



Hand-In-Hand

Parents and Educators Working Together

*The Special Education
Citizens' Advisory
Committee (SECAC)*

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---Meeting Dates---

2015
January 12
February 9
March 9
April 13
May 11
June 8

*All meetings are open
to the public
7:00–9:00 p.m.*

Building E
Room 114

6901 Charles Street
Towson, MD 21204

New Members Welcome!



A joint publication of the Special Education Citizens' Advisory Committee (SECAC) and the Baltimore County Public Schools, Office of Special Education. Its purpose is to provide families and staff with information related to children with disabilities.

Happy New Year 2015

Please Join Us At Our Next Meeting!



Why Join SECAC?

- ◆ You will have the opportunity to improve the education of children with disabilities.
- ◆ You will have the opportunity to have input into local policy making decisions.
- ◆ You will have the opportunity to network with other parents, professionals, and service providers.
- ◆ You will have the opportunity to enhance and strengthen existing partnerships between parents, families, community leaders and educators.

Meeting dates and topics for the remainder of this year:

Month	Topic
January 12, 2015	Leisure and After School Activities
February 9, 2015	Q&A Session with IEP Chairpersons
March 9, 2015	Challenging Behaviors
April 13, 2015	Common Core Standards and Assessments
May 11, 2015	Assistant Superintendents Roundtable
June 8, 2015	Planning Session for Next School Year

**If Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS) are closed or close early due to inclement weather, the SECAC meeting will be canceled.*

All meetings take place from 7:00–9:00 p.m., in Room 114, Building E, BCPS, Greenwood Campus, 6901 Charles Street, Towson, Maryland 21204
No RSVP necessary!

For more information contact SECAC officers:

Chairperson:	Elisa Hartman	ekhartman@aol.com
Vice Chairperson:	PJ Shafer	PJ.Shafer@lpl.com

Visit the SECAC Web page: www.bcps.org/offices/special_ed/SECAC2.html

JOIN OUR YAHOO GROUP to stay informed about SECAC activities, receive meeting agendas, minutes, and so much more.

Instructions for joining BaltoCo-SECAC Yahoo Group:

1. Go to: <http://groups.yahoo.com/neo>
2. Click on "Sign In" to create a new yahoo account (if you don't already have one)
3. Once you have a Yahoo account, then you are ready to join.
4. To join, send an e-mail to BaltoCo-SECAC-subscribe@yahoogroups.com for membership approval.



MARYLAND GUIDELINES FOR STATE CODE OF DISCIPLINE

The Guidelines for a **State Code of Conduct** were revised by a working group of district representatives and other stakeholders from across Maryland. The revision was part of a **statewide effort to reform school discipline**, so that all policies and practices related to student conduct foster and teach appropriate behavior, strive to create a positive school climate and safe environment, and **keep students in school so they may graduate college and career ready**.

The purpose of these guidelines is to provide a framework for Maryland local school systems to use in establishing local codes of conduct and in developing new discipline-related policies. On January 28, 2014, the Maryland State Board adopted new student discipline regulations under the Code of Maryland Annotated Regulations (COMAR). Consequently, BCPS is in the process of reviewing and revising student discipline Board of Education policies and rules to align with the current state regulations. **The guidelines are available online at:** http://marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/divisions/studentschoolsvcs/student_services_alt/docs/MDGuidelinesforStateCodeDiscipline_08072014.pdf.

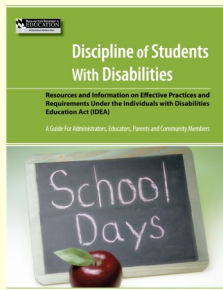
COMAR: www.dsd.state.md.us/comar/comar.aspx

BCPS' Board of Education Policies and Rules: www.bcps.org/system/policies_rules/



“Discipline of Students with Disabilities”

Resources and Information on Effective Practices and Requirements Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)



Published by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE)

FREE online:

http://marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/divisions/earlyinterv/Special_Ed_Info.html

or call for a free copy:

410-887-5443



- Behavioral therapy services for children ages 2-17 years old
- Evaluation and Treatment tailored to your child's need

Problems Served:

- ◆ Aggression/Bullying
- ◆ Family Conflict
- ◆ Noncompliance/Rule Violation
- ◆ School/Academic Problems
- ◆ Self-Esteem Issues
- ◆ Sleep/Bedtime Problems
- ◆ Social Concerns

Diagnoses Served:

- ◆ Autism Spectrum Disorders
- ◆ ADHD
- ◆ Adjustment Disorders
- ◆ Anxiety Disorders
- ◆ Depressive Disorder
- ◆ Intellectual Disability

Referrals and Appointments:

To make a referral or to schedule an appointment with Behavioral Psychology, please call: 443-923-7508

Referral specialists are available: Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Evening appointments available:

Columbia: 9810 Patuxent Woods Drive, Suite C, Columbia, MD 21046

Harbor East: 720 Aliceanna Street, 2nd Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202

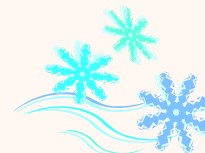
Baltimore: 1750 E. Fairmount Avenue, 4th Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21231



Special Education Resource Center presents...

2015 FREE Parent Workshops - Save the Dates!

- March 26 Help, My Child is Anxious!
- March 30 Transition Planning for Students with Disabilities
- April 16 SSI For Students With Disabilities When They Turn 18 or Older
- April 22 ADHD- Intervention Strategies For Home and School
- April 23 Financial Planning for Children with Disabilities
- April 30 Guardianship for Children with Disabilities
- May 7 Behavior Management at Home



More workshops to be added!

For complete details and an updated schedule:

Email: ldiffenderfer@bcps.org or call the Resource Center at 410-887-5443

NAMI BASICS FREE COURSE

NAMI Basics is a FREE education course for parents or caregivers of children and adolescents living with mental health issues, including ADHD, anxiety disorders, depression, and others. The course provides the fundamentals a caregiver needs to care for themselves, their family, and their child.

REGISTER NOW FOR WINTER SERIES

Six classes will be held Friday mornings starting in January, 2015 (January 23, 30, and February 6, 13, 20, 27)
10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

You must attend all six classes!

Location: White Oak School, 8401 Leefield Road, Baltimore, MD 21234

Limited Spaces—Registration Required

For additional information or to register, contact:

NAMI Metropolitan Baltimore, Inc.

Phone: 410-435-2600 or E-mail: info@namibaltimore.org

www.namibaltimore.org

Sponsored by:

NAMI, White Oak School and the Special Education Resource Center, BCPS



**DO YOU HAVE
QUESTIONS ABOUT
YOUR CHILD'S
IEP?**

WE CAN HELP!

Understanding all sections of the IEP makes you a more Informed Essential Parent team member!

SPECIAL EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER

located at White Oak School

Call 410-887-5443

Check out our
Lending Library online!
<http://destiny.bcps.org>
(under Special Collections)

*Our purpose is to
support you and
your child!*



Community Bulletin Board



ATHLETES SERVING ATHLETES is a non-profit organization that brings people together to experience the joy, excitement, and thrill of competition.

ASA OFFERS innovative athletic training, supportive mentor relationships, and high-quality endurance events for children and adults living with disabilities.

ASA USES athletic activity as a catalyst for personal development---improving physical fitness, increasing self-esteem and empowering challenged individuals to meet their highest potential.

ASA SERVES individuals with a wide range of physical disabilities as well as developmental, cognitive, and social disabilities.

ASA PROVIDES opportunities for individuals normally excluded from regular competition and sports to compete and do their best so that they can experience life to the fullest.

Specialized racing equipment is offered to those who require it for every race.

All programs are offered free of charge!

For more information visit the website:

www.athletesservingathletes.org

www.facebook.com/AthletesServingAthletes

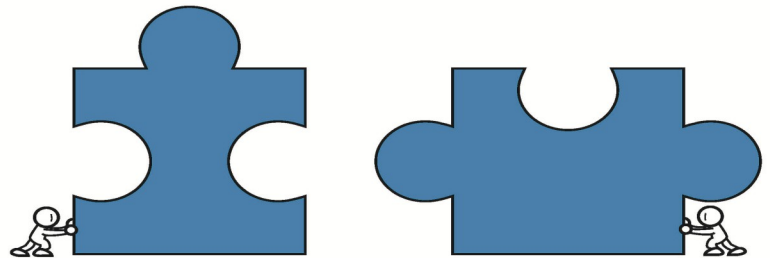
Email: info@athletesservingathletes.org

Phone: 443-272-1204



Save the Date!

for our
6th Annual



Honestly Autism Day

April 18, 2015

at the

North Baltimore Plaza Hotel in Timonium, MD

Brought to you by the PARTNERSHIP PROJECT



www.BaltimoreAutismSociety.org ♦ 410-655-7933

IEP Mini-Series

January 24th and 31st

(Must attend both sessions)

Saturdays 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Location: Kennedy Krieger Institute

Registration: Eva Queen 443-923-7634 or
queen@kennedykrieger.org

Sponsored by: Parents' Place of Maryland