

September 2015

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school! We hope you enjoyed a relaxing and fun-filled summer. Now it's time to look forward to an exciting and productive school year ahead.

The Somers Special Education Parent Teacher Association (SEPTA) is a district wide PTA whose primary role is to provide resources and support for children with special needs, their families, and teachers. If your child is gifted and talented or twice exceptional, receives support in a special education classroom setting including resource room, self-contained, and special classes for math and reading, receives services such as speech and language, occupational therapy, physical therapy or counseling, receives modifications or accommodations based on his or her special needs with or without a 504 plan, or works and supports children receiving these services, then join the SEPTA network today. Anyone is welcome to support SEPTA and become a member. Click here for the link to the parent membership form.

<http://www.somersschools.org/cms/lib07/NY01913963/Centricity/Domain/1072/PTA%20Parent%20Membership%20Form%202015-2016.pdf>

Your dues help to support our many efforts to benefit special education in Somers.

SEPTA has many wonderful plans for the year. Our focus will be on the social and emotional wellbeing of all students. To that end, we will be looking at how SEPTA can support the students, parents, and teachers in each school in promoting positive peer relationships and lessening stress and anxiety.

Please join us on **October 20th** for our first SEPTA meeting of the year with a panel discussion about special education in Somers. Parents of students who have gone through Somers schools receiving Special Education support will share their experiences in the district and provide valuable insights and advice. Following the discussion, there will be an informal Meet & Greet where parents can network and share information and concerns. All are welcome!

Save The Date! Stephanie O'Leary, Psy. D will return to Somers on **November 18th** to discuss "*Evidence-Based Strategies for Children with Anxiety*".

SEPTA is pleased to announce that the fall Yankee Candle fundraiser will begin on September 16th. Please keep it in mind for your holiday shopping needs. And remember that you can always support a year-round SEPTA fundraiser and show your town pride by purchasing a Somers car magnet. See our website for details.

Have an idea for a speaker or program? Your input and suggestions are welcome! Just send an email to Co-President Jennifer Brooks at jnnfrelliott@hotmail.com.

Stay connected throughout the year, and join our SOMERS SEPTA Facebook page. www.facebook.com/groups/1389794224607335/

For more information about SEPTA and upcoming events, please visit our website at www.somersschools.org/SEPTA, and from there be sure to sign up to receive SEPTA emails so that you can be informed of the latest news.

Thank you in advance for your support, and remember - SEPTA is always here to help!

Sincerely,

Jennifer Brooks and Laura Cabo, Co-Presidents
Lori Fumarelli, Vice President