

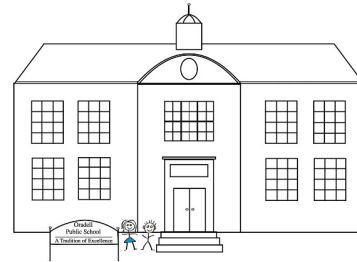
Oradell SEPAC

Parent Guide

*Working Hand in Hand to Support
our Special Education Community*

What is a SEPAC?

A Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC) is a volunteer group of parents and guardians, which gives input to the school district and provides support and information to parents and caregivers of children with special needs. SEPACs exist in accordance with New Jersey Administrative Code, which states: "Each district board of education shall ensure that a special education parent advisory group is in place in the district to provide input to the district on issues concerning students with disabilities." – NJAC 6A:14-1.2 District eligibility for assistance under IDEA Part B item 18, letter (h)



Who can participate in the SEPAC?

The Oradell SEPAC is open to parents and caregivers who would like to make a difference for children who have special needs. Whether your child is being educated within the district or outside it, has a 504 Plan, an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), a speech-only IEP, and/or participates in social skills groups or other programs, all are welcome.

When does the SEPAC meet?

The SEPAC hosts three to four meetings with school representatives during the school year. These meetings typically take place on weekday evenings in the OPS IMC/Library. The group also hosts informal meet-ups and informative presentations about topics related to education and Special Services.

What are the SEPAC's goals?

As a volunteer group, SEPAC initiatives depend on input from members. Among the group's interests are:

- Connecting families who are new to Special Services with experienced mentors who can answer questions and provide support.
- Helping students with transitions into new classes, new grades, and out of Oradell Public School.
- Informing parents about standardized testing procedures and test-taking accommodations.
- Establishing a central hub to share special services information and resources.
- Capturing suggestions and feedback and sharing this information with school administrators.
- Advocating for specialized training for school staff who work with special needs students.
- Facilitating communication between parents and the Special Services Department.
- Supporting programs and initiatives to encourage inclusivity and empathy within Oradell Public School.

I'm new to Special Services. Help!

The path to securing extra help for your child can be confusing and emotional. The SEPAC can assist by connecting you to a parent mentor, who can provide support and share information based on their experiences with Special Services.



How can I learn more?

Attend a SEPAC meeting or reach out to us. We can add you to the SEPAC closed Facebook Group and e-mail list, connect you to a mentor, and/or provide details about volunteering to support SEPAC initiatives.

Contacts

Oradell SEPAC

oradellsepac@gmail.com

Oradell Special Services

mentim@oradellschool.org

201-261-1180, ext. 123

Reach out!

Please e-mail us at
oradellsepac@gmail.com
if you have questions,
would like to receive a SEPAC
parent mentor, or would like to
learn more about the Oradell
Special Education Parent Advisory
Council.

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