

What are the Ministry's Provincial and Demonstration Schools?

The ministry operates provincial and demonstration schools throughout Ontario for the deaf, blind, deaf-blind and severely learning-disabled students, as well as those with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Residential programs are offered at the schools Monday to Friday, for students who live too far from school to travel daily.

Demonstration Schools for English-speaking students

Schools for students with severe learning disabilities, including those associated with ASD include:

Amethyst School 1515 Cheapside Street London, ON N5Z 4V9	519-453-4400
Sagonaska School 350 Dundas Street West Belleville, ON K8P 1B2	613-967-2823
Trillium School 347 Ontario Street South Milton, ON L9T 3X9	905-878-2851

Schools for the deaf

Ernest C. Drury School for the Deaf 255 Ontario Street South Milton, ON L9T 2M5	905-878-2851
Robarts School for the Deaf 1515 Cheapside Street London, ON N5V 3N9	519-453-4400
Sir James Whitney School 350 Dundas Street West Belleville, ON K8P 1B2	613-967-2823 1-800-501-6240

School for the blind and deaf

W. Ross Macdonald School 350 Brant Avenue Brantford, ON N3T 3J9	519-759-0730
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French-language school for French-speaking students

A demonstration school for French-speaking students with severe learning disabilities, including those associated with ASD:

Centre Jules-Leger 281 rue Lanark, Ottawa, ON K1Z 6R8	613-761-9300
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Additional Information

More information can be obtained from any of the following:

Superintendent of Education, SGDSB, Marathon, ON 807-229-0436, or toll-free 1-888-604-1111, or by reaching out to one of our school principals:

B.A. Parker Public School	854-1683
Beardmore Public School	875-2128
Dorion Public School	857-2313
Geraldton Composite High School	854-0130
George O'Neill Public School	887-2107
Lake Superior High School	825-3271
Manitouwadge High School	826-3241
Manitouwadge Public School	826-4011
Marathon High School	229-1800
Marjorie Mills Public School	876-2366
Margaret Twomey Public School	229-3050
Nakina Public School	329-5356
Nipigon-Red Rock District High School	886-2201
Schreiber Pubic School	824-2082
Terrace Bay Public School	825-3253

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Parents' Guide to Special Education, Appeals, Support Organizations and Board Contacts

www.sgdsb.on.ca

12 Hemlo Drive, Postal Bag 'A'
Marathon, ON P0T 2E0
P 807-229-0436 F 807-229-1471

Appeals

From time to time parents disagree with the identification or placement of their child. In order to appeal either the identification or placement of a child, a specific process has been developed. This process is outlined below. Please note that the request must be received in writing and that timelines need to be followed.

What can a parent/guardian do if they disagree with the IPRC decision?

If you do not agree either the identification or placement decision made by the IPRC, you may, within 15 days of receipt of the decision, request that the IPRC hold a second meeting to discuss your concerns; or within 30 days of receipt of the decision, file a notice of appeal with the Superior-Greenstone District School Board, Marathon, ON, 807-229-0436

If you do not agree with the decision after the second meeting, you may file a notice of appeal within 15 days of receipt of the decision.

If you do not consent to the IPRC decision, but you do not appeal it, the board will instruct the principal to implement the IPRC decision.

Appeal Process

How do I appeal an IPRC decision?

If you disagree with the IPRC's identification of your child as exception or with the placement decision of the IPRC, you may, within 30 days of receipt of the original decision or within 15 days of receipt of the decision from the second meeting described in the IPRC pamphlet, give written notification of your intention to appeal the decision to the Director of Education, PO Bag 'A', 12 Hemlo Drive, Marathon, ON P0T 2E0.

The notice of appeal must indicate the decision with which you disagree, and include a statement that sets out your reasons for disagreeing.

What happens in the appeal process?

The appeal process involves the following steps:

- The board will establish a special education appeal board to hear your appeal. The appeal board will be composed of three persons who have no prior knowledge of the matter under appeal, one of whom is selected by you, the parent/guardian.
- The chair of the appeal board will arrange a meeting to take place at a convenient time and place, but no later than 30 days after the chair has been selected (unless parents/guardians and board provide written consent to a later date.)
- The appeal board will receive the material reviewed by the IPRC and may interview any persons who may be able to contribute information about the matter under appeal.
- You, the parent/guardian, and your child, if they are 16 years old or over, are entitled to be present at, and to participate in, all discussions.
- The appeal board must make its recommendation within 3 days of the meetings ending. It may: agree with the IPRC and recommend that the decision be implemented; or disagree with the IPRC and make a recommendation to the board about your child/ward's identification or placement or both.
- The appeal board will report its recommendation in writing, to you and the school board, providing the reasons for its recommendations.
- Within 30 days of receiving the appeal board's written statement, the school board will decide what action it will take with respect to the recommendations (boards are not required to follow the appeal board recommendation).
- You may accept the decision of the school board or you may appeal to a Special Education Tribunal. Information about making an application to the tribunal will be included with the appeal board's decision.

SGDSB Programs

What special education programs and services are provided by the board?

From time to time parents disagree with the identification or Due to the large geographic area covered by the board and the wide variance in the number of identified students in each of the exceptionalities, the board does not offer self-contained special education classes. Instead, the board supports a model of integration within the regular classroom as the primary placement for students. This placement may be supported by resource assistance to the classroom teacher for program modifications and accommodations. The SERT may also provide resource assistance directly to the student on an 'as required' basis. Special Education assistants also support this model.

If, after providing a student with various supports to access the educational system, it is determined by the board that the student's needs are so great that the student requires a special education placement outside of the board's jurisdiction, the board will investigate its ability to purchase a program from another board or to refer the student to one of the Provincial Demonstration Schools.

Support Organizations

What organizations are available to assist parent/guardians?

Many organizations are available to provide information and support to parent/guardians of exceptional children. Locally, several organizations are eligible for membership on the board's Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) and you can obtain the pamphlet titled "School to Community Transition: Community Resources" from your principal or the school board.

Provincial organizations include the Association for Bright Children of Ontario, the Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario (LDAO) and the Geneva Centre for Autism.