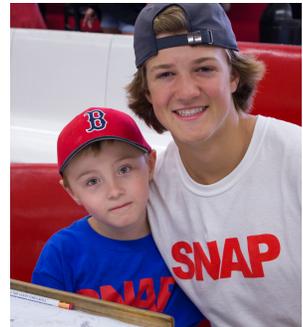




## South Shore Special Needs Athletic Partnership

**Hingham Public Schools is proud to partner with South Shore SNAP to allow all students to participate in sports and recreational activities and to foster friendships within the school community!**

"At the SNAP Summer Program, you are not just a mentor, but more importantly, you are a friend. Whether it's helping kids through tough days or having a blast on the most fun days, we're always there for everyone. I remember one day when we went to the Rec Center for "Inflatable Day" and it was pouring rain. One child chose me to go down the waterslide, so of course I had to go! I was completely soaked by the end of the day, but we couldn't stop laughing the entire time. I know that's what friends are for!" - Casey Cavanaugh, Hingham High School Class of 2017 and SNAP Mentor. Recognizing a lack of athletic and recreational programs for kids with special needs within our community, the Hingham Sports Partnership and the Hingham Special Education Parent Advisory Council teamed up in 2013 to form South Shore Special Needs Athletic Partnership (SNAP). The mission of SNAP is to provide a variety of sports and recreational activities for students with special needs. Hingham Public Schools enthusiastically partnered with SNAP from day one, which has benefited our entire school community.



SNAP's success is due in large part to the high school volunteers who assist the students with disabilities. During SNAP programs, student "mentors" support participants by helping them engage in an activity, allowing them to try something new. Along the way, friendships form and everyone benefits from the time spent together.

Over the course of the year, SNAP offers a wide variety of programs to students in Hingham and across the South Shore. In addition to athletic programs such as bowling, fitness & boxing, tennis, and soccer, SNAP also organizes special needs-friendly movies and workshops at the South Shore Natural Science Center. The highlight of the year is the five-week SNAP Summer Program held at South Shore Country Club. This program was developed for students with special needs who attend the Extended School Year (ESY) program in Hingham and neighboring towns. It gives these students a fun, afternoon outlet during the month of July. Hingham Public Schools provides transportation from its ESY program to the South Shore Country Club where the fun begins for a few hours! SNAP mentors meet the participants upon arrival and interact with them for the duration of the program providing smiles, laughter, and a memorable experience.

Since SNAP's inception five years ago, more than 300 Hingham and South Shore students have benefited from participation in SNAP Programs and over 200 Hingham High School students have served as Mentors. Hingham Public Schools and SNAP are proud of its partnership, as both understand the impact that is made when all students have the opportunity to socialize and share new experiences regardless of their differences. For more information about SNAP, please visit [www.southshoresnap.com](http://www.southshoresnap.com) or contact SNAP at [southshoresnap@gmail.com](mailto:southshoresnap@gmail.com).