

Parent Advisory Committee (PAC)



Autumn Poole

PAC Liaison

(269) 471-7725 ext. 3309

autumn.poole@berrienresa.org

www.berrienresa.org/PAC

You are not alone.

We know. We have been there. We understand. It is OK to feel scared, frustrated and overwhelmed. Those are all important feelings to have when you learn that your child qualifies for special education services. The good news—you are not alone.

During the academic years of your child's life, you will experience tremendous joys and may also be faced with challenges. Know that as you navigate your child's special education experience, there is a network of parents, guardians, friends and others who are here to help you called the Parent Advisory Committee (PAC). The goal of PAC is to support you as you learn about the special education system and to help you become more confident about your child's school experience.

What is the PAC?

The PAC is a group of parents who have one thing in common: a child with a disability. It is a peer network that allows you to take a step back from your particular situation and gain insight and valuable information to assist you and your student. Additionally, in partnership with local school districts, PAC members serve as a voice for the families whose children attend special education programs and receive special education services within Berrien County.

What we do:

- Provide emotional support/listening ear through a peer network
- Attend and offer parent assistance during Individual Education Plan (IEP) meetings
- Share experiences and resources
- Offer outreach support in the community
- Celebrate the accomplishments of educators who make a difference in the lives of students receiving special education services.

PAC Meetings

PAC representatives meet monthly during the school year. The meetings are open to the public—everyone is welcome! Meetings are held at the Berrien RESA Administrative Center located at 711 Saint Joseph Avenue in Berrien Springs from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Upcoming meeting dates:

- September 15, 2020
- October 20, 2020
- November 17, 2020
- January 19, 2021
- March 9, 2021
- April 20, 2021
- May 18, 2021

For meeting agendas and minutes, visit: www.berrienresa.org/PAC

Your PAC representative can be reached by contacting your home school district's special education coordinator.

Nondiscrimination Clause/Title IX

It is the policy of the Berrien Regional Education Service Agency not to discriminate in its policies and practices with respect to compensation, terms, or conditions of employment because of an individual's race, color, religion, sex, national origin, height, weight, marital status, political belief, genetic information, disability or handicap which does not impair an individual's ability to perform adequately in that individual's particular position or activity. Title IX Coordinator/Compliance Officer and for all other concerns: Lynda Hurlow, Executive Director of Human Resources Title IX Investigators: Kevin Clark, Technology Services Director and Lynda Hurlow, Executive Director of Human Resources Title IX Decision Maker: Chris Machiniak, Assistant Superintendent Title IX Appeals: Eric Hoppstock, Superintendent. Berrien RESA 711 St. Joseph Avenue Berrien Springs, MI 49103 For procedural information, please review NEOLA Board Policy No. 2260.

This document was designed in an effort to meet Berrien RESA Strategic Plan Goal 2 (I-A): Create community connection materials to cultivate and strengthen relationships between Berrien RESA and constituent groups.