



Boston Special Education Parent Advisory Council Boston SpedPac

October 31, 2014

The Boston Special Education Advisory Council is deeply saddened by the passing of Mayor Thomas M. Menino. We send our heartfelt condolences to his wife Angela, his daughter Susan, his son Thomas Jr., his six grandchildren, and his entire family. The grief we all feel is equal to the gratitude we have to Mayor Menino's family for sharing him with us and all of Boston for over 20 years.

Mayor Menino loved the City and he worked tirelessly every day to help the people of his beloved Boston. In particular, his love for the children of Boston was reflected in his constant presence in our schools, and personal encouragement to all students to do their best and reach for the stars.

A passionate advocate for children with disabilities and for inclusion, he believed that every child deserves a quality education and that children learn best when they are included with and supported by their peers. There are countless examples of his relentless advocacy for children with special needs, including the opening of an accessible playground outside of Spaulding Hospital where he was a patient. At a time when many would focus on their own recovery he instead recognized an opportunity and made it happen.

We will miss you dearly Mayor Menino, rest in peace, and know that we and the children of Boston are eternally grateful for all of your amazing accomplishments and everlasting support.

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