

# Parents of Children with Special Needs

## SEACOM

(Special Education Advisory Council of Marblehead) announces  
the following workshop:

Monday January 8, 2007  
7:00-8:30pm  
Family Center Room D110  
Marblehead Veterans Middle School  
217 Pleasant St.  
Marblehead, MA  
Open to the Public

Speaker: Attorney Daniel T.S. Heffernan  
Partner at the law firm of Kotin, Crabtree & Strong LLP, Boston, Ma

Topic: **Changes to Special Education Federal Law IDEA 2004**

The new IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) regulations, issued by the U.S. Department of Education took effect on October 13, 2006. These rules provide guidance for the implementation for the reauthorized law known as IDEA 2004. IDEA 2004 clarifies parents' rights and responsibilities in the areas of procedural safeguards, due process and discipline provisions.

Attorney Heffernan will outline the recently enacted changes to IDEA 2004, and will discuss how to use the information to assist in the planning, decision-making and monitoring of your child's IEP.

Attorney Heffernan is a partner with the firm of Kotin, Crabtree Strong. He graduated from Boston College in 1981 and Harvard Law School in 1987. He has had extensive trial experience, representing both plaintiffs and defendants, including individuals with disabilities, in complex personal injury, medical malpractice, civil rights, product liability and commercial litigation.

Since 1995 he has served as the president of the board of directors of the Federation of Children with Special Needs. In 2002 he received the Dr. Allen C. Crocker Award of Excellence by the Massachusetts Down Syndrome Congress. He concentrates his practice in personal injury, special education and commercial litigation.

We strongly encourage parents of children with IEPs to attend this workshop.