



Special Education Advisory Committee

What is SEAC?

Every student is entitled to an educational program which is responsive to their strengths and needs. The Ontario Education Act requires that all school boards provide special education programs and services on behalf of Exceptional students. Under the Act, school boards are also required to establish a **Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)**.

SEAC advises and makes recommendations to the Board concerning the establishment and development of special education programs and services.

What Happens at a SEAC Meeting?

SEAC meetings enable SEAC members to provide advice about Board special education programs and services.

Meetings follow a formal format including:

- **Review** and approval of agenda and meeting minutes
- **Presentations** on special education programs and services
- **Current** issues and initiatives in special education
- **Community** updates by SEAC Members
- **Board** Meeting Updates
- **Correspondence and Questions**

You are welcome to attend SEAC.

The Lakehead District School Board welcomes interested members of the public to attend and observe the Special Education Advisory Committee Meetings.

Please check the Board website for dates and times of upcoming meetings at: lakeheadschoools.ca

SEAC Associations

A SEAC for a district school board is composed of representatives and alternates from up to 12 local associations which must be affiliated with associations or organizations that:

- are incorporated;
- operate throughout Ontario;
- further the interests and well-being of one or more groups of Exceptional children or adults; and,
- do not represent professional educators.

Alternates, for local association members, are able to attend and participate in SEAC meetings if the local association member cannot be present.

SEAC members are appointed by the school board. They serve for the term of office of board members and until a new board is organized. A new SEAC is formed every four years following the election of the Board of Trustees.

FOR MORE INFORMATION...

Check the Board website under Special Education for important Special Education Resources including the following Parent Resource Guides:

- [Guide for Parents](#)
- [Special Education Plan](#)

Check the Board website under **SEAC** for SEAC related documents.

LDSB SEAC Committee Members 2022-2026

- Anishnawbe Mushkiki
- Autism Ontario
- Children's Centre Thunder Bay
- Community Member
- Dilico Anishinabek Family Care
- Easter Seals
- Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Information Network (FASIN)
- George Jeffrey Children's Centre
- Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario
- OPTIONS Northwest
- Trustee Members

Overview

Under the Education Act and Regulation 464/97, all District School Boards are required to establish a Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC). SEAC may make recommendations to the Board concerning any matter affecting the establishment, development and delivery of special education programs and services for students with special needs.

SEAC membership Includes:

- Twelve volunteers representing local associations
- Alternates for each volunteer
- Trustees of the Board
- Representation for First Nations, Métis and Inuit students
- Additional Members as determined by the Board of Trustees

The Superintendent of the Board responsible for special education and other personnel attend the meetings as non-voting members.

Eligible members for SEAC are required to:

- Reside within the jurisdiction of the Board they represent
- Be qualified to vote for members of the school board
- Be a Canadian citizen
- Be over the age of eighteen
- Not be employed by the Board

Responsibilities SEAC of Members

- **Provide** advice about special education and key legislation, programs and services.
- **Represent** the needs of Exceptional students effectively.
- **Participate** in the annual review of the Board's Special Education Report.
- **Collaborate** with other SEAC members to effectively respond to the needs of all students with special education needs.
- **Attend** 10 meetings per year.