



DR. JASON VANHEUKULEM

What is the Special Education Advisory Committee?

Winchester Public Schools Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) works with the school board, administrators, parents, and teachers who are responsible for students receiving special education services.

Who are the students receiving special education services?

They are students who have been diagnosed with one or more of the following conditions:

Autism	Orthopedic Impairment
Deaf-Blindness	Other Health Impairment
Developmental Delay	Specific Learning Disability
Emotional Disability	Speech/Language Impairment
Hearing Impairment	Traumatic Brain Injury
Intellectual Disability	Visual Impairment
Multiple Disabilities	

Who serves on the committee?

Members are appointed by the local school board. The majority of the committee must be either **parents of children with disabilities** or **individuals with disabilities**. Membership must also include **one teacher**. Additionally, membership may include public/county human service agency representatives, community/civic organization representatives, and/or business/ industry representatives. The Director of Special Education, the Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and a representative from the school board serve as consultants to the committee.

Who may attend SEAC Meetings?

All meetings are open to the public. The SEAC welcomes anyone interested in special education. There is designated time for public comment during the meeting. This is an opportunity to share successful educational experiences and express general concerns regarding educational issues for students with disabilities.

What are the functions of the SEAC?

- Advise the local school division of needs in the education of 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 division superintendent for transmission to the local school board.
- Assist the local school division in interpreting plans to the community for meeting the special needs of children with disabilities for educational services.
- Review the policies and procedures for the provision of special education and related services prior to submission to the local school board.
- Participate in the review of the local school division's annual plan.

For complete Virginia regulations, refer to 8VAC 20