

Tantasqua Regional/Union 61

School Districts

Local Procedures for Parent Advisory Council

SE 32: Parent Advisory Council for Special Education

The purpose of the UNION 61 SEPAC is to provide information and support to parents of children with disabilities. To that end, they will work to:

- **Provide a network for parents and a forum for sharing ideas and information.**
- **Seek information about programs and resources that may be available within the community, as well as those from local, state, and national organizations that can provide support for children with disabilities and their parents.**
- **Provide educational opportunities for parents to learn about additional ways to support their child and to advocate more effectively.**
- **Work collaboratively with the school district to improve educational outcomes for students with disabilities.**

Tantasqua/Union 61 School Districts Special Education Parent Advisory Council (UNION 61 SEPAC)

An important liaison for the schools in communicating with the parents of students with disabilities is the Tantasqua/Union 61 School Districts Special Education Parent Advisory Council (UNION 61 SEPAC). Tantasqua/Union 61 School District's UNION 61 SEPAC takes the role of:

- Acting as liaison among the school, parents, and the community in general
- Advocating for children with special needs and performs in an advisory role relative to special education issues:
- Educating, informing, and supporting parents about issues and topics which affect them and their children

UNION 61 SEPAC is founded on special education regulations in Massachusetts which require each community to establish a parent advisory council to advise the administration and school committee about special education matters and work collaboratively with the school system to provide programs of interest and benefit to parents of children with special needs