

SECAC And Social Media

Realizing that not everyone who wants to attend meetings will have the ability to do so, in August 2014, SECAC moved into the social media arena. Updates on meetings will not only be posted on the BCPS' website, but also on SECAC's social media sites as well. SECAC will be listed as Baltimore City SECAC for each social media source. *Soon to Come—SECAC on Linked In and Twitter!!!*



SECACChat Newsletter

SECACChat is an online newsletter developed and debut by SECAC in September 2014 to increase communication as well as share information and resources between invested citizens of Baltimore City and City Schools.

Let's Chat

In October 2014, SECAC incorporated an additional portion to the end of each general public meetings called "**Let's Chat.**" Let's Chat is an informal portion of the meeting which allows members and presenters time to mingle and discuss topics of the evening in an one-on-one setting.

If additional questions or comments arise during this session which may be deemed shareable, a "Let's Chat" form may be completed and placed in SECAC's Dropbox. When necessary, SECAC's Executive Board members will submit questions and/or comments to the appropriate presenters and announce responses at upcoming meetings. The question or comment may also be placed in SECACChat as well. *This session does not prevent questions from being asked during meetings.*

BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Everyone is born with a special gift or talent; some simply need help in finding it, encouragement in showing it and confidence in developing it!

Chicquita MB Crawford

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2014 - 2015

CHICQUITA MB CRAWFORD

★ CHAIRPERSON ★

ccrawford@bcps.k12.md.us

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Baltimore City Public Schools
SECAC, Room 201
200 East North Avenue, Office #97
Baltimore, Maryland 21202
443-642-4502—Office
410-361-9806—Fax

www.facebook.com/baltimorecitysecac
<http://www.baltimorecityschools.org/domain/9397>
<https://groups.google.com/d/forum/baltimore-city-secac>

★SECAC★

Special Education Citizens' Advisory Committee



*Dream High,
Aim High,
Fly High,
&
Score High!!!*

LOCATION OF MEETINGS
(unless otherwise announced)

Baltimore City Public Schools
District HQ
200 E. North Avenue
1st Floor Board Room
Baltimore, MD 21202

SECAC

Special Education Citizens' Advisory Committee

On September 28, 2004, the Maryland State Board of Education adopted regulations for each local school district to establish a SECAC to *advise* the local school system on the needs of students with special needs, within their jurisdiction.

SECAC is a committee of the local school system to seek meaningful input from parents, grandparents, caregivers, community partners, service providers, educators, students, advocates and administrators on local issues relative to the provision of a **Free and Appropriate Public Education** (FAPE) and the achievement of students with disabilities or special needs.



SECAC members work effectively to enable the New Board of Commissioners and the Executive Director of Special Education to collaborate with others on Special Education issues, and to facilitate positive changes in the delivery of Special Education.

Also, SECAC supports the One-Year-Plus initiative in working towards closing academic gaps of those with special needs by their expected graduation date.

SECAC Questions & Answers

Who Can Participate In SECAC?

Parents, grandparents, caregivers,

students, advocates, community partners, service providers, educators, and administrators are all invited to participate in SECAC.



Why Participate In SECAC?

Information and skills will be acquired that will assist in collaborating more effectively with the local school system. Members, participants, citizens and professionals who share similar goals of building partnerships to improve educational outcomes for all students will meet and network together. In addition, while attempting to meet the needs of students with special needs, acquired knowledge, skills and experiences may be shared. Most of all, newly acquired knowledge and skills may be used to more effectively advocate for the education of *our* youth; while maintaining healthy working relationships with school personnel in assuring a **Free Appropriate Public Education** (FAPE) for *all* youth.

Why Complete A Membership Form?

In October 2013, BCPS' SECAC implemented an application process for members; allowing SECAC to better track membership information, determine voting member status, meet more grant requirements as well as allow for easier access to members when needed for special projects and events. Voting membership cards will now be issued to those who meet requirements. Membership expires every December 31. *Voting membership status is not automatic and must be approved by the executive board.*



When And Where Are SECAC Meetings Held?

SECAC meetings are generally

held on the 2nd Monday of every month, from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm. Meetings are held in the 1st floor Board Room of Baltimore City Public Schools District Head Quarter Building at 200 East North Avenue, unless otherwise announced. SECAC also hosts meetings and workshops at various locations within Baltimore City Public Schools. Refer to Special Announcements for these events.

Regular meeting and event information will be posted on SECAC's BCPS website, SECAC's Google Listserv and/or SECAC's Facebook page. Links for each site are listed on the center back panel of this document.



Any book that helps a child to form a habit of reading, to make reading one of his deep and continuing needs, is good for him.

Maya Angelou

