



SNAC Chat Newsletter

October 2013

Welcome to the first SNAC Chat edition of this school year!

Compact news items for the special needs community

What is SNAC?

Did you know that your school board has an advisory committee called SNAC? The Special Needs Advisory Committee (SNAC) is a multi-disciplinary team composed of elected parents, a community representative, and School Board representatives including a Special Needs Consultant, Resource Teacher, Integration Aide, Principal, School Board Commissioner, Student Services personnel, and a representative of the Director General.

Our role is to advise the school board regarding school board policies, the organization of educational services and the allocation of funds for students with special needs. SNAC also strives to support our parent community through special presentations, workshops, links to community events and by creating supporting documentation. We listen to your feedback, and try to respond to your questions.

SNAC meetings are held monthly and all are welcome to attend. Reports summarizing the issues discussed during our meetings are posted on our website. For more information about who we are and what we do, please visit the SNAC website at <http://snac.lbpsb.qc.ca>. Should you have any comments, questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact us via email at snac@lbpearson.qc.ca.

Election News:

Elections for SNAC parent members are held once a year in September at an annual general meeting (AGM) held at the school board. Any parent who is interested in joining SNAC can nominate themselves. New positions are filled by majority vote. This year, all of the positions for parent representatives and alternates were filled, and SNAC is very happy to welcome 4 new parents to our group. We look forward to hearing your new ideas!

Upcoming Parent Workshop: Nov 26

The ASD Center of Excellence is pleased to offer a free seminar, open to all parents of students with special needs:

November 26, 2013, 7:00-9:00pm:

“[And We Call Him Joe: A Family’s Journey Living With a Child With Special Needs](#)”.

Presented by Joe Hunt, and his mom Maureen.

Please pre-register with Janet Neville
by email jneville@lbpsb.qc.ca

or telephone:

514-422-3000 ext 3254





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NEWS: *IEP Resource Kits have shipped!*

SNAC is pleased to announce the availability of a new IEP (Individualized Education Plan) Resource Kit! The IEP Resource Kit is a tool to help parents organize and plan for successful IEP meetings. The folder contains a [SNAC pamphlet](#) outlining special needs policy information, and several other informative documents, including:

- **[“How Can an IEP Help My Child”](#)**: *This document aims to help parents understand their role in the IEP process, and plan for collaborative and successful IEP meetings. The last page “Options that will help your child SUCCEED” lists a variety of optional support measures to consider that may be helpful to meet your child’s specific needs.*
- **[“Parent Concerns/Visions”](#)**: *is a questionnaire that may help parents to organize their thoughts and concerns to better describe the needs of your child.*
- **[“All About Me”](#)**: *is a questionnaire that may help students who are able to participate in the IEP process to describe their own thoughts, feelings and dreams for the future.*
- **[“The Right Start”](#)**: *is a checklist to help parents prepare for the start of the school year.*

A printed copy of the IEP Resource Kit has been sent home to all families of students with special needs throughout the school board. If you have not received your kit, please email us snac@lbpearson.qc.ca.

Please send us your feedback:

- **IEP Resource Kits**: We would love to hear your feedback. Was the kit helpful during your IEP meeting this year?
- **Parent Workshops**: SNAC is planning to offer a free parent workshop this year. Do you have any suggestions about topics that would be of interest to you?

Please watch the [“Events”](#) tab of our website for workshop news!

We encourage any comments or suggestions to be sent by email to snac@lbpearson.qc.ca.

On behalf of the Special Needs Advisory Committee, I wish you and your child a happy and successful school year!

Sandra Buckingham

Chairperson, LBPSB Special Needs Advisory Committee, 2013-2014