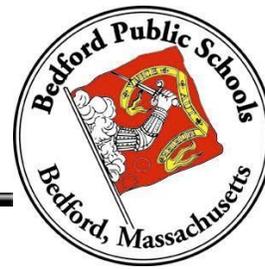


BEDFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Marianne N. Vines
Director of Special Education



97 McMahon Road
Bedford, MA 01730

TEL: 781-275-5296
FAX: 781-275-7455

October 30, 2019

Dear Families,

The school year is off to a great start! I cannot believe that October is just about over and we're heading into November! I do love this time of year with the cool crisp air, pumpkins, apples and all the colors. In addition to all of those things, it signifies exciting, new beginnings for our staff, students and your families as well.

Last Fall, I reported to you that the Special Education Department has been taking part in a Tiered Focused Monitoring Review by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. The process began in the Spring of 2018 with a comprehensive self-assessment. Bedford was found to be in Tier 1 which indicates that we have met the requirements and that our data points indicate no concern on compliance and performance outcomes. We were very proud of this finding. In December of last year, we took part in an onsite review. The onsite review included:

- Review of student records for Special Education: The Department selected a sample of student records from those the district reviewed as part of its self assessment, as well as records chosen by the Department from the special education roster. The onsite team conducted this review, using standard Department procedures, to determine whether procedural and programmatic requirements are being met.
- Review of additional documents for special education or civil rights.
- Surveys of parents of students with disabilities: parents of students with disabilities were sent a survey to solicit information regarding their experiences with the district's implementation of special education programs, related services, and procedural requirements.
- Interviews of staff consistent with those criteria selected for onsite verification.
- Interviews of parent advisory council (PAC) representatives and other telephone interviews, as requested by parents or members of the general public.

I am very pleased to report that Bedford School District was found to be **in compliance with all criteria reviewed: no corrective action was required**. We are very proud of these findings and hope that they serve to provide you with confidence that the special education staff works hard every day to ensure we are adhering to the rules and regulations set forth by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and IDEA.

Please find enclosed your annual copy of the Parent's Notice of Procedural Safeguards. This Notice is designed to assist you in understanding the special education process and your rights. It is our responsibility to make certain that you receive this publication each year that your child is receiving

special education services. Should you need an additional copy at any point during the school year, we will be happy to provide that for you upon request. You can also find them on our district website.

https://www.bedfordps.org/sites/bedfordps/files/uploads/parents_notice_of_procedural_safeguards.pdf

In an effort to be as cost effective as possible, we are enclosing one copy per family even if more than one child in your household receives special education services. If you have any questions regarding the contents of these Safeguards, please contact the appropriate Special Education Program Administrator:

Fay Backert, Davis School Special Education Program Administrator	781-275-6804 ext 4926
Jane DelGobbo, Lane School Special Education Program Administrator	781-275-7606 ext 4854
Cheryl Pespisa, JGMS School Special Education. Program Administrator	781-275-3201 ext 4662
Michelle DellaValle, BHS Special Education Program Administrator	781-275-1700 ext 4424
Tanya Kalantari, Special Education Program Administrator for OOD	781-275-1700 ext 4499

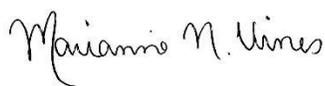
The Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC) is actively seeking your participation.

SEPAC is a district wide organization of parents/guardians, teachers, administrators, and other interested parties working in partnership to provide an appropriate public education to children with disabilities. The president is Shelia Mehta-Green. Meetings, as well as SEPAC membership, are open to all Bedford families. Please visit the SEPAC website at www.bedfordsepac.com or access the link on the Special Education Page on the Bedford Public Schools website.

<https://www.bedfordps.org/district/special-education-department>

I look forward to this new school year and to working collaboratively with parents and staff as we strive to achieve a common goal of ensuring a positive school experience for all our students. Please follow us on Twitter @BPSspecial for news, tips and special education resources that may be useful to you. While the team of professionals at your child's school should always be your first resource when you have questions, I can be reached by email or phone as well. Best wishes for a happy, healthy school year!

Sincerely,



Marianne Vines
Director of Special Education