

SECTION C

THE BOARD'S
SPECIAL EDUCATION
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Board's Special Education Advisory Committee

Local Association Representation

| Member and Contact Information | Affiliation or Association | Alternate Member |
|--|---|-------------------------|
| Mike Neuts 12854 Longwoods Rd. Kent Bridge, ON N0P 1V0 519-692-4116 | Trustee | |
| Marie Cadotte 9280 Pioneer Line Chatham, ON N0P 1V0 | Trustee | |
| Deb Toland 519-676-2381 519-355-2216 dtoland@netrover.com | Community Living Chatham-Kent | |
| Adrian Vermeiren 8711 Egermont Rd. Watford, ON N0M 2S0 519-828-3163 | Lambton County Developmental Services | |
| Fabrizia Romano 285 McNaughton Ave. E. Chatham, ON N7L 2G7 519-352-2024 | Learning Disabilities Association of Chatham Kent | |
| Martha Fracalanza 2000 Blackwell Rd. Sarnia, ON N7T 7H4 519-542-5278 | Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and Effect Group | |
| Michele LaLonge-Davey 889 Cathcart Sarnia, ON N7V 2N7 519-542-1477 | Down Syndrome Association of Lambton County | |
| Verna Southgate 64-179 Sheldon Ave. Chatham, ON N7L 3N1 519-351-4531 | Autism Society Ontario | |
| Veronica Vaughan 54 Lillian St. Wallaceburg, ON N8A 4W3 519-627-8443 | Community Living Wallaceburg | |

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| Annie Sheehan 321 Devine Street (2 nd Floor Devine Street School) Sarnia, ON N7T 1T9 (519) 344-7745 (W) (519) 336-5052 (H) | Learning Disabilities Association of Lambton County | |
| Kathy Arcuri-Arnott 978 Eastlawn Avenue Sarnia, ON N7F 1X4 | VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children | |
| Maureen Cecile VP St. Therese Catholic School | Vice Principals' Association | |
| Dianne Langan VP Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School | Vice Principals' Association | |
| Dr. Frank Leddy Anna Giuliani Martin Forster Renee Zarebski | Board Advisors | |

Selection Process for SEAC members

In accordance with Ontario Regulation 464/97 Special Education Advisory Committees SEAC members are appointed. SEAC members must be an eligible voter on the voters list for the Board of Trustees.

The SEAC terms is congruent with the Board of Trustees. The SEAC also has representation from the members at large and the Principal's Association. The principal member is selected by the Principal's Association and the members at large are selected by the Parent-Board Advisory Committee.

When one provincial association is represented by more than one local geographical representative the various members will hold one official vote. The Executive Directors of the various local associations will decide who will hold the official vote on an annual basis and inform the Chair of SEAC in writing.

Meeting Times and Locations

The SEAC for the St. Clair Catholic District meets the Third Monday of every month in the Catholic Education Center in Wallaceburg. The SEAC meetings are open to the public. For the 2002 and 2003 the actual meeting dates and locations were:

| Date | Location | Time |
|--------------------|---|-------------|
| September 20, 2004 | 420 Creek Street Wallaceburg Ontario | 7:00 PM |
| October 18, 2004 | 420 Creek Street Wallaceburg Ontario | 7:00 PM |

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|-------------------|---|---------|
| November 15, 2004 | 420 Creek Street Wallaceburg Ontario | 7:00 PM |
| January 17, 2005 | 420 Creek Street Wallaceburg Ontario | 7:00 PM |
| February 21, 2005 | 420 Creek Street Wallaceburg Ontario | 7:00 PM |
| March 21, 2005 | 420 Creek Street Wallaceburg Ontario | 7:00 PM |
| April 18, 2005 | 420 Creek Street Wallaceburg Ontario | 7:00 PM |
| May 16, 2005 | 420 Creek Street Wallaceburg Ontario | 7:00 PM |
| June 20, 2005 | 420 Creek Street Wallaceburg Ontario | 7:00 PM |

Meeting dates, times, and locations are advertised in the board minutes and are available on the Board Web site.

Communication Protocol

There are times when families are left confused or uncertain regarding issues related to their child. If the child is in need of special education, the potential for concerns are even greater as exceptional or special considerations add to the complexity and possible miscommunication. In these situations, a parent may contact a member of SEAC for direction. To assist members of SEAC the following protocol should be used as a guide.

1.0 Specific Concerns

The following chain of communication is the practice supported by Board Policy and Procedures.

- 1.1 Contact the child's Teacher to discuss the concern. A meeting with the Teacher may be in everyone's best interest.
- 1.2 Contact the school principal to request help in dealing with the concern. If the principal is not available leave your name, telephone number and the nature of the concern with the school secretary. You should expect to hear from the Principal or be advised of the action being taken.
- 1.3 Contact the Affiliate Superintendent responsible for your school. Call the Board Office (519-627-6762) and identify the school, which your child attends. You will then be connected to the appropriate Superintendent. If unavailable, all staff has voice mail, please leave a detailed message and your call will be returned. If the Superintendent does not address your concerns, you may contact the Director of Education.

2.0 General Concerns

- 2.1 If there is a general concern regarding Special Education programs or services, a parent may contact either the Principal or Superintendent Responsible for Special Education at the Board Office.
- 2.2 The Superintendent and/or Director of Education will attempt to find a solution to the problem that satisfies the involved parties. Where this is not possible, the Director of Education will advise the parent that the matter in dispute will be brought to the attention of the Chair of the Board and/or the appropriate trustee(s).
- 2.3 If not satisfied, communication may be made by writing to the Chair of the Board or requesting to address the Board of Trustees.

3.0 Special Education SEAC Support

- 3.1 A member of SEAC may request that a general issued raised by an individual be placed on the agenda of the subsequent SEAC meeting.
- 3.2 Upon the request of a parent, a member of SEAC may recommend another member of the Association that he/she represents, attend and IPRC with the parents in order to provide personal support or advice.

Each SEAC meeting through the course of the school year involves presentations and discussions about various board and community programs and services. This format allows SEAC to have ongoing opportunities to influence the establishment, development, and delivery of special education programs and services. The Chapter titled "The Board's Consultation Process" outlined the integral involvement of SEAC in the public consultation process and their input to the development of the Special Education Plan.

SEAC also participates in the development of the board's annual budget for special education through ongoing discussions about current and proposed programs and services at each SEAC meeting. Information regarding budget, programs and services are discussed and SEAC input, direct and recommendations are accepted and forwarded to the Board of Trustees. A copy of the most recent Budget Report and an outline indicating areas which were targeted for support with the additional money received mid-year are found in the following sections.

In addition SEAC has lobbied for additional dollars to provide support for children who have mental health issues.