

## Special Education Information and News:

### SEAC BULLETIN #2

#### Range of Placements at HCDSB

We know that all children learn differently and that some students may require different learning environments to meet their individual needs and learning styles. The practice of HCDSB is to provide every opportunity for students to reach success in their learning and, with this in mind, the HCDSB has recently revised its Special Education delivery model in recognition of this very important concept...**all children have different learning needs**. This new model for Special Education supports both inclusion as a key priority for students but also includes specialized learning environments such that our children can reach their full potential.

What is a "placement" in terms of Education?

The Ministry of Education defines 5 placement options in which Special Education programs and services can be delivered. The first, and

preferred option, is the regular classroom in the home school where the student is integrated for the entire day and the teacher receives specialized consultative services. The range extends to the fifth option where the student is placed for the entire day in a congregated class designed to meet individual learning needs. In between are 3 other options that provide a range of choices for students and parents, and the Board provides various options for different exceptionalities based on an examination of the student's needs. The placement chosen must be in the best interest of the student and must also be consistent with the parent's wishes.

At the HCDSB, plans are in place to begin the expansion of the range of placements for gifted students and those students with a developmental disability. Reviews of other exceptionalities will follow.

If you would like to learn more about placement options at HCDSB please contact Pauline Houlahan (Board Trustee and SEAC member) at [houlahanp@hcdsb.org](mailto:houlahanp@hcdsb.org) or 905-337-0548.

In future newsletters, SEAC will continue to provide updates on current issues and initiatives in Special Education in our Board.