



# PRESENTATION ON THE CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION

**November 18, 2019**

**Mrs. Dawn Markovic, SECAC Chairperson**

**Mr. Mike Thatcher, Director of Special Education**



## SECAC MISSION STATEMENT

To enhance partnerships  
of students, families, community leaders,  
organizations, educators and administrators  
through discussions that focus on the  
enrichment of services and opportunities for  
students with disabilities and their families.



## Quote

***Diversity is having a seat at the table.  
Inclusion is having a voice.  
Belonging is having that voice be heard.***

- Liz Fosslien and Mollie West Duffy  
*No Hard Feelings: The Secret Power of Embracing Emotions at Work*



## SECAC Focus 2019-2020 In the Community



- Increase attendance at SECAC meetings.
- Gather input from membership to determine meeting topics.
- Provide training in identified areas of concern.
- Participate in community events to broaden outreach.





# Voices of the Community



*"SECAC flyer should be given out at every IEP Meeting. There are so many parents that are not aware of SECAC."*

*"I really appreciate the list distributed tonight of staff and email. Wonderful!"*

*"High Functioning Autism (HFA) students are falling between the cracks for placements and academics."*

*"Future Thinking: Really utilize Therapeutic Recreation as a resource for your families."*

*Program to 21 for students with IEP's who are diploma track that offers employment and independent living skills*



## SECAC work with HCPS

- Identify gaps within the special education continuum.
- Advocate for appropriate supports and services.
- Increase outreach to parents through Partners for Success.



# Recommendations



- Staff Partners for Success with full-time HCPS staff member to better serve parents and the community.
- Require SECAC and Partners for Success information be given out at every IEP meeting.
- Expand program offerings to address identified gaps within the continuum of special education services.



# Recommendations



- Increase special education staffing to ensure access for all students in the Least Restrictive Environment.
- Expand secondary transition programs to meet the needs of certificate and diploma students with IEPs.
- Collaborate with community resources to create and increase social learning opportunities for students.



Thank You!



Our next meeting is December 5, 2019

Our speaker will be Kelly Nelson from Maryland 'ABLE'

We invite BOE members to attend  
any of the SECAC meetings

Visit the HCPS Citizen Advisory Committee page for  
the full meeting schedule:

<http://www.hcps.org/boe/CAC.aspx>