



# BENTON STEARNS EDUCATION DISTRICT

Educate. Grow. **Together.**

## Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) Parent Member Information

The Benton-Stearns Education District SEAC

- Advises the Education District on current issues, program development, parental concerns and involvement
- Serves as an advocate for high-quality special education programs
- Promotes communication between family, school and community

Members of the SEAC will serve for one year with the opportunity to stay on longer. The council consists of 12-15 members, including parents representing each of the 6 member districts, community representatives, and school staff. At least 50 percent of the members must be parents of students who have a variety of disabilities.

### Meeting Schedule 2023-24 School Year

The council is scheduled to meet 3 times during the school year. A light snack will be provided. Meetings will be held from 6:00-7:30 p.m at the Education District office located at 517 2<sup>nd</sup> Street South in Sartell on:

**October 30, 2023**

**February 5, 2024**

**April 29, 2024**

1. Introductions
2. Betsy Lund Ross-Conservatorship, Guardianship, Shared Decision Making
  - a. Ms. Ross reviewed the differences between conservatorship and guardianship. She also reviewed the court procedures that occur under each type.
3. Future Meeting Topics that Impact All Families
  - a. February 5, 2024
    - i. Maxine Jennings will be present to share information about opportunities in the community through Special Olympics of MN.
    - ii. Renata Ticha from the U of M will be joining to gather information for a national study in the area of transition.
  - b. April 29, 2024
    - i. Overview of IEP Rules/Procedures
    - ii. Legislative Updates related to Special Education