



Map Academy Charter School
SEPAC Meeting
October 5, 2022 - 4:30pm
Location: 11 Resnik Rd. Plymouth, MA

1. Welcome:

Ryan McLaughlin welcomed attendees to the first SEPAC meeting of the 2022-2023 school year. Attendees arrived at 4:30 PM. Two parents of Map Academy students were in attendance as well as a Map Academy special education teacher.
2. The purpose of SEPAC and a yearly overview was reviewed:
 - a. Ryan McLaughlin described the purpose of the Map Academy SEPAC and demonstrated how to navigate the Map Academy website and the “Student Services” page.
 - b. Discussion took place regarding the history of the SEPAC at Map Academy and the goals for the 2022-2023 school year. Ryan encouraged family engagement and will secure a vote on new SEPAC positions (i.e. SEPAC Chair) and updated bi-laws during the February 2023 meeting. As discussed, Map Academy’s goal is to hold SEPAC meetings which will provide information based on the interest of SEPAC members.
3. Procedural Safeguards Presentation:
 - a. Ryan McLaughlin completed a “Parents Rights” presentation and provided copies of the Procedural Safeguards Brochure to the attendees.
4. Question and Answer session:
 - a. A SEPAC member asked if there were any additions to Map Academy’s day-to-day programming for the current school year. Ryan described the newly established Wayfinding and Student Centers available for all Map Academy students. These two Centers are embedded within Map Academy’s Student Center approach with robust wraparound supports. It was also explained that there are additional layers of academic support that are available to students during Map Academy’s evening studio hours Monday-Thursday from 4:30 to 7:00 pm. Attendees expressed an interest in understanding more about the Wayfinding Center at another meeting.

- b. Another question was asked regarding the structure of each studio during the day when academics are the primary focus. It was explained that Map Academy is founded on an unwavering belief that every student has unique strengths and the ability to succeed. Map Academy is a student-centered educational model that meets off-track students' academic, personal, and life skill needs. Blended asynchronous learning is the instructional foundation of Map Academy's personalized approach. Students work in interdisciplinary learning studios with teachers providing individualized, small group, and large group instruction. Students move through the core academic curriculum at their own pace in competency-based courses. Students have the autonomy to plan and decide which academic subjects will be their focus for the day. Progress at Map Academy is measured by how many competencies or abilities students have demonstrated rather than by traditional tests or grades. In this model, students in the same studio engage with the material in different ways and at different paces; teachers serve as active facilitators, coaches, and advisors while designing strategies and interventions suited to each student's individual needs. At Map Academy, each studio consists of a team of staff members, including at least one certified ELA, math, history, science, and special education teacher. Each studio also has significant, intentionally designed, flexible space in a specific area of the building.
5. Updates regarding the next upcoming meeting and topic(s):
 - a. The next SEPAC meeting will be on Wednesday, February 15, 2022 at 4:30 pm. The goal of this meeting will be to have a discussion and vote of the SEPAC's bi-laws and positions (I.e. SEPAC chair). Additionally, due to the request of attendees, Ryan McLaughlin will be coordinating with Map Academy's Wraparound and Engagement Coordinator from the Wayfinding Center to join an upcoming meeting to discuss the layers of support the Center offers to the Map Academy student community throughout the school year.
6. Adjournment: The meeting ended at 5:20 pm after there were no additional questions.