAC Presence on Social Media

H. Updates on Other Goals & Priorities for 2014-15

- New practice requiring all teachers to sign off on student IEPs and 504s within 5 days of receiving a signed IEP/504 and prior to the start of each year
- Changes to School Committee Procedures regarding the PAC

IV. New Business – Other topics on people's minds

V. Open Issues

A. MCAS – 4th and 7th grade ELA performance for students with disabilities is weak

B. Futures Education findings re: student to assistant ratios high by peer standards

C. Concerns about the process for combining outside specialists' recommendations with district evaluations/recommendations and appropriately incorporating those recommendations into the IEP

D. Mandatory special education training/professional development for regular and special education staff – hiring dual-certified staff

E. Enhanced summer school and after school/extracurricular programming

F. Increased use of technology in IEP development/revision process

VI. Adjournment

All AB SpEd PAC meetings are open to the public. We encourage parents of children with special needs and others interested in special education to attend. Please check our website (www.abspedpac.org) for information regarding upcoming events.

This meeting will be followed immediately by a brief Friends of AB SpEd PAC meeting.