

**Monson Public Schools  
Office of Student Services  
Winter Newsletter**

**SPECIAL EDUCATION UPDATE**

It is my pleasure to announce two new special education teachers to our district. Ms. Joanne Warren is a special education teacher at Quarry Hill Community School and Mr. Joseph Morrison is a special education teacher at Granite Valley Middle School. They both bring a wealth of knowledge and experience in working with students with learning disabilities.

**SPECIAL OLYMPICS**

As a District, we are very excited to announce that in the Fall of 2018, Monson will be hosting the Special Olympics School Day Games for students in Kindergarten through Grade 8 with High School students involved as mentors. The School Day Games are the perfect way for classrooms, school systems, and surrounding communities to come together for a fun and inclusive day of activities featuring all of the elements of a traditional Special Olympics event. During a School Day Games event, students participate in the traditional Opening Ceremony, compete or participate in three or more activities and each is awarded for their accomplishments in a ceremonial awards presentation at the end of the event.

In addition, the District plans to host Unified Sports in the 2018/2019 school year. Unified Sports allows for both students with and without disabilities to participate side by side in a truly inclusive setting. Currently, the District is looking to offer basketball and track and field in the 2018/2019 school year for students who attend Monson High School. Please stay tuned for more information!

**MONSON SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY  
COUNCIL (MSEPAC)**

The MSEPAC is a parent group that acts as a resource for parents and advises

the district regarding meeting the needs of students with special needs. They provide support and networking opportunities for parents and guardians of children with educational needs, offer workshops and guest speakers to help parents become better informed about special education issues.

The MSEPAC meets monthly, on the second Tuesday of each month, from 6-7:00 pm in the School Committee Room at Quarry Hill Community School.

The next meeting will be held on March 13, 2018. The guest speaker is Ms. Linda Smith, Assistive Technology Specialist, who will be providing an overview on Assistive Technology. Please contact MSEPAC President, Mrs. Holly Lynch, at [monsonpac@gmail.com](mailto:monsonpac@gmail.com) for more information.

Thank you for your continued involvement in your child's education. Please contact me directly with any questions you may have regarding special education services for your child. If you have any questions or concerns related to your child's IEP, please contact your child's Special Education Liaison, as they have the most information and contact with your child.

Sincerely,  
Suzanne Morneau  
Director of Student Services

Arlington SEPAC is a parent group that acts as a resource for parents and advises the district regarding meeting the needs of students with special needs. We provide support and networking oppoofficials to participate in the planning,