



BOARD (PUBLIC)
Report No. 23-068

26 September 2023

**Appointment of Association Representatives and Alternates to the
Special Education Advisory Committee**

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PURPOSE:

1. To appoint local association representatives and alternates to the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) for the duration of the remaining term of the Board, 26 September 2023 to 14 November 2026.

STRATEGIC LINKS:

2. Appointing community representatives to the Special Education Advisory Committee supports the District's commitment to implementing sound governance structures, as well as encouraging broad community engagement in District initiatives and supports the culture of social responsibility.

CONTEXT:

3. The composition of the Special Education Advisory Committee is outlined in sections 4.1 to 4.3 of [Board Policy P.019.GOV: Special Education Advisory Committee](#) (attached as appendix A). The voting membership currently consists of three trustees, nine associations, one additional community organization, and three community members.

The appointment of representatives and alternates for the various associations/organizations takes place every four years, as their term of office coincides with the term of the Board, unless a vacancy otherwise occurs. In accordance with section 4.7, vacancies on the Committee shall be filled upon approval by the Board of an eligible candidate nominated by the association.

KEY CONSIDERATIONS:

4. Replacement Appointments
At the June 2023 meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC), the VOICE for Deaf and Hard of Hearing (VOICE) representative communicated an upcoming change to the organization's representation on SEAC. An email was sent to VOICE to advise of the requirement to nominate a representative

and alternate for confirmation by the Board. Similarly, Board Services staff were also alerted to possible change to the representatives for Learning Disabilities Association of Ottawa-Carleton (LDAO).

Letters confirming the nominations of the new primary representatives and alternates have been received from the following organizations and are attached as Appendix B:

- VOICE for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children (VOICE)
- Learning Disabilities Association of Ottawa-Carleton (LDAO)

The biographies of the primary and alternate representatives are provided under separate cover.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

5. There are no resource implications associated with this report.

COMMUNICATION/CONSULTATION ISSUES:

6. The Chair and Vice Chair of SEAC and the Superintendent of Instruction are supportive of these appointments.

RECOMMENDATION:

- A. THAT Lindsay Copland, be appointed as the primary member representing VOICE for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children to the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) for the term ending 14 November 2026;
- B. THAT Terry Warner, be appointed as the alternate member representing VOICE for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children to the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) for the term ending 14 November 2026;
- C. THAT Mike Marta, be appointed as the primary member representing Learning Disabilities Association of Ottawa-Carleton to the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) for the term ending 14 November 2026; and
- D. THAT Marianne Long be appointed as the alternate member representing Learning Disabilities Association of Ottawa-Carleton to the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) for the term ending 14 November 2026.

Michèle Giroux
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(ext. 8310)

Pino Buffone
Director of Education and
Secretary of the Board

APPENDICES

Appendix A: Policy P.019.GOV: Special Education Advisory Committee

Appendix B: Appointment letters

Appendix C: Biographies (provided under separate cover)