

Who is a Member of SEAC?

SEAC membership is composed of representatives from:

- Up to 12 local parent associations, affiliated with provincially incorporated associations which further the interests of exceptional pupils or adults, and which do not represent professional educators;
- One, two or three Board members, depending on the size of the Board;
- One or two representatives for Aboriginal pupils where appropriate; and
- May include one or more members at large.



SEAC Members:

Anne Haley – Trustee

Mary-Lise Rowat – Superintendent of Educational Services (Resource)

Carol Sulpher – Member at Large

Colleen Whittier - Easter Seals:
www.easterseals.org

Daniella Santos – Member at Large

Dave Sloan – Member at Large
(FCS Pending)

Jodi Cotnam – Member at Large

Joan Daley – Learning Disabilities of Ontario

Link to current SEAC Committee:

<http://rccdsb.edu.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2011/10/Special-Education-Advisory-Committee2.pdf>

Please contact us if you would like to become a SEAC Member!!



RENFREW COUNTY CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

*SPECIAL EDUCATION
ADVISORY COMMITTEES
(SEAC)
A Question and Answer Guide*



Special Education Advisory Committees (SEACs) play a vital role in the success of special education programs and services in Ontario's publicly funded schools.

Link to Ontario Ministry of Education:
<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/general/elecsec/speced/seac/>

What is SEAC?

SEACs are Special Education Advisory Committees established since 1980 as part of the revision of Bill 82. SEACs are referenced in Regulation 464/467. Section 57.1 of the Education Act requires each Board to establish a SEAC. Each SEAC must convene at least 10 times per year.

What does SEAC oversee?

The Special Education Advisory Committee:

- Makes recommendations to the school board with regard to special education;
- Participates in the Board's annual review of its Special Education Plan;
- Participates in the Board's annual budget process as it relates to special education;
- Reviews the financial statements of the Board as they relate to special education.

What is SEAC's role in Quality Assurance?

SEACs focus on three areas to assure quality in special education:

- School Board Special Education Plans
- Individual Education Plans
- Public Relations

How is SEAC involved in School Board Education Plans?

With the assistance of SEAC, school boards must review the plan once a year and send any amendments to the Minister of Education. Every two years, Boards must prepare and approve a report of the special education programs and services. The standards stipulate that in developing and modifying their special education plan, Boards must take into consideration issues and feedback from members of the community including parents, members of school councils, community organizations, and students. This public consultation, which takes place with the assistance of the Board's Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC), must be maintained on a continuous basis throughout the year.



Link to Special Education Department:
<http://rccdsb.edu.on.ca/blog/2011/10/25/special-education-department>

How is SEAC involved in Individual Education Plans?

A school board's Special Education Plan is reviewed yearly by the Ministry of Education. The SEAC has the opportunity to provide comment and advice to the Board when the results of the Ministry's review are received and when the Board develops its response for inclusion in the Board's Special Education Plan. As the Ministry moves, over time, to having school boards develop and implement procedures for quality assurance for the implementation of IEPs, the SEACs will have an important role to play in providing further advice to Boards.

How is SEAC involved in public relations?

Parents or members of the public may contact a member of their school board Special Education Advisory Committee to discuss their point of view about the Board's system-wide planning and development of special education programs and services. Members of the public may attend a SEAC meeting to make their views known to the Committee on special education issues, and through it, to the district school board.