

<b>SCHOOL-COMMUNITY RELATIONS</b>	<b>8000</b>
<b>SERVICE ANIMALS IN SCHOOLS POLICY</b>	<b>8075</b>

1. Policy

- 1.1. Lakehead District School Board (referred to as “the Board” in 8075 Service Animals in Schools Policy and Procedures) is committed to the learning of all students and provides a range of differentiated placements, programs and interventions to support student success. It is the policy of the Lakehead District School Board, in accordance with its obligations pursuant to the Ontario *Human Rights Code*, to provide individualized accommodation to students with disabilities to enable them to have meaningful access to education services.
- 1.2. In circumstances where a parent, student, or an employee requests to have the student’s Guide Dog/Service Dog or Service Animal accompany the student, while attending school or a school-related event, each request shall be reviewed individually by Lakehead District School Board. Each review will take into consideration the student’s dignity, integration, independence and disability-related learning needs, and the accommodations available to enable meaningful access to education.
- 1.3. The process of accommodation shall also consider the competing human rights of other students and staff; the impact of the Guide Dog/Service Dog or Service Animal on the learning environment; and the health and safety of all individuals who are or might be in the school, on school grounds or at a school-related event.
- 1.4. The Board shall retain data regarding the requests for Guide Dogs/Service Dogs or Service Animals as outlined in its Procedures 8075.
- 1.5. Pursuant to the *Education Act and Regulations*, a school building is not a place to which the public is customarily admitted, and pursuant to the Ontario Regulation 474/00 *Access to School Premises*, Lakehead District School Board requires each school to have a process for visitors.

2 Policy Review

This policy shall be reviewed in accordance with 2010 Policy Development and Review Policy.

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Notes:

For definitions of terms used in this policy, refer to 8075 Service Animals in Schools Procedures  
A copy of this policy shall be available on the Board's website and can be requested in accessible formats.

<u><b>Cross Reference</b></u>	<u><b>Date Approved</b></u>	<u><b>Legal Reference</b></u>
8075 Service Animals in Schools Procedures	January 28, 2020	<i>Human Rights Code, RSO 1990, c.H.19</i>
3100 Accessibility Standards for Customer Service		<i>Education Act, RSO 1990, c.E2, s. 170(1), s.265(1); O. Reg. 298, s.11</i>
	<u><b>Date Revised</b></u>	
	Reviewed by: _____	