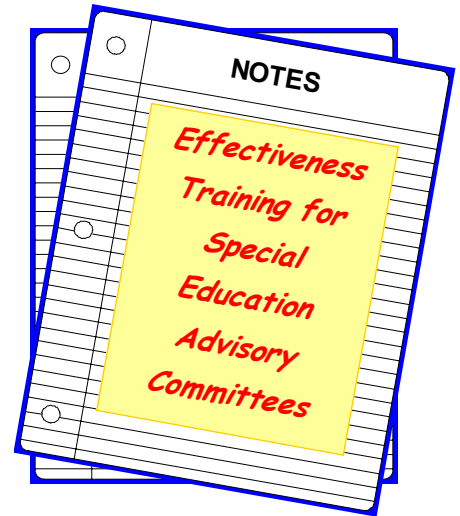


GET ON BOARD!



Building Local SEACs for Better Special Education Services and Student Outcomes

Every school division is required by Virginia State Regulations to have a Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC). These committees, made up largely of parent and community members, work together with school divisions to improve special education services.

As a joint project funded through the Virginia Department of Education and the Virginia Board for People with Disabilities, the **Virginia Department of Education** and the **Partnership for People with Disabilities** at Virginia Commonwealth University are working to improve the effectiveness of SEACs statewide. The SEAC training project will provide information, training, and technical assistance to SEAC members and school division representatives.

As a first step, the Partnership recently conducted a needs assessment of SEAC members, special education directors, and school board chairpersons. Survey responses confirm the project's goals to:

- ✓ Help SEACs provide input and work collaboratively with their local school divisions in meeting the needs of students receiving special education services.
- ✓ Help special education directors and school board members in supporting and collaborating with their local SEACs to achieve improved special education services and student outcomes.

A training curriculum and materials are being developed. Training events will be held in each of the eight Superintendent regions in Virginia. Present and potential SEAC members, special education directors, and school board members will be invited to attend trainings starting in the fall of 2005. Training materials will be widely disseminated and networking among SEACs will be fostered.

For more information on the SEAC training project, visit www.vcu.edu/partnership



Effectiveness Training for Special Education Advisory Committees
Building Local SEACs for Better Special Education Services and Student Outcomes