Date:

Dear parent(s)/guardian(s),

As a requirement of New Jersey’s Administrative Code 6A:14-1.2(h), all school districts in the state of New Jersey must have a **Special Education Parent Advisory Group (SEPAG)** in place to provide input to the local school district on system-level challenges in special education and related services. This group is parent organized, parent-driven and parent-led.

**What is The Purpose of a SEPAG?**

● To provide direct input on the policies, programs, and practices that impact services and

 supports for children with disabilities and their families to the district.

● To increase the involvement of families of children with special needs in making recommendations

 on special education policy.

**Who Should Attend SEPAG Meetings?**

● Anyone with a student or students eligible for or receiving services under an IEP or 504 plan

● Interested members of the school community.

The \_\_\_\_\_\_ School District is looking for interested parents and community members to start up and lead this important parent group.

If you are interested in learning more, please see SEPAG manual in English [HERE](https://spanadvocacy.org/download/start-sepag-guide/?wpdmdl=52233&ind=1559744523828) or en Español [AQUI](https://spanadvocacy.org/download/start-sepag-guide/?wpdmdl=52233&ind=1559744521596). Then, please fill out the SEPAG Interest Survey electronically HERE or on paper (page 2 of this mailing.)

By completing the survey electronically or returning the paper form to school to the attention of\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , Director of Special Education, you will help in the planning and preparation of the initial SEPAG meeting. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me directly by phone at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ext. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or email at ­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

I am in the process of working with [SPAN Parent Advocacy Network](http://www.spanadvocacy.org/) for assistance in helping parents start and maintain their own Special Education Parent Advisory Group (SEPAG) in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ School District. We plan to offer several introductory meetings in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,2021 in both the early afternoon and evening to accommodate parent schedules. More information on these meetings will be sent out to parents once the dates and times are finalized.

Thank you,

Director of Special Education

**SEPAG INITIAL INTEREST SURVEY**

**Complete this survey online****HERE**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Student: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Method of Contact: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Best time(s) for meeting(s)? (check all that apply)**

☐Between 8-11am ☐Between 11-1pm ☐Between 1-4pm

☐Between 4-6pm ☐Between 6-8pm

Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**If you have not been able to attend parent meetings/workshops in the past, what were the obstacles?**

☐Inconvenient day/time ☐Lack of childcare ☐Inconvenient location

☐Lack of time ☐Lack of transportation ☐Lack of interest

Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**What supports are needed to overcome the barriers that prevented attendance in the past?**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**What suggestions do you have to help make this meeting productive, successful, and well attended?**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey!*