



**ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**

*Lighting the Way ~ Rejoicing in Our Journey*

**SPEECH AND LANGUAGE**

A Guide for Student, Parents. And Community Professionals

# **The Role of the Speech Language Pathologist**

The role of the Speech Language Pathologist (SLP) is to advance communication development within the school environment and to foster the transfer of these skills to other settings.

School-based SLP's focus on providing services for students and in supporting staff and parents. Services to students focus on assessment, and the recommendation of specific speech and language goals.

Services may include:

- Assessment and Interpretation
- Intervention
- Conferencing
- In-service and Training
- Community Liaison.

## **The Referral Process**

Speech-language referrals originate from the school resource team. Informed written consent must be obtained from parent/guardians before any assessment can take place. The steps in the referral process are as follows:

1. The teacher and or parent with school support determines the need for additional information related to speech and language.

2. The teacher discusses the referral to speech-language services with resource teacher.
3. The teacher (resource and/or classroom) discuss referral with parent /guardian.
4. Parent Consent Form for Speech and language Assessment is completed and signed by the parent/guardian, principal and program resource teacher.
5. Form is sent to Student Services Department secretary at the Catholic Education Centre in Wallaceburg.

## **School Language Plan**

At the beginning of the school year the SLP assigned to each school will meet with the principal and the special staff to review the needs of the students and staff at the school.

A written plan outlining the following will be developed:

- Individual student intervention
- School Wide Initiative Support
- Staff and Parent in-service

This plan will be reviewed and update on a semester basis to reflect the changing needs of the school. This plan provides the directions for the services that will be delivered by the Speech Language Pathologist to the that particular school.

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