**SAMPLE SEPAG BROCHURE**

Special Education Parent Advisory Group (SEPAG)

# Membership 2020 – 2021

**Name of School**

Representative (email, phone #)

Representative (email, phone #)

**Name of District**

Representative (email, phone #)

Representative (email, phone #)

**Name of School**

Representative (email, phone #)

Representative (email, phone #)

**Name of School**

Representative (email, phone #)

Representative (email, phone #)

**Name of School**

Representative (email, phone #)

Representative (email, phone #)

**Agency Representatives**

Name of Agency, Representative (email, phone #)

Name of Agency, Representative (email, phone #)

Name of Agency, Representative (email, phone #)

Name of Agency, Representative (email, phone #)

**Teacher**

Judy Smith (phone #)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Public Schools

Name, Superintendent of Schools

(email, phone #)

Name, Director of Special Education

(email, phone #)

SEPAG Parent Chair/Co-chair

(email, phone #)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Public Schools

Special Education

Parent Advisory Group

2020 - 2021

Insert Image

***What is the Special Education Parent Advisory Group?***

 \_\_\_\_\_ Special Education Parent Advisory Group (SEPAG) is a state-mandated, district-level, parent-driven group charged with providing input to the local school district on system-level challenges in special education and related services.

***Who are the students receiving special education services?***

They are students who have been diagnosed with one or more of the following conditions:

* Orthopedic impairment
* Other health impairment
* Specific learning disability
* Speech/language impairment
* Traumatic brain injury
* Visual impairment
* Autism
* Deaf-blindness
* Developmental delay
* Emotional disability
* Hearing impairment
* Intellectual disability
* Multiple disabilities

***Who serves on the committee?***

Parents are the core members of a SEPAG. This includes parents of children with disabilities who have an Individualized Education Program (IEP) who are educated in schools within or outside of the student’s home district. Parents do not need special training or background knowledge to be a member of a SEPAG. Additionally, membership may include students and former students, Child Study Team members, teachers, public/county human service agency representatives, and/or community/civic organization representatives.

The Director/Supervisor of Special Education and a representative from the school board of education serve as liaisons to the group.

***When does the SEPAG meet?***

The SEPAG meets the 4th Tuesday of each month during the school year (with the exception of November) from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. There is no meeting in December. Unless otherwise noted, meetings are held at \_\_\_\_\_ School. This year’s schedule is as follows:

September – Orientation/Meet and Greet with CST (6:00 p.m. Mtg.)

October – SEPAG goals and objectives

November – Recommendations of SEPAG

January – SEPAG survey results

February – Federal monitoring update results/LRE

March – Collaboration

April – Annual Plan

May - Recognitions / Annual Report to School Board

***Who may attend Special Education Parent Advisory Group Meetings****?*

All meetings are open to the public. The SEPAG welcomes anyone interested in special education. There is designated time for public comment during the meeting. This is an opportunity to share successful educational experiences and express general concerns regarding educational issues for students with disabilities.

**What is the function of the Special Education Parent Advisory Group?**

a. Advise the local school district of needs in the education of children with disabilities;

b. Participate in the development of priorities and strategies for meeting the identified needs of children with disabilities;

c. Submit periodic reports and recommendations regarding the education of children with disabilities to the director/supervisor of special education for transmission to the local school board of education;

d. Assist the local school district in interpreting plans to the community for meeting the special needs of children with disabilities for educational services;

e. Review the policies and procedures for the provision of special education and related services prior to submission to the local school board of education; and

f. Participate in the review of the local school district's annual plan.

***How can the Special Education Parent Advisory Group help you?***

It can help you better understand how to work with the school division and how special education can meet the needs of children and youth with disabilities.

***How can I get more information about attending meetings and/or joining the group?***

If you would like to talk to someone about the SEPAG, or get an application for membership, call\_\_\_\_\_, Chairperson, at phone # \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, or Director of Special Education, at phone # \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

(Adapted from “A Guide for Local Special Education Advisory Committees in Virginia”)