

**LDAO SEAC CIRCULAR**

**March 2021**

The Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario (LDAO) SEAC Circular is published 5 times a year, usually in September, November, February, April and June.

The following are some topics that your SEAC should be looking at. Action items and/or recommendations for effective practices will be underlined.

Feel free to share any of this information or the attachments with other SEAC members. As always, when you are planning to introduce a motion for the consideration of SEAC, it is particularly important that you share all related background items with your fellow SEAC reps.

 **Topics covered by this SEAC Circular:**

1. Special Education Plan

2. 2020 PAAC on SEAC Survey Results

3. EQAO testing

4. Remote learning

5. MACSE meeting

**List of Supplementary Materials:**

1. PAAC on SEAC 2020 Survey Executive Summary & Action Items

2. Report on Results of PAAC on SEAC 2020 Survey

3. EQAO presentation to PAAC on SEAC

4. MACSE Collaboration Feb. 2021 – LDAO

5. MACSE Collaboration Feb. 2021 – PAAC on SEAC

**Note:** You can access the SEAC Circular and supplementary materials at
[www.ldao.ca/about/public-policy-advocacy/seac-circulars/](http://www.ldao.ca/about/public-policy-advocacy/seac-circulars/).

You can access Ministry funding (B & SB) memos by date at: <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/policyfunding/memos/>

**1. Special Education Plan**SEACs should be reviewing their board’s Special Education Plan, including any proposed changes. As part of the process, SEACs should ask for any feedback received by the board from the Ministry of Education on the Special Education Report submitted last spring. Effective practices for reviewing the Special Education Plan can be found in the PAAC on SEAC Effective Practices Handbook: [www.paac-seac.ca/home/paac-on-seac-effective-practices-handbook-for-seac-members/section-3-seac-roles-and-responsibilities/3-4-special-education-plan/](http://www.paac-seac.ca/home/paac-on-seac-effective-practices-handbook-for-seac-members/section-3-seac-roles-and-responsibilities/3-4-special-education-plan/)

 **2. 2020 PAAC on SEAC Survey Results**

The full PAAC on SEAC Survey Report, with an Executive Summary and Action Items, and a letter to SEAC chairs, was emailed to Special Education leads in all English language school boards on January 11, 2021. We have heard that some SEACs put the survey on their agendas for discussion at upcoming meetings, an encouraging effective practice. LDAO SEAC members are asked to let me know if the survey results were presented and discussed at their SEAC.

**3. EQAO testing**

Due to Covid-19 disruptions, the Grade 3 and 6 EQAO tests have been postponed for this year.

In 2020–2021, EQAO will be field testing a multi-stage adaptive online **Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics**. There was a presentation at the January 25, 2021 PAAC on SEAC meeting by EQAO on the adaptive design and accessibility features of the new Grade 9 math test. Testing will adapt to students’ proficiency levels, and enable flexible scheduling. EQAO received advice from a number of sources, including Provincial and Demonstration schools, around inclusive design and accommodations. Reporting for 2020-21 will focus on individual results to support students, parents/guardians and teachers.

Students will have the opportunity to become familiar with the digital assessment and its platform through EQAO’s online sample test (see below).
[Sample Test](https://can01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdwod99k06nyqh.cloudfront.net%2F%23%2Fen%2Fg9-sample&data=04%7C01%7CLaurie.McNelles%40EQAO.com%7Cddaa68fdae744b3fae5408d8c14ce91b%7Cae3a3b772c274f02adfff9d98aa69d45%7C0%7C0%7C637471883515415842%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=WJyGZbmy4C2PCWha%2BvdpOCV%2FHg4gDjixczTMiYOLIyQ%3D&reserved=0): [https://dwod99k06nyqh.cloudfront.net/#/en/g9-sample](https://can01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdwod99k06nyqh.cloudfront.net%2F%23%2Fen%2Fg9-sample&data=04%7C01%7CLaurie.McNelles%40EQAO.com%7Cddaa68fdae744b3fae5408d8c14ce91b%7Cae3a3b772c274f02adfff9d98aa69d45%7C0%7C0%7C637471883515425839%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=fYAso2RnY4uM1aeFRVejxP6iV3sARhnrmC38rYTZ7vk%3D&reserved=0)
[Sample Test – with full audio descriptions](https://can01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdwod99k06nyqh.cloudfront.net%2F%23%2Fen%2Fg9-linear-sample&data=04%7C01%7CLaurie.McNelles%40EQAO.com%7Cddaa68fdae744b3fae5408d8c14ce91b%7Cae3a3b772c274f02adfff9d98aa69d45%7C0%7C0%7C637471883515435829%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=uo%2FnUg0kxvxkZri2COqqr9ZliUjN2x3rF4UhpbvzAVQ%3D&reserved=0): [https://dwod99k06nyqh.cloudfront.net/#/en/g9-linear-sample](https://can01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdwod99k06nyqh.cloudfront.net%2F%23%2Fen%2Fg9-linear-sample&data=04%7C01%7CLaurie.McNelles%40EQAO.com%7Cddaa68fdae744b3fae5408d8c14ce91b%7Cae3a3b772c274f02adfff9d98aa69d45%7C0%7C0%7C637471883515435829%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=uo%2FnUg0kxvxkZri2COqqr9ZliUjN2x3rF4UhpbvzAVQ%3D&reserved=0)

User Guides for the Administration of the Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics**:**<https://eqao-kb-g9.lswp.vretta.com/>

The literacy graduation requirement will be waived for all students graduating during the 2020-21 school year. A field test of the online **Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT)** in Spring 2021 will be available for non-graduating students to write the test and have successful attempts counted on their transcript.

Below are links to information on the OSSLT being field tested:

Overview of the OSSLT, including Practice Test: <https://www.eqao.com/the-assessments/osslt/>

User Guides for the Administration of the OSSLT: <https://eqao-kb-osslt.lswp.vretta.com/>

Questions and Answers: <https://www.eqao.com/the-assessments/osslt/questions-and-answers-regarding-the-online-osslt-field-test/>

**4. Remote learning**

At the time of this writing, most students in Ontario are back in classroom learning, at least part of the time. However preparations need to be made, with lessons learned, for future times when remote learning is required. The Ministry of Education is working with a team from the University of Ottawa to develop a guide for remote learning for students with special education needs. School boards are being consulted and PAAC on SEAC hopes to have input into the development of this needed resource.

**5. MACSE meeting**

The Minister’s Advisory Council on Special Education met in February. Attached are Community Collaboration forms submitted by LDAO and by PAAC on SEAC.

**Questions?** Email Diane Wagner at dianew@LDAO.ca