



**ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**

*Lighting the Way ~ Rejoicing in Our Journey*

# Special Education Advisory Committee

(S.E.A.C.)

**AN INFORMATION SUMMARY FOR PARENTS AND  
COMMUNITY PROFESSIONALS**

## **What is The Special Education Advisory Committee (S.E.A.C.)?**

The SEAC is a committee mandated by legislation. This makes it a standing committee of the board.

The SEAC is responsible to advise the board on all matters related to the provision of special education programs and services to its exceptional pupils. Areas of focus include:

- Philosophy and Goals
- Organizational Structure
- Policies and Procedures
- Funding
- Annual Review of the Special Education Plan
- Orientation and Ongoing In-Service for SEAC members
- Interaction with other Board Committees in related matters

## **Who sits on S.E.A.C.?**

The SEAC is made up of no more than twelve representatives of the local associations in the jurisdiction of the board.

The individual must be a Canadian citizen, at least 18 years of age, a resident within the area of the board, and a Roman Catholic elector.

Terms of qualifications and membership of the committee are governed by the Education Act section 206.

## **What are the responsibilities of S.E.A.C. members?**

The members of a SEAC represent all pupils with exceptionalities, and it is important that members respond to the needs of all exceptional pupils within the board. Thus, individual members need to increase their awareness and understanding of the various exceptionalities.

Each member is expected to:

- Respond to needs of all exceptional pupils within the board
- Respect the right to privacy of individual pupils by avoiding discussion of individual cases

- Acquire and maintain a working knowledge of the special education programs and services provided by the board
- Represent and inform the board about the exceptionality he or she represents
- Bring to SEAC the concerns of specific association regarding programs and services for exceptional pupils
- And to keep the association informed of the proceedings of SEAC and any new developments with respect to special education within the board. To this end, members should:
  - Ensure that they are expressing the concerns of the association and not their own
  - Keep informed and identify needs
  - Attend SEAC meeting and be prepared to participate at the meeting
  - Facilitate the flow of information between the SEAC and the Association
  - Set annual goals and objectives as well as those for the local association and for the SEAC.

### **What other roles may an Association Representative on SEAC be asked to perform?**

- Beyond committee membership and attendance may include:
- Being available to assist parents or guardians with IPRC's
- Acting as resource for parents or guardians of an exceptional pupil
- Providing information on IPRC and appeal procedures
- Being a resource for the schools or community
- Participating in professional workshops held by various associations, school board, and schools to address the needs and concerns of exceptional pupil

## SEAC Members for 2004-2007 Term

### Association Representatives:

NAME	ASSOCIATION	ADDRESS OF ASSOCIATION	ASSOCIATION PHONE NO.
Kathy Bouma	Canadian Mental Health Association, Lambton Branch	210 Lochiel St. Sarnia, ON N7T 4C7	(519) 337-5411
Bev Broad	Sarnia-Lambton Parents for Total Communication	P. O. Box 93 Petrolia, ON N0N 1R0	(519) 627-8402
Martha Fracalanza	Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and Effect Group		
Michele LaLonge-Davey	Down Syndrome Association Lambton County	129 Kendall St. Point Edward, ON N7V 4G6	(519) 542-1477
Maureen McGrail	Learning Disabilities Association of Chatham-Kent	P.O. Box 1424 Chatham, ON N7M 5W8	(519) 352-2024
Carol Power	Learning Disabilities Association of Lambton County	321 Devine St. Sarnia, ON N7T 1T9	(519) 344-7745
Verna Southgate	Chatham-Kent Chapter of Autism Society Ontario	143 Wellington St. W., Suite 104 Chatham, ON N7M 1J5	(519) 352-7827
Deb Toland	Community Living Chatham-Kent	650 Riverside Dr., Unit 2 Chatham, ON N7M 5J5	(519) 352-1174
Dr. Veronica Vaughan	Community Living Wallaceburg	1130 McNaughton Ave., Wallaceburg, ON N8A 1R7	(519) 627-0776
Adrian Vermeiren	Lambton County Developmental Services	339 Centre St., Box 1210 Petrolia, ON N0N 1R0	(519) 882-2811
Francine Vigh	Easter Seal Society of Ontario	P. O. Box 22014 Sarnia, ON N7S 6J4	(519) 867-3807

### Trustees:

Mike Neuts (chair)	c/o St. Clair Catholic District School Board	(866) 336-6139
Marie Cadotte	c/o St. Clair Catholic District School Board	(866) 336-6139

### Principals Association:

Maureen Cecile	c/o St. Therese School	(519) 332-4300
Dianne Langan	c/o Our Lady of Fatima School	(519) 351-4040

### Board Advisors:

**c/o St. Clair Catholic District School Board**  
**420 Creek St., Wallaceburg, ON N8A 4C4 Toll Free: 1-866-336-6139**  
**Board Website: [www.st-clair.net](http://www.st-clair.net)**

Henry Kulik	Superintendent of Education
Anna Giuliani	Assistant Superintendent - Special Education
Martin Forster	Program Resource Consultant
Renee Zarebski	Program Resource Consultant

This pamphlet was designed to provide basic information about the SEAC. For more information refer to the Ministry of Education Handbook for Members of Special Education Advisory Committees and the Ministry of Education and Training Website.