



Dear New BOCES Families,

July 29, 2018

We are writing to introduce our Southern Westchester BOCES SEPTA. It is a Special Education Parent Teacher Association with goals like PTAs in regular school districts. We place an emphasis on topics surrounding special education and the life of families with children who have special needs.

Our organization is a group of parents, educators and BOCES administrators that hosts several events during the school year to support parents and caregivers, and also to entertain children with special needs.

We offer a variety of informative workshops for our families, ranging from an introduction to area providers of special needs services (recreation and respite, for example) to transition workshops that explore topics like legal planning for the special child, eligibility for services and OPWDD certification for the Front Door. These are important subjects that every BOCES family will have to tackle.

We also have some fun events for our children, like our Annual Holiday Celebration with singing, dancing, Santa and gifts; and book fairs in the White Plains Barnes & Noble bookstore that include a treasure hunt, readings, and arts and crafts.

We would like to invite everybody to become a member of the SEPTA. It is nice to find out that no family is in it alone. Many of us went through the same issues already and might have some helpful information for you. We are also always looking for parents to become a part of the SEPTA planning team. Please let us know if you are interested and send us your name and contact information with your membership form.

**We hope to see you all at our first event of the year, Welcome Back Coffee, on October 3rd. We are inviting local providers of recreational and support services to give us an overview of what is available in our area.**

From the SEPTA Executive Board,

Trish Banfield, Phyllis Rizzi, Jessica Walker, Linda Christiansen, Sandy Jones, Penny Dickenson, Anne Marie Cellante and Marcela Stern



**Membership Drive, Member Form 2018-2019**

Dear BOCES Families, Staff and Friends,

We are excited to start planning our ninth year! To all new BOCES families, WELCOME! SEPTA's goal is to connect parents and caregivers with one another; help them become more informed about resources that are available; and talk about new, ever-changing rules and laws that are important for our community. We want to create a platform that invites all interested parties to come and share their knowledge and experience so that we can learn from one another. We are looking forward to meeting you and working with you!

SEPTA Executive Board

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**MEMBER FORM**                      New \_\_\_\_\_      Renewal \_\_\_\_\_      Donation \_\_\_\_\_

Dues are \$10 per person

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #s: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent \_\_\_\_\_      Teacher \_\_\_\_\_      Specialist \_\_\_\_\_      Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Paid:              Cash \_\_\_\_\_              Check # \_\_\_\_\_              \*make out to: SWBOCES SEPTA

Return membership form with dues in person or mail to: SWBOCES SEPTA, c/o Phyllis Rizzi, Tappan Hill School, 50 Ichabod Lane, Tarrytown, NY 10591                      phone: (914)366-2560

**Southern Westchester BOCES SEPTA**  
**Membership Survey**

In order to help us make informed choices for programming, please provide us with the following information:

I would like to attend programs with topics such as:

- Learning Disabilities
  
- Anxiety
  
- Social Skills/Social Emotional Learning
  
- ADD/ADHD
  
- Speech, Language/OT,PT
  
- Autism Spectrum Disorders
  
- Transition Planning/Eligibility/OPWDD/Self-Direction
  
- Guardianship/ Special needs Estate planning
  
- Behavioral management
  
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a child/grandchild attending one of SWBOCES programs?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, which program and where? \_\_\_\_\_

Age(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Your preference for workshops is: Day \_\_\_\_\_ Night \_\_\_\_\_

Please tell us what your expectations are and what you would like your SEPTA to focus on: \_\_\_\_\_

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