



# Educational Excursions

Date Approved: 2019

Projected Review Date: 2023

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## PURPOSE:

Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board (HWDSB) believes that a quality education includes the opportunity for all students to participate in educational excursions. HWDSB values the connection between educational excursions and the curriculum in extending and enriching the educational experience to assist students in learning and growing to their full potential.

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

- All students are provided opportunities to participate in educational excursions as appropriate.
- Educational excursions enable students to experience the richness and diversity of their local community and culture, and beyond.
- Educational excursions are age-appropriate, constructive in nature, and meet Ontario curriculum expectations and safety guidelines (e.g. Ontario Physical and Health Education Association (OPHEA) Physical Activity-Safety Standards in Education).
- Educational excursions are planned and executed in accordance with Board and Ministry policies/procedures and are communicated appropriately to parents.

## INTENDED OUTCOMES:

**The implementation of the Educational Excursions Policy together with specific related procedures will:**

- Promote educational excursions that are accessible to all students, regardless of ancestry, colour, race, creed, socio-economic or family status, gender or gender identity, sexual orientation or (dis)ability

## RESPONSIBILITY:

Director of Education  
Members of Executive Council

## TERMINOLOGY:

*Educational excursion:* an educational learning experience for students that takes place outside their school campus, designed to enhance and enrich the overall educational experience, and linked to the curriculum and/or HWDSB Strategic Directions. Educational excursions provide the opportunity to explore the local community and culture, and beyond. Educational excursions should support opportunities for students to achieve their potential. Educational excursions represent but are not limited to live theatre, live music, art galleries, museums, historical sites, cultural events, healthy active living activities, environmental excursions and educational films and documentaries related to the



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Ontario Curriculum. The terms “field trip”, “student/school trip” and “trip” are deemed synonymous with the term “educational excursion” for the purpose of this policy.

*Student Support Fund:* This program supported through the HWDSB Foundation for Student Success provides for basic needs for at risk students to help alleviate the challenges and stressors surrounding the issues of financial disparity, thereby improving their potential educational outcomes. This can include excursions that include a cost.

## ACTION REQUIRED:

- Develop and implement professional learning for staff on an as-needs basis;
- Establish School and Board-based Educational Excursion tracking system

## PROGRESS INDICATORS:

Intended Outcome	Assessment
Promote educational excursions that are accessible to all students, regardless of ancestry, colour, race, creed, socio- economic or family status, gender or gender identity, sexual orientation or (dis)ability.	Following development of a School and Board-based Educational Excursion tracking system, Principals and Superintendents will review the system to ensure various activities exist for schools to consider when seeking educational excursions throughout the year. This review will take place on an annual basis at the beginning of the school year.

## REFERENCES:

### Government Documents

Education Act—Part VI BOARDS, Duties & Powers  
 Education Act Regulation 298 OPERATION OF SCHOOLS - GENERAL  
 Ontario Curriculum  
 Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations (OFSAA) Regulations  
 Ontario Physical and Health Education Association (OPHEA) Guidelines  
 Ontario School Boards’ Insurance Exchange (OSBIE)  
 Highway Traffic Act - Section 32 – licensing

### HWDSB Policies

Accessibility Standards for Customer Service  
 Equity and Inclusive Education  
 Medical/Health Support – Anaphylaxis  
 Nutrition



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