

**LDAO SEAC CIRCULAR**

**November 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. Updates to PAAC on SEAC Calendar

2. Ministry of Education Special Education Update

3. Guide to Remote Learning for Students with Special Education Needs

4. Guidance on Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting for the 2021-22 School Year

5. Review of PPM 81: *Provision of Health Support Services in School Settings*

 **List of Supplementary Materials:**

1. PAAC on SEAC Annual Calendar (Revised)

2. Special Education Update – October 2021

3. Guide to Remote Learning for Students with Special Education Needs

4. Parent Tip Sheet: Remote Learning for Students with Special Education Needs

5. Student Tip Sheet: Remote Learning for Students with Special Education Needs

6. Educator Tip Sheet: Remote Learning for Students with Special Education Needs

7. October 29, 2021 Memo: Guidance on Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting for the 2021-22 School Year

8. October 29, 2021 Memo: Review of PPM 81: *Provision of Health Support Services in School Settings*

**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: <https://efis.fma.csc.gov.on.ca/faab/Memos.htm>

**1. Updates to PAAC on SEAC Calendar**

A few items have been added to the *PAAC on SEAC Annual Calendar* that was sent with the September LDAO SEAC Circular. In the attached revised version note updates in October and November.

**2. Special Education Update – October 2021**

Attached is a copy of the *Special Education Update* developed for the October MACSE meeting. This provides a very good overview of the Ministry’s initiatives over the past few months. LDAO SEAC reps should give particular attention to the section on *Supporting Students with Learning Disabilities* on page 14.

**3. Guide to Remote Learning for Students with Special Education Needs**

In a November 1, 2021 Memo, the Ministry of Education released the long awaited *Guide to Remote Learning for Students with Special Education Needs,* which PAAC on SEAC had given input to last spring.

The memo to Directors of Education and Superintendents of Special Education states: “We encourage you to share the guide and educator tip sheet with educators across your board, and the parent and student tip sheet with your Special Education Advisory Committee and broader school community.”

Copies of the Guide and tip sheets for parents, students and educators are attached, and also can be accessed at: <https://www.dcp.edu.gov.on.ca/en/vle>

SEACs should review the Guide at a SEAC meeting, and ask how the parent and student tips sheets will be shared with the school community.

**4. Guidance on Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting for the 2021-22 School Year**

In an October 29, 2021 Memo, the Ministry gave school boards updated guidance on assessment, evaluation and reporting.

**Of note**: “regular EQAO assessments will resume, with the following adaptations:

* All students in Grade 3 and 6 attending in-person learning will participate in the online EQAO math, reading, and writing assessments.
* All students enrolled in Grade 9 math attending learning in-person will write the Grade 9 math assessment. Results of this assessment may count towards up to 10% of the student’s final mark.
* Where applicable, students will continue to receive individual reports.

For EQAO assessments, including the OSSLT, students who are learning remotely and wish to participate in the assessments can, at the discretion of the school board, attend in-person for the purpose of participating in the assessment so long as all applicable health and safety measures can be met.”

**5. Review of PPM 81: *Provision of Health Support Services in School Settings***

In another October 29, 2021 Memo, the ministries of Education (EDU), Children, Community and Social Services (MCCSS) and Health (MOH) announced that they are undertaking a joint review of Policy/Program Memorandum No. 81 (PPM 81), *Provision of Health Support Services in School Settings* in 2021-22.

SEACs should review the memo, which outlines some immediate updates to clarify the delivery of health and rehabilitation services in Ontario’s publicly funded schools, and should ask how SEACs will be included in the upcoming consultations.

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