



SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (SEPAC)

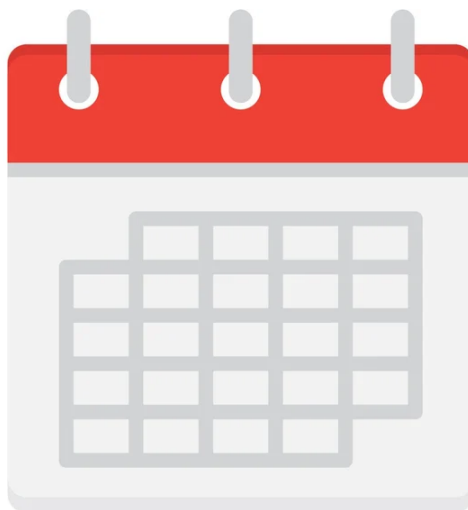
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SEPAC's Education Empowerment Newsletter



April 2026

It's Autism Awareness Month! Did you know it wasn't until 1980 that the term "autism" was formalized for the first time with new diagnostic categories? Today the [CDC](#) estimates that 1 in 31 children have been identified with ASD. You can help bring awareness and acceptance of the community by posting a GoBlue graphic in your social profile, sharing stories, attending local events and/or donating to a fundraiser to increase understanding and acceptance of the autism community. Learn more by visiting the [American Autism Association](#).



Upcoming Events

Grades

-Apr 5, Q3 Grades Posted

Early Release

-Fri Apr 17, 11:21am

-Mon April 20-Fri Apr 24, Spring Break

-Wed Apr 29, Early Release, 12:30

Next MMSEPAC Monthly Meeting:

-Thurs, April 9, 7:00pm

Register in advance by [clicking here](#).



Focus:Decisions Before 18

When any young person turns 18 in Massachusetts, they reach the “age of majority.” This means they are legally considered adults, with adult rights and responsibilities. For example, they can sign their own IEPs, vote, or take out a loan.

If no other plans are made in advance, on their 18th birthday – no matter what the disability is –the student becomes their own full legal guardian.

This is part of the reason why Transition Planning is so important. The FCSN provides clear guides to help you and your child make the best decision prior to their 18th birthday. Visit [FCSN](#) for more info.



Shout Out: Kristen Kenney

This month we're celebrating Special Educator Kristen Kenney. "She is a very caring Language Arts Teacher. I really appreciate that she takes the time to get to know my student as an individual, and really understands my student's needs." -- Parent of a Freshman.

Want to shout out a teacher or staff member? Email us at chair@mmsepac.org or use the site form to [share your insights](#) anonymously.



Share Your Wisdom

We're collecting wisdom and insights from parents to pass along to the incoming class of 2030. Is there a tip you wish you knew when your student just started at Minuteman, or something you feel is vital for succeeding? Email us at chair@mmsepac.org or use the site form to [share your insights](#) anonymously.

Spread the Word! Share this newsletter and invite SEPAC families to stay in touch.

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