



Arlington Public Schools
Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)
October, 2024

Charter/Purpose

SEAC is a district supported committee dedicated to the improvement of educational programs, policies and procedures for students who are in need of specialized educational services. Arlington Public Schools recognizes that actively involving parents and supportive community agencies is essential for achieving excellence, particularly for children with disabilities.

Leadership

SEAC will be facilitated by the Director of Special Education.

Scope of the Work and Responsibilities

SEAC will examine and discuss available special services and supports in Arlington Public Schools. In general, the work will include:

- Providing feedback on current operations and making suggestions for changes
- Reviewing procedures and policies related to Special Education services and suggest possible revisions
- Learn about current Special Education programs and services
- Engaging in conversations about best practices for supporting Special Education needs

Membership

SEAC membership will include Arlington parents of students with disabilities, community resource support members and other school and district staff. Appointments will be made to ensure wide representation. Confirmation of members will take place in the fall of each school year. Interested citizens can complete an online application.

The goal for the overall membership is to establish and maintain a workable group size of 30 participants with a 60% parent and 40% Arlington staff participation balance.

Reporting

A report will be provided to the Board annually. Additional reports will be provided if requested by the Superintendent or Board.

Duration

SEAC will be ongoing and meet at least quarterly during the school year.

District Norms

- Assume Positive Intent
- Be professional in all interactions
- Be kinder than necessary
- Be fully present and engaged
- Be prepared

SEAC's main role is to offer Arlington School Board members insights from parents and community agencies regarding special education programs. This includes feedback on current operations, management, policies, proposed changes, future plans, and goals. The committee will provide its recommendations and opinions in an annual report to the Superintendent, and more frequently if needed. This annual report will summarize all committee projects and activities, along with any identified recommendations.