



Special Needs

Advisory Council

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to SNAC (Special Needs Advisory Council)! We are a group of parents, guardians, educators, school administration and other community members who work together for the respect and support of all children with special needs in the Nantucket community.

Our role as a council is to collaborate with the school district on matters pertaining to children with special needs, to share information and discuss matters of common concern and interest, offer speaker events and workshops and other programs for families and children at all four building levels (NES, NIS, CPS and NHS).

As parents of children with special needs ourselves, we have found that the best resources were other parents who have shared experiences. It can feel incredibly isolating to have a child with special needs, but you are not alone and many parents are available to share what worked for them and direct you to services in the school or community that might help your family as well. Just having access to speak with other parents who understand is empowering.

We invite you to join us at our monthly meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6 pm. in the NHS Conference Room. The first part of each meeting is an opportunity to network, share information and work constructively with our school district staff to benefit our students and schools. After the meeting adjourns, school representatives leave and Uncommon Parents meets; an opportunity for parents to share concerns about their special needs child, school concerns, etc. in a confidential manner.

We also offer programs of interest on a variety of topics and are interested in hearing your ideas and suggestions. In the past year we have invited speakers to talk to parents about dyslexia, financial planning for special needs, play therapy, inclusion for after school and summer camp programs, executive function and transition planning, to name a few.

SNAC also has parent representatives at each building level and any committee member is available to support you in any way we can. We have all walked this road, so don't be afraid to reach out to any of us!

Co-Chairs: Suzanne Fronzuto (also NAMI Liaison) df.fronzuto@comcast.net

and Laura Steele (also NHS Liaison), Laura@bartlettsfarm.com

Secretary and CPS Liaison: Lora Kebbati nk24_24@yahoo.com

NES Liaison: Grace Hull gracebhull@gmail.com

NIS Liaisons: Sarah Hollis sarahvalero@yahoo.com and Mandy Mason jon-mandy@comcast.net

New School Liaison & FONPS: Kristen Dussault kmd0630@verizon.net

Lighthouse School Liaison and Social Media Officer: Jean Witt jgerenwitt@gmail.com

SNAC meeting dates, agendas, upcoming events, resources and contact information for SNAC committee members can be found on the school district website at www.npsk.org under Special services SNAC.

We hope to see you soon,

Laura Steele & Suzanne Fronzuto, Co-chairs SNAC

The SNAC is organized to empower parents, school staff and community professionals to collaborate in a positive decision making process to plan and implement educational programs for students with special needs.

The SNAC will support, guide, advocate, advise and educate parents, Nantucket schools, and the community on the rights and needs of children with disabilities and their families.