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## 2009-2010 TRAININGS

### 3 PAC LEADERSHIP INSTITUTES

- ★ Boston - October 17, 2009
- ★ Foxborough - February 27, 2010
- ★ Holyoke - March 27, 2010

### 2 WEBINARS

- ★ "Conducting Needs Assessment Surveys: How to Find Out What Families Really Think" - January 29, 2010
- ★ "Where IS Everyone?: How to Welcome Families of Diverse Backgrounds into Your PAC" - February 24, 2010

### 2010 A.P.P.L.E. INSTITUTE

A 3-day intensive parent leadership training for 6 teams of parents and district personnel, sponsored by the Federation for Children with Special Needs, with support from the MA DESE through Massachusetts Focus Academy, May 12-14, Dedham, MA. For more information, contact A.P.P.L.E. Institute Coordinator Marilyn Gutierrez, 617-236-7210 or [marilyng@fcsn.org](mailto:marilyng@fcsn.org).

## HOW CAN I JOIN MASSPAC?

MassPAC at the Federation offers two membership levels to PACs, each with a valuable package of trainings, listserve and website access, and Federation discounts.

Individuals are also welcome to join MassPAC and take part in the statewide listserve conversation.

*For more information, see the MassPAC website, [www.masspac.org](http://www.masspac.org), or contact MassPAC Coordinator Amanda Green, 617-236-7210, x307 or [agreen@fcsn.org](mailto:agreen@fcsn.org).*



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**Massachusetts Association of Special  
Education Parent Advisory Councils**

*Encouraging parent  
leadership and  
parent-school district  
partnerships through  
special education parent  
advisory councils.*



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MassPAC at the Federation is the state-wide organization providing information, training, and networking opportunities to Massachusetts special education parent advisory councils (PACs) and the professionals who collaborate with them.



## HOW DO WE DO THAT?

- ★ Through the statewide MassPAC listserve and website, we offer PAC leaders, school professionals, and other interested individuals the opportunity to network, share resources, and exchange ideas.
- ★ Through statewide in-person leadership trainings, phone support, and webinars, we offer guidance on effective practices for parents and professionals.

## WHY BE PART OF MASSPAC?

- ★ Because research shows that student success is directly linked to parental involvement in schools.
- ★ Because by building relationships based on trust, parent leaders and school professionals can collaborate to make positive change happen.
- ★ Because Massachusetts special education law requires PACs and districts to work together.



## MASSACHUSETTS REGULATIONS:

### 603 CMR 28:07(4)

Each school district shall create a district-wide parent advisory council offering membership to all parents of eligible students and other interested parties. The parent advisory council duties shall include but not be limited to: advising the district on matters that pertain to the education and safety of students with disabilities; meeting regularly with school officials to participate in the planning, development, and evaluation of the school district's special education programs. The parent advisory council shall establish by-laws regarding officers and operational procedures, and, in the course of its duties, the parent advisory council shall receive assistance from the district without charge, upon reasonable notice, and subject to the availability of staff and resources.

### 603 CMR 28:03 (1)(a)(iv)

The district shall conduct, in cooperation with the parent advisory council, at least one workshop annually within the school district on the rights of students and their parents and guardians under state and federal special education laws.

