

TITLE: POLICE INVOLVEMENT IN SCHOOLS

Date Issued: August 1998
Last Revised: 27 May 2008
Authorization: Board: 26 June 1998

1.0 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this policy are to:

- a) encourage ongoing, adaptive, and responsive partnerships between police and the school community;
- b) assist in providing for the greater safety, and protection of, students, teachers, staff and volunteers in schools;
- c) facilitate sharing and disclosure of appropriate information;
- d) promote joint consultation and partnerships between the school board and police services on maintaining a safe school environment;
- e) ensure that the obligations and requirements of both the education and the law enforcement systems are met;
- f) ensure that the rights of students and staff are respected when police are involved in schools and at school-sponsored events; and
- g) ensure compliance with the *Provincial Model for a Local Police/School Board Protocol*, the Regional Safe Schools Committee's *Protocol to Accompany Safe Schools Policies in the City of Ottawa*; the *Youth Criminal Justice Act* and, for students under the age of 12, the *Child and Family Services Act*.

2.0 POLICY

- 2.1 In order to support a safe learning and work environment, the Board shall establish and maintain strong partnerships with the Ottawa Police Service.
- 2.2 The Board shall:
 - a) establish protocols with police services which enhance the school/police working relationship and facilitate police access to schools while respecting the individual

rights of all persons in schools;

- b) support a range of police involvement, primarily through the School Resource Officer (SRO); and
- c) actively encourage the co-operative development of preventative strategies within the context of progressive discipline with students, staff, parents, school councils, and the police in order to reduce the level of violence and aggression in our community and in our schools.

3.0 SPECIFIC DIRECTIVES

- 3.1 The Director of Education shall, on behalf of the Board, participate with other Ottawa area school boards and the Ottawa Police Service, in the establishment and revision of a *Protocol to Accompany Safe Schools Policies in the City of Ottawa*, which is a protocol developed to provide school administrators, teachers and police officers with a procedure for police involvement in the schools that is consistent in all school boards in the City of Ottawa and is in accordance with the Provincial Model for a Local Policy/School Board Protocol. Nothing in this *Protocol* is to be applied so as to contravene the *Criminal Code*, the *Ontario Education Act*, or the *Ontario Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.
- 3.2 The Director of Education shall establish such procedures as may be necessary to implement this policy.

4.0 REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

Education Act

Ontario Regulations 298; 474/00, *Access to School Premises*

Child and Family Services Act. R.S.O. 1990, c. C.11

Violence-Free Schools Policy - MOET 1994

Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

Youth Criminal Justice Act

Provincial Model for a Local Police/School Board Protocol, MOET, 2000

Protocol to Accompany Safe Schools Policies in the City of Ottawa, 2016

Board Policy P.026.SCO: Student Suspension and Expulsion

Board Policy P.032.SCO: Safe Schools

Board Policy P.034.SCO: Substance Abuse

Board Procedure PR.515.SCO: Student Suspension and Expulsion

Board Procedure PR.521.SCO: Safe Schools

Board Procedure PR.523.SCO: Substance Abuse

Board Procedure PR.524.SCO: Access to School/Board Premises

Board Procedure PR.525.SCO: Weapons

Board Procedure PR.528.SCO: Critical Incident Review Process

Board Procedure PR.534.SCO: Investigation, Search and/or Seizure (Students)

Board Procedure PR.533.SCO: Police Involvement in Schools