

SPEDWatch hits a home run at MTA Convention

BOSTON – May 9, 2008 - The Massachusetts Teachers Association held its 163rd Annual Meeting of Delegates Convention and Exposition at Boston's Hynes Convention Center May 8 – 10 and SPEDWatch was there! The SPEDWatch exhibit booth, manned by Board Member and MTA Delegate Debbie Askwith was a huge success. Debbie and SPEDWatch Executive Director Ellen Chambers spoke to a steady stream of educators who expressed support for the movement's mission.

they advocate strenuously for their students with special needs. Sadly, I also met teachers who were planning to leave the teaching profession specifically because they could no longer tolerate having to keep silent about the needs of their students with disabilities.”

SPEDWatch will be investigating ways to support teachers in their advocacy efforts.



Debbie Askwith (L-Background) explains SPEDWatch's mission to MTA Convention attendees.

“I was really astonished by the enthusiasm that these educators showed for our work and by the absolute uniformity of their comments,” said Chambers. “When we talked about noncompliance with special education law in our schools every single person I talked to nodded their head in agreement. And they all want the same thing: a mechanism that will protect them when