

# Special Kids @ PS5

October 2016, Issue 1



*“When you judge someone based on a diagnosis, you miss out on their abilities, beauty and uniqueness.”*

## Welcome to the 2016-2017 School Year!

Dear PS5 Special Needs Families,

We hope you had a good Summer and that Back-to-School has gone smoothly. While the Summer can be fun, I think we're not alone in our relief when the school year begins again!

As your 2016-2017 SEPAC (Special Education Parents Advisory Council) representatives, we would like to introduce ourselves to our fellow special needs families.

My name is Emily Pecot and I have a Kindergartener with Childhood Apraxia of Speech and Global Developmental Delay. We are new to PS5 this year and happy to be at such an active and tight knit school.

Majidd Fauzia, whose five children are current or former students of PS5, is continuing her service this year as a PS5 SEPAC rep.

Together we are excited to blaze a new trail in communicating with

and helping guide PS5's special needs families.

We know the IEP process is daunting and want to offer our experiences to help our families however we can by providing a bridge between parents and administrators.

Having a special needs child is hard. We hope that we can make it just a little bit easier by helping parents get the resources the district has to offer.

### IMPORTANT CONTACTS FOR SPECIAL NEEDS PARENTS @ PS5

SEPAC 2016-2017 Representatives:

Emily Pecot — [emily@emilypecot.com](mailto:emily@emilypecot.com)

Majidd Fauzia -- [fauziamajidd@gmail.com](mailto:fauziamajidd@gmail.com)

Principal, John Rivero -- [jrivero@jcboe.org](mailto:jrivero@jcboe.org)

School Psychologist, Dr. Julio Rosario -- [jrosario@jcboe.org](mailto:jrosario@jcboe.org)

School Social Worker, David Velez -- [dvelez1@jcboe.org](mailto:dvelez1@jcboe.org)

Click [HERE](#) to visit the JCBOE Special Education Department

JCBOE Special Education Parent Hotline [201-915-6300](tel:201-915-6300)





## SEPAC MEETING HIGHLIGHTS OCTOBER 2016

### After School Programs for Special Needs

**CASPER** – Certain classrooms have special ed teachers for CASPER. Please contact Wendy Boodoosingh (wboodoosingh@jcboe.org), CASPER director for PS5, to find out exactly who the teachers are for the program and which rooms are used for CASPER. Don't be afraid to ask lots of questions!

**Boys & Girls Club of Hudson County** – Offering after-school pickup at PS5, the Boys and Girls Club program is able to accommodate some special needs children to engage in after-school activities. For more information, please contact Adam Jaeger, Unit Director, at [ajaeger@bgchc.org](mailto:ajaeger@bgchc.org) or (201) 333.4100.

**Special Olympics Unified Sports Program** – Offering two different after school programs on Wednesday afternoons, one for ages 3-7 and one for ages 8-21. The little ones will engage in general athletic activities while the big kids have options for team-based programs including bowling, track and field, basketball, softball and swimming. For more information contact Ms. Dina Kosc, Program Coordinator at [201-915-6031](tel:201-915-6031).

Click [HERE](#) for the 3-7 year olds application packet.

Click [HERE](#) for the 8-21 year olds application packet.

### Register Ready – New Jersey Special Needs Registry for Disasters

With hurricane season upon us and winter not far behind, now is the time to register yourself or your family for this free program offered by the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management. The program is designed to offer assistance to special needs adults and families who may have difficulty getting to safety in the event of an emergency.

Registration via their website is easy! Click [HERE](#).

Are you looking for something specific? Perhaps a PS5 Special Needs Parents Night Out? Or maybe a monthly support group? We are open to ideas (and volunteers!) for ways to better serve PS5's special needs community.

*“One person can make a difference, and everyone should try.”  
- John F. Kennedy*