Greater Essex County District School Board

Policy: SEAC Vacancies

Reference No: P-AD-44

The GECDSB is committed to selecting members for its Special Education Advisory Committee who reflect local community associations as defined in Ontario Regulation 464.

Greater Essex County District School Board

Regulation: SEAC Vacancies

Reference No: R-AD-44

1.0 Membership (as cited in Reg. 464/97)

1.1 In accordance with Reg. 464/97, the GECDSB can appoint a maximum of 12 representatives from locally run associations or organizations within the Board's boundaries in addition to two Trustees. These 14 members will be voting members.

1.2 In accordance with O. Reg. 464/97, where there are more than 12 local associations within the jurisdiction of the Board, the Board shall select the 12 local associations that shall be represented.

1.3 In this regulation, "local association" means an association or organization of parents that operates locally within the area of jurisdiction of a Board and that is affiliated with an association or organization that is not an association or organization of professional educators but that is incorporated and operates throughout Ontario to further the interests and well-being of one or more groups of exceptional children or adults.

1.4 Every district school Board shall establish a Special Education Advisory Committee that shall consist of:

(a) subject to subsections (2) and (3), one representative from each of the local associations that operates locally within the area of jurisdiction of the Board, as nominated by the local association and appointed by the Board;

(b) one or two persons to represent the interests of First Nations, Métis and Inuit pupils.

One representative must be recommended by the GECDSB Indigenous Education Advisory Committee (IEAC).

(c) one alternate for each representative appointed under clause (a) and (b), as nominated by the local association and appointed by the Board;

(d) such number of members from among the Board's own members as is determined under O. Reg. 464/97, s. 4., as appointed by the Board;

(e) where the number of members appointed under clause (d) is less than three, one alternate, as appointed by the Board from among its own members, for each member appointed under clause (d);

(f) one or more additional members.

1.5 In accordance with Reg. 464/97, for the purpose of clause (f), the Board may appoint one or more additional members who are neither representatives of a local association not members of the Board or another committee of the Board.

2. Committee Selection

The Selection Committee (The Director of Education and the Superintendent of Education/Special Education Programs and Services) will review the applications to determine the eligibility of the associations:

a) Local association represents children or adults who are exceptional
b) Local association operates within the GECDSB jurisdiction
c) Association that "represents the interests of First Nations, Metis and Inuit." (Reg. 464/97, 2 (1)(e))
d) Local association is not a duplicate association represented on the current complement of SEAC members
e) If there are associations that represent the same exceptionality, one association will be chosen by random selection and the other association will be set aside for reconsideration under Section 1.4(f).

The recommendations for SEAC committee members will be submitted to the Board of Trustees for approval.

3. Vacancies

3.1 In accordance with Reg. 464/97, s.6., the associations appointed will hold office for the same timelines as the members of the Board of Trustees (four years). Prior to the beginning of the new four year term, the GECDSB will strive to fill all 12 seats by:

a) Inviting the current associations to reapply for membership, and
b) Inviting the broader community via Board website and other media venues to apply for membership

3.2 If the full roster of 12 associations is not filled, then the GECDSB will advertise every fall via website and free media venues.

3.3 If an association applies for membership within the four year term and there is a vacancy, the Selection Committee will determine if the local association represents an exceptionality that is not represented on the current complement of SEAC members.

3.4 If a seat becomes vacant during the term, then the GECDSB will advertise via website and free media venues at that time, then will continue to advertise as noted in 3.2.