

**To the parents of children in
special education...
you are not alone!**



***Improving Special Education
through
Understanding and Networking***

The Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) consists primarily of parents of children receiving special education services. Each member represents an Albemarle County School and is dedicated to improving services to children with disabilities by identifying unmet needs, providing advice and assisting the school division in developing plans to meet the needs of children with disabilities receiving special education.

SEAC has developed this brochure to provide a positive resource for parents and care providers of children with disabilities. Continually improving special education requires teamwork. Consider this an official invitation to participate in the process of continual improvement for children with disabilities in Albemarle County Public Schools.

***Other resources for
information about special
education programs:***

***Albemarle County Public Schools
Department of Special Education***
Phone (434) 296-5885

Parent Resource Center
Phone (434) 975-9400

Department of Special Services
401 McIntire Road - Room 323
Charlottesville, VA 22902-4596



**▶ SPECIAL
EDUCATION
ADVISORY
COMMITTEE**

***A VOICE FOR PARENTS
OF CHILDREN WITH
DISABILITIES***





Finding answers. Developing a better understanding.

What is the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)?

The Special Education Advisory Committee, or SEAC, is a group of parents of children with disabilities who volunteer to represent the school their child is enrolled in within the Albemarle County Public School Division.

SEAC assists Albemarle County Public schools by identifying and addressing the unmet needs of children with disabilities in special education programs across the division.

How can SEAC help me?

The purpose of the committee is to bring concerns from fellow parents to the attention of the Director of Special Education and to advise the School Board through the Superintendent about Special Education issues. We meet throughout the school year, consulting with the Director of Special Education and the Special Education Coordinators.



The SEAC can help you better understand how to work with the school division to improve special education services in our schools by providing the division with advice as to how they can meet the needs of



students with disabilities.

SEAC offers a way to network with other parents and get to know central office personnel. Generally, the first hour of each meeting consists of presentations by the special education administrative staff on issues requested by school representatives. The second hour is usually dedicated to the review of School Board meetings, raising issues for discussion, and parent networking.

If you have questions about why or how your child's services are provided, your representative can help you get an answer. If needs are not being met, your representative can find out if it is a widespread problem and will work with other parent representatives and the school division to fix it. If you want to voice a concern, or just need a friendly ear, please contact your school's SEAC member.



See your Principal for the name of your current SEAC member.

SEAC Responsibilities:

- ? Provide advice concerning unmet needs in the education of children with disabilities in Albemarle County;
- ? Assist in the formulation and development of long-range plans which will provide services needed for children with disabilities;
- ? Participate in the development of priorities and strategies for meeting the identified needs of children with disabilities;
- ? Submit periodic reports and recommendations regarding the education of children with disabilities to the Superintendent for transmission to the School Board;
- ? Assist in interpreting to the community plans for meeting the needs of children with disabilities for educational services;
- ? Review the special education annual plan and the application for federal funding prior to submission by the Superintendent to the School Board.

Come See for Yourself!

SEAC meetings are open to the public and are listed on the Albemarle County Public Schools calendar. Most meetings are held from 7 to 9 PM the fourth Tuesday of each month in Room 320 of the Albemarle County Office Building, located at 401 McIntire Road in Charlottesville. Should you have any questions please call 296-5885.



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Phone: 434-296-5885

Fax: 434-972-4157