



Jun 20, 2025

Celebrating SEPAC Heroes!

Each year, SEPAC takes a moment to recognize the incredible individuals who have made a meaningful difference in the lives of our children. ***These are our SEPAC Heroes.*** They are the teachers who go the extra mile, the paraprofessionals who offer steady and caring support, the bus drivers who greet our children with a smile every day, the administrators who listen and lead with compassion, and the PSB or Out of District community members who step up to ensure that every child feels seen, supported, and included. Nominations for this recognition come directly from our families, who have taken the time to share the many ways these individuals have changed lives – through kindness, dedication, advocacy, creativity, and heart. Let us celebrate these exceptional people. They may not seek recognition, but their work deserves it. ***THANK YOU 2025 SEPAC Heroes!***

SEPAC Hero Recipients

- Brigid Ashley
- Alexa Bader
- Kristen Beaupre
- Lauren Brooks
- Erin Brown
- David Carter
- Georgia Carter
- Liza Casal
- Sarah Cellucci
- Belle Cunningham
- Milo Dantowitz
- Ann Donnay
- Steven Ehrenberg
- Samantha German
- Joel Griffith
- Santa Guerrero
- Emma Gyorgy
- Jesse Hefter
- Holly Irvin
- Kylie Jenkins
- Rachel Keegan-McGlinn
- Leah McGowan
- Benjamin Medeiros
- Samantha Melaragno
- Grace Miglioizzi
- Darby Neff-Verre
- Silva Orchanian
- Alissa Ovadia

- Anna Parker
- Olivia Powers
- Erin Quinn
- Alexander Rabinowitz
- Emily Redburn
- Sydney Shapiro
- Ummey Shewly
- Karen Shmukler
- Abigail Thompson
- Hailey Tiner
- Fatima Valette
- Nicole Wiggins
- Rachel Wolf
- April Zyirek

GenEd Teacher Training for SpEd Advocacy

Advocacy is essential for driving meaningful change, as it gives voice to individuals and communities whose needs might otherwise go unheard while empowering them to raise awareness, influence policy, and promote equity and justice across society. In that spirit, we are pleased to share a message from Avi Lindenboim, an 8th-grade student at Lincoln School, whose CAPstone project advocates for increased training for general education teachers in special education laws and best practices. This is a commendable and impactful initiative, and we wholeheartedly encourage Avi to continue developing and advancing this important work.

Hello,

My name is Avi Lindenboim, an 8th-grade student at Lincoln School, and I'm reaching out to share my CAPstone project focused on advocating for mandatory training for general education (GenEd) teachers on special education frameworks, including IDEA, IEPs, 504 plans, and the ADA.

Through interviews with district staff (though they did stonewall me) and analysis of the recent CLA audit report, I've found that GenEd teachers currently receive minimal training on these critical areas (e.g., only 2 sentences on ADA, zero on IDEA). This gap directly impacts students' rights and contributes to systemic inequities, as highlighted in the audit's findings on unmet SPED needs and budget mismanagement.

As an organization dedicated to supporting students with disabilities and their families, I believe this aligns closely with SEPAC's mission. I'm eager to explore whether SEPAC would be interested in supporting this initiative or collaborating to amplify its impact. I've also launched a petition to gather community backing, and I'd welcome the opportunity to share updates or discuss how we might work together.

Petition link: <https://chnng.it/N8fHGp4C68>

I know you are very busy, especially given that it is this late in the year.

*Thank you for reading this email and for your time. I'm hopeful we can be allies in ensuring all students receive the support they **deserve**. Please let me know if you'd like to discuss further!*

*Best regards,
Avishai Lindenboim
8th Grade, William H. Lincoln School*

Have A Great Summer!!!

As the school year winds down, please note that SEPAC will be pausing our activities and newsletters over the summer. However, families can still stay connected! Our [General Discussions Google Group](#) is a great place to post messages, find playdates, and share resources throughout the summer months, in addition to staying in touch via our SEPAC Facebook group.

Wishing everyone a safe, fun, and relaxing summer break!

Get in Touch

Join our [Facebook Group](#) and [Google Discussion Group](#) to connect with other members and share your insights into special education!
Contact us at info@brooklinesepac.org or read more at brooklinesepac.org!