

SEAC Business Meeting

March 7, 2018



Introduction



Regulations Governing Special Education Programs for Children with Disabilities in Virginia

1/27/2010, Pages 72-73, 8VAC20-81-23

www.doe.virginia.gov/special_ed/regulations

A local advisory committee for special education, appointed by each local school board, shall **advise the school board** through the division superintendent, as follows:

- A. Advise the local school division of **needs** in the education of children with disabilities;
- B. Participate in the development of **priorities and strategies for meeting the identified needs** of children with disabilities;
- C. Submit **periodic reports and recommendations** regarding the education of children with disabilities to the division superintendent for transmission **to the local school board**;
- D. Assist the local school division in **interpreting plans to the community** for meeting the special needs of children with disabilities **for educational services**;
- E. Review the **policies and procedures** for the provision of special education and related services **prior to submission to the local school board**; and
- F. Participate in **the review of the local school division's annual plan**.

SEAC Executive Committee

Chairperson

Dr. Carol Williams-Nickelson

Vice Chair, Communications

Kristin Kane

Vice Chair, Planning

Shehnaz Khan

Membership and PTA Reps

Sharon Tropf

Immediate Past Chair

Lorraine Hightower

Secretary

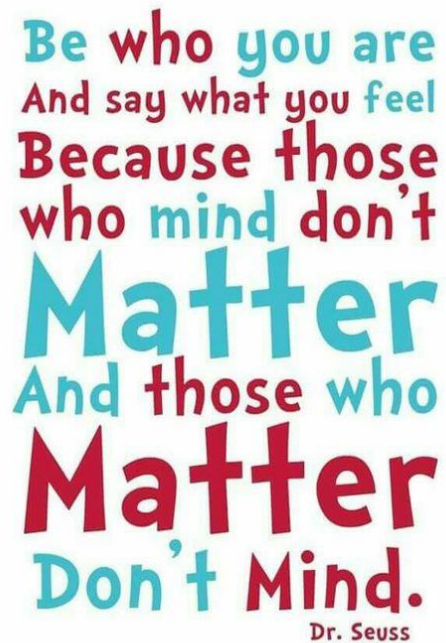
Alison MacArthur

SEAC Members:

- Jackie Baker
- Billie Jo Bevan
- Danielle Bord
- Deana Czaban
- Nancy deLlanas
- Dr. Amy L. Elledge
- Jodi Folta
- Susan Grimes
- Anne B. Madlin
- Melinda Mansfield
- Nichole McMahon
- Craig Metz
- Kimberly Shierts
- Heidi Bunkua
- Veena Sajjan

Advisory
Committee

Minutes and Reports



Be who you are
And say what you feel
Because those
who mind don't
Matter
And those who
Matter
Don't Mind.
Dr. Seuss

Approval of Minutes

- November 2017, December 2017, February 2018

Reports

- **Parent Resource Services**
Leanne Kidwell (Educator) and
Pamela Spiering (Parent)
- **VC Membership & SEAC Reps**, Sharon Tropf
- **VC Planning**, Shehnaz Khan
- **VC Communications**, Kristin Kane
- **Secretary**, Alison MacArthur
- **Director, LCPS Office of SPED**, Dr. Suzanne Jimenez
- **SEAC Chair**, Dr. Carol Williams-Nickelson

Special Education



Equal access to the curriculum for all students
in the least restrictive environment



SEAC Chair Report

March 7, 2018

Dr. Carol Williams-Nickelson

Emergent and Urgent Concerns



Summary of concerns/themes over the past month:

- Followed-up in writing to School Board after January Town Hall Meeting regarding the new practice of disallowing classroom observations of SPED students by outside professionals.
- SEAC learned of Restraint & Seclusion issues from the media along with the community on Feb 15.
 - Wrote letter of concern to School Board on Feb 15.
 - Contacted SPED Office on Feb 15 and asked for response to issues raised in the article.
 - Attended Dr. Jimenez's sessions on restraint and seclusion policies on Feb 22.
 - Spoke with Board Members Debbie Rose, Jill Turgeon and Joy Maloney.
 - Communications with Dr. Jimenez about the issues and the steps she is taking to meet with parents and address the concerns.
 - Received pledge of support from Loudoun County Parents of Gifted Students and met with Founder to discuss twice exceptional collaborations.
- Daily Communication and Data Sharing

Annual SEAC Community Survey



**TELL US WHAT
YOU THINK**

- Reconceptualize as a “SEAC Community Survey” to obtain input from all of SEAC’s stakeholder groups.
- Thank you Shehnaz Khan and Amy Elledge for helping me to revise and expand this year’s survey!
- Survey Development Meeting: Thursday, March 15th, 6:00 pm, Panera Ashburn (Greenway Corporate Dr.)
- The Annual SEAC Survey is one of several mechanisms for collecting community input to inform the identification of unmet needs and recommendations.

SEAC Annual Awards





★★ **CALL FOR NOMINATIONS** ★★

2018 RECOGNITION FOR EXCELLENCE IN SUPPORTING SPECIAL EDUCATION

Honoring educators, programs, parents and students who set a standard of excellence for the success of students with disabilities.

The Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) is currently accepting nominations of educators, programs, parents and students who demonstrate excellence in the LCPS special education community and who inspire others to do the same.

The Recognition for Excellence in Special Education honors those who have gone above-and-beyond and celebrates their extraordinary impact on the success of students with disabilities.

Nominations must be received by Friday, March 23, 2018. Nomination statements are 500-words or less. Nominations received after the deadline will not be accepted. To nominate online, visit: www.lcps.org/seacawards and follow the instructions.

The Awards Ceremony will take place on Tuesday, May 15, beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the LCPS Administration Building.

Deadline: Friday, March 23, 2018

For more information on SEAC visit: www.lcps.org/seac

Nomination Deadline:
Friday, March 23

Awards Ceremony:
Tuesday, May 15, 6:30 p.m.
LCPS Admin. Bldg.

Online Nomination:
www.lcps.org/seacawards

Sponsorship Letter and Prospectus Available:
Contact Carol for copies

Empathy Interviews

HOW PERSONALIZED LEARNING CAN BENEFIT STUDENTS

- SEAC contacted this week to participate in a stakeholder meeting regarding how to improve personalized learning or **“the ideal secondary school experience.”**
- Three 30—40 focus group sessions for, a) students, b) teachers/administrators, and c) parents, business partners and school board members.
- Parent group scheduled to meet on March 14th 12:40-1:20 at LCPS Admin Building. **Note: Notified of time change (after announced at SEAC meeting) to Wed, April 25th**
- Group size is limited, but if SEAC members are interested, please contact Carol

Updates

Every child is
one caring
adult away
from being a
success
story.

Subcommittees

- Dyslexia, Jackie Baker
- Transition, Deana Czaban
- Autism, Veena Sajjan

Focus Group

- Mental Health, Susan Grimes

Annual Awards Ceremony, Jodi Folta

Nominating Committee, Dr. Amy Elledge

Business



Approve Revisions and Adopt New Public Comment Guidelines

- Carry-over from May 2017
- Presented to SEAC in Sept 2017 with LCPS Legal Counsel review and approval
- Additional input provided by SEAC members and incorporated
- Back to Legal for review
- Presented again in Nov 2017 (gave members 30 days to review); deferred to Dec 2017 due to meeting time constraints
- Presented again in Dec 2017; to lack of quorum
- Presented in Feb 2018; lack of quorum
- Ready to vote to approve now!

Offer a motion?

Business



SEAC Officer Candidate Slate

Per Bylaws:

- 3 members appointed by SEAC Chair
- Present slate of proposed officers at 3rd to last meeting of the year (March)
- Officers elected by membership at 2nd to last meeting of the year (April)
- New Officer terms begin immediately following April meeting
- All positions are 1-year terms (except Chair to Past-Chair)
- No member may serve in same office for more than two one-year terms if there's a desire to fill position

Thus, every officer needs to be re-elected:

- Chair
- Vice Chair, Membership
- Vice Chair, Communications
- Vice Chair, Planning
- Secretary

Nominations from the floor?

If needed, Motion to defer presentation of slate until April, at which time SEAC membership will also vote.

Unfinished Business



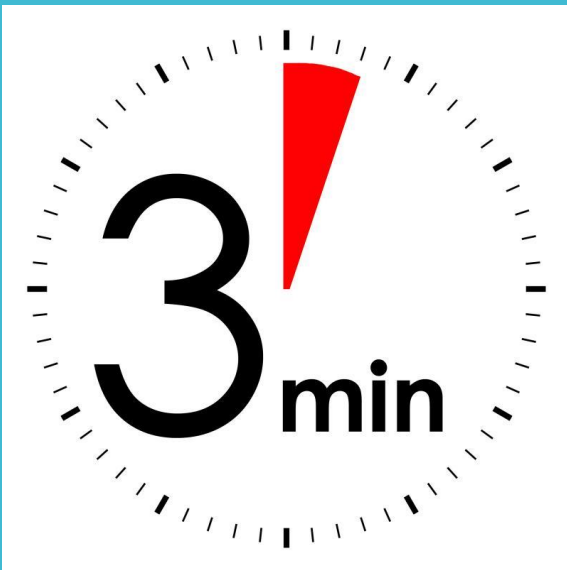
FOLLOW UP

Opportunity for response to February public comment by Director of Special Education

Reminder:

- *Public comments are used by SEAC to develop annual priorities, concerns and recommendations that are shared with the School Board and LCPS staff members.*
- *All public comments are recorded in the minutes for each SEAC meeting and referenced in SEAC's Annual Report to the School Board.*

Public Comment



Public Comment Process

- Hear public feedback to inform SEAC's work to advise School Board on unmet SPED needs
- **Focus on system-wide issues**, rather than individual concerns or specific situations (*please do not use student or staff names*)
- Verbal comment may be given, **with comment form completed and submitted tonight (please be sure to follow-up with SEAC Secretary with your written comment)**
- Written comment may be read by author or SEAC Chair
- Remarks limited to 3 minutes

TONIGHT'S PRESENTATION:

Facilitating the Continuum of
Successful Transitions: From Pre-K to
Kindergarden, Elementary to Middle,
Middle to High, and After High School

