

## **A Report on Special Education**

### **By David Logan**

The new Dufferin Peel Catholic District School Board special education website is now operational and can be accessed by going to [www.dpcdsb.org](http://www.dpcdsb.org) and searching the left column under Quick Links for Special Education & Support Services. Click on this category and it will take you to extensive information regarding all aspects of special education including links to member associations, outside organizations and ministry education departments.

At the October/08 SEAC meeting, members were asked to review the draft of the board's new Homework Policy 2008 - Kindergarten to Grade 12. Suggestions and comments were noted and were to be forwarded to the appropriate committees for consideration.

Primary, junior and grade 9 EQAO assessment results for 2007/8 were reviewed and Board staff is encouraged by the progress of Dufferin-Peel students; the growth as the board exceeds the provincial standard and the continuous improvement for diverse learners.

At the November/08 SEAC meeting, presentations were made on the development of the updated Secondary Assessment and Evaluation Policy, the Board Plan to Improve Student Achievement and the CODE Education for All project.

Safe Schools was reviewed and the Senior Child and Youth Worker and the Chief Psychologist highlighted some of the work that has taken place in the board relative to Crisis Prevention and Risk Assessments.

At the December/08 SEAC meeting, an overview of the provincial direction on full day learning was given along with an overview of the Early Years program in Dufferin-Peel. Suspensions & Expulsions 2007/8 data was provided. It was also noted that all union contracts have been successfully ratified and there will be labour peace at the board for the next four years.

If you have any questions or comments regarding special education matters, I can be reached at [dave@epilepsypeel.org](mailto:dave@epilepsypeel.org)

David Logan is the current [Epilepsy Peel Region](#) representative on the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) of the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board and has been for the past ten years. He is the father of a nineteen year old son who has had severe intractable epilepsy for the past fifteen years.

*Please note: There is a special education night taking place on Wednesday, February 4th, 7-8.30 Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board Office, Room 301.*

*The meeting is for Kindergarten Entry Planning for 2009, for children with special needs.*