

Hand-In-Hand

Parents and Educators Working Together

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.

Volume 27, Issue 1

Fall 2019



Special Education
Citizens' Advisory Committee (SECAC)
BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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New Members Welcome!



Search for:
Baltimore County SECAC
Check the page for any
updates or changes prior to
meetings.

On the Web:

www.bcps.org

To find SECAC on the web, look for
it under the Office of Special
Education.

SECAC Welcomes You to a New School Year!

Our areas of focus continue to be **education and advocacy**. Our voices will continue to be used in a positive, organized effort to help parents and professionals convey information and experiences to leadership, to support the Office of Special Education in their goals, and to advise the Board of Education and top-level decision makers in Baltimore County Public Schools.

Our meetings are planned around specific topics of interest for parents of children with special needs. Each session is designed to help families learn about programs, possibilities and resources available in Baltimore County Public Schools. We hope you will consider joining us for any or all of the scheduled SECAC meetings below. Registration is **not** required. All meetings are open to the public.

MEETING SCHEDULE FOR THE 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR

Date	Topic
October 7, 2019	Executive Functioning with guest speaker Dr. Tana Hope
November 4, 2019	BCPS Office of Special Education Updates & Initiatives
December 2, 2019	BCPS Superintendent Dr. Daryl Williams
January 2020	NO MEETING SCHEDULED
February 10, 2020	Transition
March 2, 2020	Autism
April 2020	NO MEETING SCHEDULED
May 4, 2020	Literacy

Meetings are from 7-9 p.m.

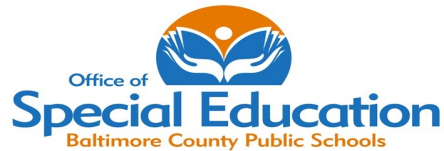
Location: Greenwood Campus, Building E, Room 114
6901 Charles Street, Towson, MD 21204

*If Baltimore County Public Schools are closed or close early for any reason,
the SECAC meeting will be canceled.*

For information and updates join the SECAC Yahoo Group:

- Go to: <http://groups.yahoo.com/neo>
- Click on "sign in" then create a Yahoo ID (if you don't have one)
- Send an e-mail to: baltoco-secac-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

SPECIAL EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER (SERC) FREE PARENT WORKSHOPS



Overcoming Depression: Functional Coping Skills for Teens & Tweens

Depression in Tweens and Teens is quite common, and the consequences can be devastating. In this workshop, parents and caregivers will learn about causes of depression, how to identify signs of depression versus naturally occurring teen moodiness, prevention strategies that can be completed by parents and/ or their child, and how to assist your child through their depression. ***Presented by Tana Hope, Ph.D. The Child and Family Therapy Clinic of the Department of Behavioral Psychology at Kennedy Krieger Institute***

Wednesday October 16, 2019, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m., Pikesville Library Meeting Room

Wednesday October 23, 2019, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m., White Marsh Library Meeting Room

Wednesday November 6, 2019, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m., Arbutus Library Meeting Room

Wednesday November 20, 2019, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m., North Point Library Meeting Room

Roots and Wings: Preparing Your Child for Life After High School

A workshop for parents who are considering college for their child with a disability. It will offer academic, social/ emotional, and self-advocacy strategies that parents may use in supporting the successful transition of students with disabilities from high school to college. ***Presented by Robyn McCray, LCSW-C, Associate Director Disability Services, Towson University***

Thursday October 24, 2019, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m., BCPS Greenwood Campus, Building E, Room 114

Sensory Strategies at Home and School

Participants will learn about sensory processing, identify how a child's seven senses process information and discover sensory processing strategies to support children's participation in home and school routines. ***Presented by Beth George, Occupational Therapy Team Leader, Baltimore County Public Schools***

Wednesday, November 13, 2019, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m., BCPS Greenwood Campus, Building E, Room 114

Registration is required and limited!

To register, please call or email the Special Education Resource Center
(410) 887-5443 serc@bcps.org

Let us know in advance of any accommodations you may require

**** Workshops are for adults only, NO childcare available. ****

DAYTIME WORKSHOP SERIES

All events will take place at **White Oak School Main Training Lab**. To register call SERC at (410) 887-5443, or email serc@bcps.org.

Is Your Child a Picky Eater? Learn What is Typical and When You Should Seek Help

Staff from Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital will present a workshop for parents. Attendees will learn about typical development of feeding skills in infants and children, get tips and strategies to improve each child's nutrition and get answers to pressing questions regarding picky eaters. **Presented by Sean Logie, PhD, Pediatric Psychologist, Feeding Disorders & Emily Hecht, MS, OTR/L, Occupational Therapist**

Thursday October 24, 2019, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

ABLE Accounts: A Savings Tool to Promote Independence and Financial Stability for Your Child's Future

Maryland ABLE is a way to help people with qualifying disabilities and their families save for everyday needs, save and invest in a tax-free account, and prepare for the future without losing state or local benefits such as SSI and Medicaid Waiver services. Join us to learn about eligibility criteria, enrollment, account management, tax benefits and how to use an ABLE account to pay for qualified disability expenses that support your child's health, independence, and quality of life. **Presented by Kelly Nelson, Outreach and Communications Manager for Maryland ABLE.**

Thursday November 14, 2019, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

SPOTLIGHT

Great things are happening in Baltimore County! Read below to find out more about a great initiative at **Loch Raven High School**.

Shout out to teachers **Tara Lesser** and **Becky Sinton** who along with the help of their students in the Social Communication Learning Support Program (SCLS) secured a PTSA grant last year to start a school store. Students created a promotional video, made a presentation and are involved in the ongoing operations of the store. Through this experience, students are gaining valuable pre-employment skills. Congrats **Loch Raven High School** team!

To share exciting events taking place in your school community email serc@bcps.org.

HAVE YOU HEARD?

In August 2019, new guidance was published by The U.S. Department of Labor, Wage and Hour Division stating that employees may take FMLA leave to attend IEP meetings for their children. The Family Medical Leave Act allows an eligible employee of a covered employer to take up to 12 weeks of job-protected, unpaid leave per year to care for the spouse, or a son, daughter or parent with a serious health condition. The Department of Labor, Wage and Hour Division concluded that attendance at IEP meetings was essential to an employee's ability to provide appropriate physical or psychological care to his/ her children meaning employers must allow their eligible employees to take intermittent leave to attend IEP meetings for their children. For more information and to determine if this ruling applies to you please visit the FMLA section of the Department of Labor's website at

<https://www.dol.gov/whd/fmla/>

and search "IEP".

DOES YOUR SCHOOL HAVE A PTA SPECIAL EDUCATION LIAISON?

If you are the parent of a child with an IEP, please consider volunteering for this important PTA position. For more information or to volunteer contact: serc@bcps.org (410) 887-5443.

SPECIAL EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER (SERC) LENDING LIBRARY

DID YOU KNOW?

The Resource Center Lending Library now offers Follett eBooks through Destiny Discover! In order to borrow eBooks you will need a library card along with a username and password, please contact the Resource Center if you don't already have one.

To check out and read an eBook from your computer, you can log in to Destiny Discover by going to destiny.bcps.org (click on the Special Education Resource Center under Special Collections) Look for eBooks!

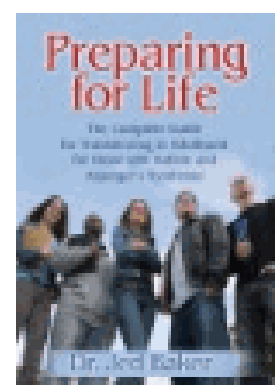
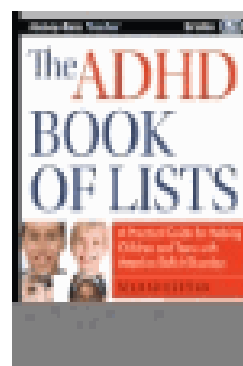
To check out eBooks on your iOS (Apple) devices you will need to sign into Destiny Discover through your browser (see instructions above). To read offline on iOS (Apple) devices use the Destiny **Read** App which can be found in the App Store.

Another option for accessing eBooks is the Destiny Discover App which is available for Android Devices with access to Google Play, as well as Nook HD and HD+, Kindle Fire HD and HDX To download and install the app for the appropriate device, go to the Destiny Discover app Installation Options webpage:

<https://www.follettlearning.com/books-materials/learn/digital-content/follett-ebooks/ebook-management/destiny-discover/download>

The next step is to launch the mobile app. In the location drop-down you will select *Maryland*. In the School field, type *Special Education Resource Center at White Oak, Timonium, MD*.

For more information or any questions you may have please contact the Resource Center at 410-887-5443 or e-mail SERC@bcps.org .



Community Bulletin Board

Our **Special Needs Scout Troop 730** will be starting to meet again in September at the White Oak School on Wednesday evenings 7:30 - 8:45 p.m. The troop was established in 1970, has a wonderful history, and includes six Eagle Scouts among its' members.

We would love to encourage new scouts and their parents to be involved in our Troop! Along with achieving merit badges, camp outs at Broad Creek Campground and skills for life, our Troop has lots of fun! Please join us and check it out! For more information contact Nancy Sims nrsimms@gmail.com, (443) 465-4667.



@SpecialEducationResourceCenterBCPS



@SERCBCPS

BCPS.org

(under Office of Special Education)

Baltimore County Public Schools **FALL TRANSITION FAIR**

For students with disabilities, their parents, teachers, and community partners

When: September 26, 2019
10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Where: Oregon Ridge Lodge, 13401 Beaver Dam Road, Cockeysville, Maryland 21030

RSVP: akennedy3@bcps.org

Get a snack, visit vendors, ask questions!

SCHEDULE:

10:00 -10:30 a.m. : Registration

10:30 - 12:30 p.m. (ALL DAY): Get help with applications

10:45 - 11:30a.m. : Student Session
Independent Living & Work Skills Practice

12:00 - 1:00 p.m. : Transition Overview, DDA, DORS, CCS, SSI—what does it all mean?

seamless transitions: weaving a tapestry of support

Planning for your child's life after high school can be complicated. Where will your child live? What support systems are available? Will they find a job, or continue their education? And, how will all of this be paid for? Planning begins long before graduation. Join us for a free transition resource fair to begin weaving your child's tapestry of support.

When: Saturday, September 21, 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Where: The Forbush School at Glyndon and Hannah More Center - Hannah More Campus
12039 Reisterstown Road, Reisterstown, MD 21136

Who: All parents of students with disabilities who are in middle and high school are invited to attend

For more information, contact: Alyssa Fenix:

afenix@sheppardpratt.org or 443-377-2080

** A Sheppard Pratt Health System event



Join Athletes Serving Athletes for their annual RunFest! The 2019 ASA RunFest will include 5K, 1 Mile and Kid's Fun Run as well as a Family Fun Festival and will be held in Hunt Valley on October 12th at 9:00 a.m. To register, volunteer or donate: <http://www.athletesservingathletes.org/runfest.html> or call 443-ASA-1204.

Community Bulletin Board



Elementary, Middle, and High School Magnet Programs



Scan here to apply
online or to download

Application Deadline: November 15, 2019

Magnet applications for the 2020-2021 school year will be available on the BCPS Magnet Programs' Web site (tinyurl.com/BCPSMagnet) beginning at 12 noon on Monday, September 16, 2019.

Magnet EXPO!

September 28, 2019

**Sollers Point Technical
High School
1901 Delvale Ave.
Dundalk, MD 21222**

10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Application Information Meeting at 9 a.m.

**Over 100 programs!
Explore the possibilities.**

**Also on display:
Career and Technology
Education Exhibits**

Magnet Showcase Events

October, 2019

Schedules available online

For additional information, please
visit the BCPS Magnet Programs'
Web site (tinyurl.com/BCPSMagnet)
or call (443) 809-4127.

Magnet Application Meetings

Learn about the magnet application process!

Tuesday, October 1, 2019

**Kenwood High School
501 Stemmers Run Road, 21221**

Thursday, October 3, 2019

**Milford Mill Academy
3800 Washington Avenue, 21244**

Program starts at 6:30 p.m. in Auditorium

