Ohio | State Advisory Panel for Exceptional Children

Guidelines for Public Comment

Purpose of the State Advisory Panel for Exceptional Children (SAPEC):

The purpose of SAPEC is to advise the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) and provide guidance on policies related to the education of children with disabilities in the State of Ohio.

Meetings:

SAPEC meets regularly to discuss critical issues affecting the education and services provided to children with disabilities. The Panel includes stakeholders from across the state. The majority of members are individuals with disabilities or parents of children with disabilities. Since their role is to provide advice to the ODE, they need your input and invite you to share your concerns and comments.

For a schedule of meetings and more information about the Panel, visit the following website and search for SAPEC: http://www.education.ohio.gov.

Making Public Comment:

Every agenda of SAPEC includes time allotted for the public to comment and raise issues or concerns that the Panel should hear and consider. You may deliver written comment by mail or e-mail, or choose to address the panel in person.

Guidelines for Public Comment at SAPEC Meeting:

- Be on time for the SAPEC meeting if addressing the panel in person. Meetings begin at 10 a.m.
- Sign in when you arrive and sit in visitor's seating area.
- Time your comments so they can be given in 5 minutes.
- Be factual and objective; please do not mention a student and/or school staff by name to ensure confidentiality.
- Comment on positive things that are happening if appropriate.
- Provide comments on things that need to improve.
- Offer suggestions on how things can be improved.
- Include your contact information so we can provide appropriate follow-up (your concerns will be addressed after the meeting).

Written Comments:

If you cannot attend a meeting, you may submit written comments at least 2 business days prior to the meeting. Submit comments via:

E-mail: Crystal.Ginn@education.ohio.gov

Mail: Ohio Department of Education
SAPEC Liaison – Office for Exceptional Children
25 S. Front St., Mail Stop 202
Columbus, OH 43215-4183