

RCPS Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC)

[Espanola](#)

Every school division is required to have a SEAC as detailed in Regulations Governing Special Education Programs for Children with Disabilities in Virginia, effective January 25, 2010 (special education regulations). The SEAC is appointed by the local School Board.

The functions of the SEAC are:

- To participate in the review of the school division's annual plan.
- To advise the school division of needs in the education of students with disabilities.
- To participate in the development of priorities and strategies for meeting the identified needs of students with disabilities.
- To submit periodic reports and recommendations regarding the education of students with disabilities.
- To assist the school division in interpreting to the community plans for meeting the special needs of students with disabilities for educational services.
- To review the policies and procedures for the provision of special education and related services prior to submission to the local school board.

All SEAC meetings are open to the public. Guests are welcome to attend as well as make public comments on issues they believe to be important in the education of students with disabilities in our county. SEACs are extensions of local school boards since members are appointed by them, and SEACs provide reports and recommendations to their school boards.

- We encourage more RCPS parents to join SEAC. If you are interested in attending our next meeting, please contact the SEAC Chair Amber Ham at or call the RCPS Pupil Personnel office at 540-564-3228.
- The following are the scheduled meetings for the 2023-2024 school year:
 - *September 14, 2023 @ 7pm in Hulvey Conference Room at Central Office*
 - [Minutes](#)
 - *November 9, 2023 @ 9am in Hulvey Conference Room at Central Office*
 - *Minutes*
 - *January 11, 2024 @ 7pm in Hulvey Conference Room at Central Office*
 - *Minutes*

- *March 14, 2024 @ 9am in Hulvey Conference Room at Central Office*
 - *Minutes*
- *May 9, 2024 @ 7pm in Hulvey Conference Room at Central Office*
 - *Minutes*
- *July SEAC Family Picnic TBA*

Members:

Interested parties may express their views to the committee members through telephone, email and/or by attending the SEAC Meetings.

Chair: Amber Ham (540) 908-5649 amberbham@gmail.com

Vice-Chair: April Helper (540) 324-5188 april@adagiohouse.org

Past Chair: Jason Longcor (540) 383-8838 jasonlongcor@comcast.net

Secretary: Deb Haddad (540) 820-4802 deb.haddad@gmail.com

Community Resources: Kristina Rich Gladin (804) 241-2397 Chezkristina@yahoo.com

Parent Support Volunteers:

Leila Longcor (540) 246-5501 Leila@realestateinharrisonburg.com

Kristina Rich Gladin (804) 241-2397 Chezkristina@yahoo.com

Jill Lassiter (585)-314-0637

Amber Ham (540) 908-5649 amberbham@gmail.com

Regulations

The special education regulations pertaining to local SEACs provide a great deal of flexibility to localities as they implement this requirement. The regulations at 8 VAC 20-81-230 D state that:

D. A local advisory committee for special education, appointed by each local school board, shall advise the school board through the division superintendent.

1. Membership.

1. A majority of the committee shall be parents of children with disabilities or individuals with disabilities.
2. The committee shall include one teacher.

3. Additional local school division personnel shall serve only as consultants to the committee.

2. The functions of the local advisory committee shall be as follows:

1. Advise the local school division of needs in the education of children with disabilities;
2. Participate in the development of priorities and strategies for meeting the identified needs of children with disabilities;
3. Submit periodic reports and recommendations regarding the education of children with disabilities to the division superintendent for transmission to the local school board;
4. Assist the local school division in interpreting plans to the community for meeting the special needs of children with disabilities for educational services;
5. Review the policies and procedures for the provision of special education and related services prior to submission to the local school board; and
6. Participate in the review of the local school division's annual plan, as outlined in subdivision B.2. of this section.

3. Public notice shall be published annually listing the names of committee members and including a description of ways in which interested parties may express their views to the committee.

4. Committee meetings shall be held at least four times in a school year and shall be open to the public

- Previous Meetings for the 2022-2023 school year:
 - *September 8, 2022*
 - [Minutes](#)
 - *November 10, 2022*
 - [Minutes](#)

- *January 12, 2023*
 - [Minutes](#)
- *March 9, 2023*
 - [Minutes](#)
- *May 11, 2023*
 - [Minutes](#)