

You are welcome to attend!

The Durham District School Board invites all parents/guardians and interested members of the public to attend Special Education Advisory Committee meetings.

The Committee meets at the Education Centre, 400 Taunton Road East, Whitby, at 6:30 p.m. usually every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month.

### What Happens at a S.E.A.C Meeting?

S.E.A.C. meetings are a forum for S.E.A.C. members to provide advice and discussion of Board programs and support services for exceptional pupils. Meetings follow a formal format including:

- Review of Minutes
- Presentations
- Current issues and initiatives in Special Education
- Committee Reports by members
- Board Reports:
  - a) Trustees b) Staff
- Correspondence and Questions

### Who Are Exceptional Students?

Exceptional Students are those whose behavioural, communicational, intellectual, physical or multiple exceptionalities are such that the student needs a specialized placement or support as identified by the Identification, Placement, and Review Committee (I.P.R.C.)

*The mission of the Durham District School Board's Special Education program is to provide a range of programs, placements and services for students with special needs in a supportive environment which enables them to develop to their full potential. Our on-going commitment is to provide the structures and support each student needs to foster their growth & development in programs which foster integration and independence as defined for each student based on their strengths and needs.*



GROVE • PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES • SOCIAL WORK AND ATTENDANCE  
SPECIAL EDUCATION • SPEECH LANGUAGE AND HEARING • VISION

#### Members at Large:

Craig Cameron.....905-447-2852  
E-mail.....ccameron@trentu.ca

Carolyn McLennon.....(905) 427-1059  
E-mail.....cmclennon@gmail.com

#### Durham District School Board:

Telephone..... 905-666-5500  
Toll Free.....1-800-265-2968  
Website.....www.ddsbs.ca

Donna Edwards, Trustee..... 905-426-7045  
Christine Thatcher, Trustee..... 905-425-0343

If you would like more information on the Special Education Advisory Committee or Special Education Services in Durham, please call your local school.



## Special Education Advisory Committee

### What is SEAC?

Under Ontario's Education Act, every student is entitled to a program which meets their needs. In Durham, our Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) helps the Board protect the rights of students with special learning needs. SEAC provides information, advice and assistance to parents/guardians whose children may require additional support.

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

**The Committee is composed of member representatives from:**

- Association for Bright Children (ABC)
- Autism Ontario – Durham Chapter
- Durham District School Board (Trustees)
- Durham Down Syndrome Association
- Easter Seals Ontario
- Learning Disabilities Association of Durham Region
- Ontario Association for Families of Children with Communication Disorders (OAFCCD)
- VOICE for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**Association for Bright Children (ABC)**

Eva Kyriakides (SEAC Chair)

..... bill.eva.k@rogers.com  
..... www.abcontario.ca

This association helps parents advocate for their bright and gifted children. In co-operation with the Durham District School Board, ABC’s Durham Chapter provides information and support to member and non-member parents.

**Autism Ontario-Durham Chapter**

Claudine Burrell ..... durham@autismontario.ca  
..... www.autismontario.com/Durham

Autism Ontario is dedicated to increasing public awareness about autism and the day-to-day issues faced by individuals with autism, their families, and the professionals with whom they interact. The association and its chapters share common goals of providing information and education, supporting research, and advocating for programs and services for the autism community.

**Durham Down Syndrome Association**

Tara Culley.....SEAC@ddsa.ca  
.....https://ddsa.ca

This is an organization of parents, professionals and others striving to improve the quality of life for those with Down Syndrome. While seeking to broaden public awareness, this association serves as a support to new families and as a resource to parents/guardians for information regarding facilities and programs available for persons with Down Syndrome.

**Easter Seals Ontario**

Hanah Nguyen .....seac.easterseals@gmail.com  
.....www.easterseals.org

Easter Seals Ontario provides programs and services to children and youth with physical disabilities across Ontario to help them achieve greater independence, accessibility and integration.

**Learning Disabilities Association of Durham Region**

Rowin Jarvis..... rowin@ldadr.on.ca  
.....www.ldadr.on.ca

The Learning Disabilities Association Durham Region’s mission is to advocate, support and educate the Durham community about learning disabilities and to enable persons with learning disabilities to reach their full potential.

To achieve this we provide:

- Monthly Speaker Series for all
- Resource Facilitation for all
- Advocacy Support for members
- Public Awareness Activities

**Ontario Association for Families of Children with Communication Disorders (OAFCCD)**

Elizabeth Daniel.....jason\_liz@sympatico.ca  
.....www.oafccd.com

OAFCCD's mission is to work with families and community partners to ensure children have access to effective speech and language services.

**VOICE for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children**

Kathy Kedey..... mskedey@ hotmail.com  
.....www.voicefordeafkids.com

VOICE for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children is committed to:

- Advocating on behalf of deaf and hard of hearing children and their families.
- Supporting deaf and hard of hearing children and their families through providing access to information, education, mentoring, and self-advocacy skills training.
- Educating the general public that deaf and hard of hearing children can learn to listen and speak.

*Revised: April 2019*

