



SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Communication, Understanding, Respect

Agenda
January 4, 2017
Holten Richmond Library

- 6:30 Business Meeting
- Review Minutes
- New Business

Special Need Advocacy Network – Free advocates advise
Resource Fair preparation
Mail Chimp campaign – how do we get word out for information
Evaluation proposal for consideration by the Danvers Public School Committee

- Upcoming Events
March 1, 2017 Resource Fair
April 2, 2017 Light It Up Blue
Fundraiser Dessert Night May 3, 2017
Open Discussion

- 7:00 Presentation – Interactive discussion between parents and children around the subjects of learning differences

One of the first questions that enter a parent's mind when their child receives a diagnosis that impacts their school experience is: "how do I explain this to my child?" Parents may feel nervous or worried that they could say the wrong thing, they may feel uncomfortable talking about emotional topics themselves, they may become fretfully over-protective or they may not even know where to begin.

Natalie Blue is a Licensed Mental Health Counselor and Co-Founder of The Artful Life Counseling Center & Studio in Beverly. She has worked with families for over 10 years who have struggled with the diagnosis process and has supported numerous parent, children and teens over the years navigate the emotional landscape of having learning difficulties, mental illness and developmental disorders.

She will facilitate an interactive discussion around opening the lines of communication between parents and children around the subjects of learning differences, self-advocacy, difficult emotions and social relationships. All of these topics are intricately entwined and are often what makes the school environment a demanding and over stimulating place for children.