

Quabbin Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC) Pandemic Resources

QRSD SEPAC MEETINGS

Next SEPAC Meeting 6:00 p.m.

May 17, 2020

[Join with Google Meet](#)

meet.google.com/qjf-xxav-isc

[Join by phone](#)

+1 414-436-8716 PIN: 837 625 683#

QRSD PARENT SUPPORT GROUPS

Parent Support Group on Google Meets

Use the link below to log on to the virtual meetings hosted by Quabbin clinical staff.

Wednesdays 6:00 p.m.

[Join with Google Meet](#)

meet.google.com/ybw-qomz-pwj

[Join by phone](#)

+1 385-325-0956 PIN: 347 096 609#

Thursdays 11:00 a.m.

[Join with Google Meet](#)

meet.google.com/rdg-dfwg-vok

[Join by phone](#)

+1 413-459-4902 PIN: 522 901 701#

DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY & SECONDARY EDUCATION (DESE) LINKS

Special Education Family Resource Toolkit & COVID19 Information

<http://www.doe.mass.edu/covid19/sped/family-resource-toolbox/>

<http://www.doe.mass.edu/covid19/sped.html>

OTHER THIRD PARTY LINKS

Parent Professional Advocacy League (PPAL)

<http://ppal.net/find-help/statewide-resources>

PPAL support groups

<http://ppal.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/April-2020-support-groups-revised-4.29.pdf>

Exceptional Lives

FREE webinar series for parents and caregivers will describe how providers can support your child (and you) even through a computer screen. Hear from professionals about their approach and expectations and get your questions answered.

All webinars will be held on Wednesdays from 2-2:30 EDT/1-1:30 CDT. **All webinars are FREE.** Pre-registration is required. <https://www.exceptionallives.org/webinars>

Each session will be 15-20 minutes of presentation and 10 minutes for Q&A. Join us for a few sessions or all 4!

5/27: Occupational Therapy at Home

6/3: Applied Behavior Analysis at Home

6/10: Mental Health Counseling at Home

6/17: Speech Therapy at Home

Federation for Children with Special Needs (FCSN)

The Federation currently oversees over 15 projects related to supporting families whose children have special educational needs and special healthcare needs, as well as families of culturally and economically underserved populations by promoting family engagement within general education. The projects are organized into five “Centers” by the primary type of service offered to families, and are described below.

Special Education Parent Center

Focuses on providing support, information, training and workshops related to special education to families of children with special needs (includes our outreach programming to culturally and linguistically underserved families). Through a variety of activities, parents can learn about the special education process (including IEP, Basic Rights, Transition Planning, MCAS, etc.) so that they can best support their child. Additionally, parents can participate in an intensive 8-week in-depth training on special education policy and procedures. Projects include:

[Parent Training and Information Center](#)

[The LINK Center/Planning a Life](#)

Community Outreach and Empowerment Project

[Parent Consultant Training Institute](#)

[Special Education Placement Options](#)

Family Support Center

Focuses on providing parent to parent support for families who have children with special health care needs or disabilities; women, children, adolescents and young adults infected/affected by HIV/AIDS; families of young children with early childhood mental health issues; and families who have a serious mental health challenges and complex DCF cases with child custody concerns. Projects include:

[Family TIES of Massachusetts](#)

[MassCARE](#)

[Pathways for Parents](#)

Health Advocacy Center

Focuses on providing healthcare information and support to families of children with special needs, and programming that helps build capacity for family partnerships and supports partnership activities between managed care organizations and parents around improved access to services and supports. Projects include:

[Mass Family Voices](#)

[Family-to-Family Health Information Center](#)

Family and Community Engagement Center

Offers education improvement services to districts and schools in Massachusetts, partnering with districts and schools to improve student achievement and school performance through strengthening family and community engagement policies. The Center also trains community volunteers to act as “surrogate parents” for educational decision-making for students whose parents are not available. Projects include:

[Family and Community Engagement Team](#)

[Recruitment Training and Support Center for Special Education Surrogate Parents](#)

Parent-Professional Leadership Center

Focuses on activities that help build collaborative relationships among key education stakeholders (parents, educators, other professionals, and community partners) ensuring systemic efforts at improving educational outcomes for all students. Projects include:

[Massachusetts Association of Special Education Parent Advisory Councils \(MassPAC\)](#)

[Advancing Parent-Professional Leadership in Education \(APPLE\)](#)