



Haverhill, Massachusetts  
Special Education Parent Advisory Council

## Haverhill SEPAC Update

September 2023

**New Chairperson:** Mandy LaClair

**New Secretary:** Zwadita Morrison

## SEPAC Milestones Over the Past Five Years

1. **HaverhillSEPAC.com:** Haverhill SEPAC built a website in 2018 with numerous updates, including resources for parents, guardians, and caregivers.
2. **Basic Rights Training:** Haverhill SEPAC has offered basic rights training every year, either in person or remotely.
3. **Basic Rights Training in Spanish:** Haverhill SEPAC had its first basic rights training in Spanish in 2019. The video is available on the Haverhill SEPAC website.
4. **Haverhill Resource Fair:** Haverhill SEPAC held a resource fair at Haverhill High School in the spring of 2019, attended by more than 100 people. More than 30 vendors had tables. A second resource fair was canceled in spring of 2020 due to COVID-19.
5. **Speakers/Events:** Over the past five years, Haverhill SEPAC has hosted speakers from various organizations discussing safety issues for children with special needs, ABLE accounts, transition to adulthood, dyslexia and reading development, medical insurance, Social Security, kindergarten readiness, effective communication with the district, as well as presentations by the superintendent and Special Education Department. Haverhill SEPAC secured nearly all speakers at no cost to the district. The district offered Spanish translation for many events.
6. **Haverhill SEPAC By-laws:** Haverhill SEPAC drafted new by-laws in 2019. The by-laws were available for review and approved at the November 18, 2019, Haverhill SEPAC meeting. The by-laws are available on the website.
7. **Engagement:** Haverhill SEPAC newsletter subscribers increased from 160 to more than 1,300 subscribers since September 2018. Facebook followers increased from 289 to nearly 450.

Anne Marie Rosa

Former Chairperson, Haverhill SEPAC