

<i>Rainy River District School Board</i>	SECTION 2 <i>Organization & Administration</i>
ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS	2.30

POLICY

The Rainy River District School Board will work to provide services and facilities that are free of barriers and biases to ensure that all people, regardless of ability, will have the same opportunity of access to its services.

RATIONALE

The Rainy River District School Board strives to ensure that the principle of equity of opportunity is reflected and valued in our learning and working environments. Equity of opportunity helps foster independence, dignity, and respect. The Board's commitment of accommodating its students, their parents and guardians, our staff, and the public, demonstrates its belief that diversity brings strength to its communities and creates welcoming learning and working environments.

IMPLEMENTATION

As per Board Accessibility Standards Procedures:

- 2.31 Notification of Disruption of Service
- 2.32 Use of Assistive Devices by the General Public
- 2.33 Use of Service Animals by the General Public
- 2.34 Use of Support Person by the General Public
- 2.35 Monitoring and Feedback on Accessible Customer Service
- 2.36 Employment and Accessibility
- 2.37 Information and Communication

GUIDELINES

- 1.1 The Board will make all reasonable efforts to ensure that all policies, practices and procedures are consistent with the principles of independence, dignity, integration and equity of opportunity for all.
- 1.2 The Board will ensure that its policies and procedures related to the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005*, are made available to the public and also ensure that there is capacity to provide communication about these policies and procedures in a format that takes into account a person's disability.
- 1.3 The Board will provide required training for all staff and third party employees, and when appropriate, volunteers who interact with the public, to ensure greater awareness and responsiveness to the needs of persons with disabilities.

- 1.4 The Board will consider the impact on persons with disabilities when purchasing new equipment, designing new systems or planning a new initiative.
- 1.5 The Board will use a feedback process to assist in monitoring the on-going effectiveness of this policy.

Definitions:

Third Party Employee is any person or organization acting on behalf of or as an agent of the Board (e.g. bus operators, psychologists).

Bias and Barriers to Accessibility means anything that prevents a person with a disability from fully participating in all aspects of the services of the Board. This includes, but is not limited to, a physical barrier, an architectural barrier, information or communications barrier, an attitudinal barrier, and/or a technological barrier.

Accommodation is a means, through reasonable efforts, of preventing and removing barriers that impede individuals from participating fully in the services of the Board.

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>CROSS REFERENCE</u></p> <p>Rainy River District School Board Accessibility Plan</p> <p>Accessibility Standards Procedures for: 2.31 Notification of Disruption of Service 2.32 Use of Assistive Devices by the General Public 2.33 Use of Service Animals by the General Public 2.34 Use of Support Person by the General Public 2.35 Monitoring and Feedback on Accessible Customer Service 2.36 Employment and Accessibility 2.37 Information and Communication</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Date Approved</u> December 3, 2013</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Board Motion</u> 397</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Review Prior to</u> 2019</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>LEGAL/MINISTRY OF EDUCATION REFERENCE</u></p> <p><i>Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA)</i></p> <p><i>Accessibility Standards for Customer Service, Ontario Regulation 429/07</i></p> <p><i>Ontario Human Rights Code</i></p>
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