

SEAC INTRODUCTION AND MEMBERSHIP

What is SEAC?

The ***Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)*** is a committee of the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board (H.W.C.D.S.B.). It is an advisory committee of parents and representatives of the community who act on behalf of exceptional children or adults in the jurisdiction of the H.W.C.D.S.B. SEAC is responsible for monitoring Special Education programs, services and budget. SEAC is a committee established in all school boards in Ontario as per Ontario Regulation 464/97.

Where and when does SEAC meet?

SEAC meetings are open to the public. SEAC typically meets on the second Thursday of each month (September to June) at 7:00 p.m. at the Catholic Education Centre, 90 Mulberry Street, Hamilton. Information is updated on the Board website: www.hwcdsb.ca.

Who can attend?

All parents and interested staff or community members are welcomed to attend the meetings as guests. Any questions or issues which guests may have are to be forwarded in advance to the SEAC Chairperson or SEAC Secretary.

Why does SEAC meet?

- Communication and information about Board and Ministry of Education programs, services and initiatives that relate to Special Education and students with exceptional needs;
- Share ideas about accommodations and modifications for identified students;
- Listen to Board and community speakers on topics related to Special Education and persons with exceptionalities;
- Network with other advocates on behalf of Special Education issues;
- Assist Board in ensuring Special Education programs and services are maintained and enhanced;
- Monitor the annual Special Education budget and Special Education Plans

How to join SEAC?

In September of each year that a Municipal election takes place, the Superintendent of Education responsible for Special Education invites local associations that are involved with exceptional children or adults in the jurisdiction of the H.W.C.D.S.B. requesting nominations for a SEAC representative and an alternate. Two Trustee members and

one alternate Trustee member are appointed by the H.W.C.D.S.B. Additional Members-at-Large, who are neither representatives of a local association or employees the H.W.C.D.S.B., may also be nominated. The names of all nominees are presented to the H.W.C.D.S.B. and are appointed. Members must meet the qualifications as per Ontario Regulation 464/97

SEAC MEMBERS:

Ralph Agostino, Trustee

Sam Agostino, Trustee

Jackie Bajus, Superintendent of Education, (SEAC Secretary)

Deborah Crowe (Alternate), Hamilton-Wentworth Association for Bright Children

Patrick J. Daly, Chairperson of the Board

Dr. W. Mahoney, Member at Large (Chair)

Paula Grond, Member at Large

James Cain, Down Syndrome Association of Hamilton

Jay Nelligan (Alternate), Down Syndrome Association of Hamilton

Gloria Petitti, Hamilton-Wentworth Association for Bright Children

Donna Taylor, Member at Large

Mary Vasilak, Hamilton Family Network, (Vice-Chair)

John Valvasori, (Alternate), Trustee

Anna Ferelli (Alternate), Hamilton Family Network

Don Burroughs (Alternate), Community Living Hamilton

STAFF ADVISORS:

Domenica Leone, Assistant Superintendent of Education, Special Education

Des Brennan, Supervisor, Social Services Work

Julie Byrne, Supervisor, Speech-Language and Hearing Services

Dr. Clinton Davis, Psychologist

Sharon Derkach, Supervisor of Educational Assistant Services

Meg Petkoff (Alternate), Respectful Workplace Advisor

SEAC MEETING DATES:

September 8, 2011

October 13, 2011

November 10, 2011

December 8, 2011

January 12, 2012

February 9, 2012

March 8, 2012

April 12, 2012

May 10, 2012

June 14, 2012