

Get Involved in Education



What We Do

- Advise the district on matters that pertain to the education and safety of students with disabilities
- Meet with school officials to participate in the planning, development and evaluation of special education programs
- Provide informational forums to parents, educators, students and professionals
- Promote communication and programs within the community that encourage understanding, acceptance and inclusion of all children

Membership

Membership is open to all interested parties; voting membership is limited to parents or guardians of special needs students enrolled at Atlantis with an IEP or 504 Plan, as well as students over the age of 14.

★ Listen

Become a member of the Atlantis SEPAC

Meeting Schedule

Quarterly meetings will be held at the Atlantis Charter School located at 991 Jefferson Street from 6:00pm-8:00pm, unless otherwise noted.

Below are some examples of the topics we have done in previous years. Meeting information is sent to members electronically, and posted on our web site along with social media networks. Atlantis Charter School is also a member of the MassPac and has access to their resources and presentations :

Basic Rights in Special Education

The Basic Rights workshop provides families with an introduction to their rights and responsibilities under:

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) & Massachusetts Special Education Law.

Introduction to Conscious Discipline Series:

Atlantis Charter School Parent Group is offering a 5-week parent series. Classes are based on the concepts of Conscious Discipline featured in the award-winning book **Easy to Love, Difficult to Discipline** written by Dr. Becky Bailey, an internationally renowned expert in child developmental psychology. Conscious Discipline, a program on the National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practices (NREPP), is a brain based, trauma-informed approach to social emotional learning. Conscious Discipline is the only program on the market that addresses the adult's skills of self-regulation during upset moments. The adult's response has an impact in teaching children how to manage their emotions.

Meet the Special Education Team and Learn strategies on how to support your child at home

Special Education staff and service providers were available to answer questions as well as demonstrate strategies to help your child at home in reading, writing and math.

★ Learn

Leadership Needed

President: Sara DeMoura

Vice President: Kaitlin Freitas

Secretary:

Treasurer:

Contact us:

Donalda.silva@atlantiscs.org or
Jgard@Atlantiscs.org

Special Education Administration

Executive Director

Robert Beatty

District Leader

Gabriella Birmingham

Special Education Director

Jessica Lee

Special Education Chair

Kellie Fraser-Garcia

Special Education Records Clerk

Catherine Grace

★ Lead

What is a Special Education Parent Advisory Council?

A Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC) is a state mandated and supported advisory group that provides input to the School Committee/ Board of Trustees, as well as information to parents and guardians and the larger community about the special education processes and programs offered to children from age 3 to transition (age 22).

About the Atlantis Charter School SEPAC

The Atlantis SEPAC is a system-wide organization of parents, guardians, and administrators working in partnership to promote an innovative educational environment where children with learning challenges have equal access to educational opportunities, while ensuring that our schools strive to improve educational outcomes for all children.

Connect with us!

1. Become an **Atlantis SEPAC member**
2. Come to a **meeting or presentation**
3. Send us an email:
Sara DeMoura: sdemoura15@gmail.com
Kaitlin Freitas:
freitasfamily13@gmail.com
donalda.silva@atlantiscs.org or
Jgard@Atlantiscs.org

Frequently Used Acronyms in our District

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| ABA | Applied Behavior Analysis |
| ADD | Attention Deficit Disorder |
| ADHD | Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder |
| ADL | Activities of Daily Living |
| AS | Asperger's Syndrome |
| ASD | Autism Spectrum Disorder |
| ASL | American Sign Language |
| AT | Assistive Technology |
| AYP | Adequate Yearly Progress |
| CI | Cognitive Impairment |
| CORE | Collaborative Occupational Resource Education |
| CPR | Coordinated Program Review |
| CTE | Career and Technical Education |
| DESE | Department of Elementary and Secondary Education |
| ED | Emotional Disturbance |
| EI | Early Intervention |
| ELL | English Language Learners |
| ESY | Extended School Year |
| ETL | Education Team Leader |
| FAPE | Free Appropriate Public Education |
| FBA | Functional Behavior Assessment |
| HI | Hearing Impaired |
| IDEA | Individuals with Disabilities Education Act |
| IEP | Individualized Education Program |
| ITP | Individualized Transition Plan |
| LD | Learning Disabled |
| LEA | Local Education Agency |
| LRE | Least Restrictive Environment |
| MCAS | Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System |
| MCAS-ALT | MCAS-Alternative Assessment |
| NCLB | No Child Left Behind |
| NVLD | Non-Verbal Learning Disability |
| OT | Occupational Therapist |
| PAC | Parent Advisory Council |
| PARCC | Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College & Careers |
| PDD | Pervasive Developmental Disorder |
| PI | Physical Impairment |
| PIC | Parent Information Center |
| PLD | Performance Level Descriptors |
| PT | Physical Therapist |
| SAC | School Adjustment Counselor |
| SEI | Sheltered English Immersion |
| SLD | Specific Learning Disability |
| SLP | Speech and Language Pathologist |
| TASC | Teaching and Social Curriculum |
| VI | Visually Impaired |

Atlantis Charter School Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC)



Working together to
advance education for all