

Loudoun County Public Schools
Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)
Recognition for Excellence in Special Education
Call for Nominations

SEAC is seeking nominations of outstanding contributions to the success of students with special needs by educators, programs, parents, and students. [Click here for details.](#)

The above is a sample snapshot announcement for the LCPS webpage – also add to every school home page, PTO/PTA online newsletter, etc.

Continued below –

Scroll down to view the Call for Nominations, Recognition Criteria and Nomination Form

2010-2011 SEAC Recognition for Excellence in Supporting Special Education

Award Ceremony - June 14, 2010

This year, the SEAC will be holding its first annual recognition and award ceremony to honor excellence in educators, programs, parents and students who have contributed to the acceptance and success of students with special needs in LCPS during the school year. For more details about the Award Ceremony, see [insert link to event details](#).

The Recognition for Excellence in Special Education is an important way for the community to thank those who through dedication, creativity, patience and determination help LCPS special needs children enjoy success.

It is also a way to honor and acknowledge the benefits of investing in programs for students with special needs.

Call for Nominations

SEAC is currently accepting nominations of educators, programs, parents, and students who go the extra mile to serve the LCPS special education community and who inspire others to do the same.

Nominations must be postmarked or posted online by April 29, 2011.

Anyone Can Submit a Nomination - nominations can be made by any member of the LCPS school community, including the school Principal, students, individual parents, the parent association, a colleague, administrators or the School Board.

How to Submit Nominations - nominations may be submitted by mail or online. To nominate online, visit [www.xyz.org/link \(to be established by technology dept\)](#) and follow the instructions.

To nominate by mail, please use the attached form and mail to:

Mary M. Kearney, Director of Special Education
Office of Special Education
21000 Education Court
Ashburn, VA 20148

Who Makes the Selections - Nominations will be judged by a panel of LCPS educators, SEAC members and other community leaders. Winners will be selected on the strength of your nominations.

Recognition for Excellence in Special Education Nomination Criteria

Each nomination should reflect at least one of the criteria listed below for the relevant category: **Educators, Programs, Parents and Students.**

Educators and Support Staff (includes teacher assistants, therapists, related services, administrators)

Any educator, support staff or administrator, who has provided consistently outstanding services to advance the success of LCPS students with special needs in at least one of the following ways:

1. Demonstrates a special educational or training accomplishment, such as
 - Outstanding passion and commitment to the field of special education
 - Providing school leadership in developing or carrying out instructional or social practices to promote achievement and participation of students of special needs.
 - Exceptional teaching practices in the classroom (special education or general education) which enable achievement and participation of students with special needs (e.g. classroom organization, differentiated instruction, instructional accommodation, peer helping strategies, social skills development, management of behavior)
 - Ability to use a range of approaches to learning and uses creative and innovative ways to arouse curiosity, challenge students' thinking and engage them actively in learning
2. Provides outstanding support for special education at the administrator level through the school's policy and practices that:
 - creates a culture of valuing, sharing and celebrating special education within the school community
 - articulates a vision for their school special education program including proposed future directions

Programs

A school based program that has demonstrated outstanding results in promoting success of students with special needs through the cooperative efforts of school administration, general staff, special education staff, parents and students.

Parents

A special education volunteer or other parent who has made an outstanding contribution to the special education community to benefit students with needs in one or more of the following ways:

1. Dissemination of valuable information to staff and parents.
2. Planning and conducting staff or parent training programs.
3. Providing support to school programs by organizing volunteers or providing direct in-school assistance.
4. Providing support to parents through participation in group meetings, PTO/PTA functions or other relevant conferences.

Students

Any student who has made an outstanding contribution to school objectives, programs, or activities in one or more of the following ways:

1. Actively participates in school programs that increase peer acceptance and support of individual differences.
2. Provides direct assistance, friendship and encouragement to students with special needs.
3. Demonstrates leadership in student activities to promote a spirit of caring, belonging and cooperation among the student body.

2010-2011 SEAC Recognition for Excellence in Special Education

Nomination Form

1. Complete both **Nominee** and **Nominated By** sections below and write a Nominating statement of 500 words or less
2. Online submission: submit form via [Submit button](#) at very bottom of page (below Nominating Statement). **Nominations must be received by Friday, April 29, 2011.**

Alternatively, a [printable nomination form](#) is available to print and mail your completed nomination(s) to:

Mary M. Kearney, Director of Special Education
Office of Special Education
21000 Education Court
Ashburn, VA 20148

NOMINEE

Category (check one): Educator Program Parent Student

Name of Person/Program Nominated:

Address/Telephone:

School:

NOMINATED BY

Name of Person Submitting Nomination:

Position/Role:

Address and Telephone:

School:

NOMINATING STATEMENT

Write a nominating statement of **500 words or less** explaining how the nominee deserves special recognition. Your statement should provide specific details that clearly reflect one or more of the criteria for the nominated category, as provided in the [Recognition for Excellence in Special Education Criteria](#). Supporting statements from students, parents, and/or other educators can be included.