**EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATION FAMILY ADVISORY COUNCIL**

We are the facilitators of the Exceptional Education Family Advisory Council (EEFAC) for the 2017-18 school year. The EEFAC is a group of parents of children who receive services from the Exceptional Education Department of Metro Nashville Public Schools. Any parent of a child who receives these services is eligible to be a member of EEFAC. EEFAC meets in September, November, January, March and May during the school year. EEFAC offers presentations on a variety of topics of interest to parents.

As parents of children with special needs ourselves, we have learned so much over the years from these presentations. The topics vary based upon emerging issues, any changes in policies, and topics of interest to the parents. The leadership of the Exceptional Education Department is always represented at these meetings and always willing to listen to any problem and help find a solution. Parents at the meetings also offer advice to each other on matters that they may have resolved themselves and make staff aware of problems parents are having..

Our first meeting will be September 13, 2016 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at MNPS main offices. Our topic will be an in-depth overview of the Exceptional Education Department, the role it plays in our children's education and the role of aides, principals, ancillary service providers, the School Board, the Metro Council and others. The presentation will include where to turn if you experience a problem. Often parents feel isolated in their particular school and don't realize that help may be beyond those school walls. Preliminary topics for the remaining meetings are listed on the back of this letter.

 Before each meeting, you should receive a robocall from MNPS reminding you of the meeting and asking for an rsvp so we can have adequate snacks available. We hope you will consider joining this group and avail yourselves of this very helpful information.

Carolyn Shofner Brianna Lee

**2017-18 Exceptional Education Family Advisory Council Meeting Topics**

(See reverse side for description of Exceptional Education Family Advisory Council)

**DATE**: **TOPICS**

September 13, 2017 MNPS Exceptional Education Department - Organizational Charts/Interface with Other Services and Departments/Problem Solving

November 8, 2017 Meaningful IEPs

January 10, 2018 Issues Particular to Gifted Students with IEPs

March 7, 2018\* Advocacy

 STEP (Support and Training for Exceptional Parents)

 Autism Team

May 9, 2018 \* To Be Announced

\* Topics are tentative

If you need additional information please contact Charlene Comer at

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