

DEPARTMENT STAFF

Assistive Technology Resource Teachers

Autism Spectrum Disorder & Behaviour System
Advisors

Behaviour Consultant

Behaviour Coaches

Communication Assistant

Communications Disorders Assistant

Mental Health Leader

Psychometrists

Teacher Diagnostician

Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Student and Family Counsellors

Consulting Services

Psychologist

Speech and Language Pathologists

SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

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**SPECIAL
EDUCATION**



*Huron-Superior Catholic
District School Board*

A
COMMUNICATION
GUIDE
FOR
PARENTS
AND
STUDENTS

WHAT RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE TO ASSIST ME WITH THE NEEDS OF MY CHILD?

The HSCDSB Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) plays an important role in advising the Board about the programs and services required by students identified with exceptional learning needs. SEAC makes recommendations to the Board concerning the establishment and development of special education programs and services. SEAC works with various agencies during the process to provide assistance and resources to parents or guardians.

WHEN I HAVE A CONCERN, WHERE DO I BEGIN?

Student success is a priority. Together, parents, students and support teams collaborate to ensure student success. The best place to begin is with the person closest to the issue (e.g. classroom teacher, learning resource teacher (LRT), bus driver, etc). To assist with resolving issues or concerns you should:

Gather as much information about the situation as possible; and

Contact the school and arrange a meeting with the teacher(s) to discuss your concern. Other staff may be included such as the LRT, Principal, Vice-Principal and/or an Educational Assistant.

WHAT ROLE DO I, AS A PARENT, PLAY IN COMMUNICATING CONCERNS REGARDING MY CHILD'S PROGRAM OR SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES?

COMMUNICATE WITH SCHOOL STAFF

- ✓ Be positive.
- ✓ Focus on one or two issues at a time.
- ✓ Share information you feel is important about your child.
- ✓ Share information you may have gathered from outside agencies.
- ✓ Listen actively - every person in the discussion has important information to share.
- ✓ Give some thought to the solutions you would like to see.
- ✓ Plan next steps together.
- ✓ Take notes of discussion items and decisions made.

Your concern is important - sometimes getting to the best solutions takes time.

Keep communicating - ongoing communication is important.

PLAN YOUR APPROACH

- ✓ Gather your information.
- ✓ Be clear about facts ahead of time.
- ✓ Know what questions you want to ask.

It may be helpful to contact an agency or organization who supports children and families with special needs. You are welcome to involve a friend or advocate at any time.

WHAT IF I DON'T FEEL MY CONCERN HAS BEEN ADEQUATELY ADDRESSED?

We understand your desire to resolve issues involving your child. If you feel your concern has not been addressed follow these steps.

Elementary & Secondary School

