

Definitions

(The following definitions apply for the purposes of the
8070 Safe Schools - System Expectations Policy and Procedures)

Administrator – includes a superintendent, principal or vice principal with responsibility for the school in question.

Adult Pupil – is a pupil who is 18 years or older; or 16 or 17 years old and has removed him/herself from parental control.

Before and After School Programs – refers to extended day programs and third party programs, as defined in the Education Act.

Board Employees who Work with Pupils – is defined to include administrators, teachers, educational assistants, child and youth workers, social workers, and other professional and para-professional staff who have regular and direct duties with the Lakehead District School Board's (LDSB) pupils.

Board Expulsion – is an expulsion from all schools of LDSB.

Bullying – is typically a form of repeated, persistent, and aggressive behaviour directed at an individual or individuals that is intended to cause (or should be known to cause) fear and distress and/or harm to another person's body, feelings, self-esteem, or reputation. Bullying occurs in a context where there is a real or perceived power imbalance.

Daily Care – a person with daily care is an adult person (18 years or older) who is not the custodial parent/guardian of a pupil who is less than 18 years old, but is a person who cares for the pupil on a daily basis and is known by the school to provide daily care, for example a grandparent, aunt, uncle, older brother or sister.

Suspension Appeals/Expulsion Hearing Committee – a committee of three or more trustees designated to determine suspension appeals and recommendations for expulsion.

Disproportionate Impact – is created when discipline impacts a pupil to a greater degree in comparison to his or her peers as a result of factors related to grounds protected by the Human Rights Code.

Emergency Administrator – is a superintendent or principal identified by the principal of the school, to which a teacher-in-charge is assigned, as the emergency contact should the administrators of the school not be available in emergency circumstances.

Exclusion – the principal may refuse to admit to the school or classroom a person whose presence in the school or classroom would in the principal's judgment be detrimental to the physical or mental well-being of the pupils.

Harassment – is words, conduct or action that is directed at an individual and serves no legitimate purpose and which may include remarks, jokes, threats, name-calling, the display of material(s), touching or other behaviour that an individual knows or ought to know insults, intimidates, offends, demeans, annoys, alarms or causes that individual emotional distress and may constitute discrimination when related to grounds protected by the Human Rights Code.

Manifestation of a Pupil's Ability – is behaviour that results from a pupil's ability and that a pupil does not intend.

Medical Cannabis User – means a person who is authorized to possess cannabis for the person's own medical purposes in accordance with applicable federal law.

Parent/Guardian – where there is a reference to involving or informing a parent/guardian it means the custodial parent or guardian of a minor child who is not an adult pupil.

Personal Mobile Device – refers to any personal electronic device that can be used to communicate or to access the internet, such as a cellphone or a tablet.

Immutable Characteristics – are characteristics that an individual cannot change or that an individual cannot alter about themselves, such as height.

Impact on School Climate – an incident or activity which has a negative impact on the school community.

Primacy of the Code – in a circumstance in which there is a conflict between provincial law, such as the Education Act, regulations, Policy Program Memoranda, school board policies and procedures, and the Human Rights Code of Ontario, the Human Rights Code is deemed to be more important and the inferior law must be applied in a manner consistent with the Human Rights Code (unless there is an explicit exception contained within the other law for such a circumstance). The principle of primacy of the Human Rights Code also requires school board policies and procedures to be interpreted and applied in a manner consistent with the Human Rights Code.

School Climate – is the sum total of all of the personal relationships within a school. A positive climate exists when all members of the school community feel safe, comfortable and accepted.

School Community – the school community is composed of staff, pupils and parents of the school and feeder schools / family of schools, as well as the community of people and businesses that are served by or located in the greater neighborhood of the school.

School Expulsion – is an expulsion from the school of LDSB that the pupil was attending at the time of the incident.

School Suspension – is when the principal suspends the pupil from their school and from engaging in all school-related activities.

Superintendent Responsible for Student Discipline – means the supervisory officer delegated authority regarding procedural issues related to suspension appeals and expulsions.

Teacher-in-Charge – is a teacher delegated authority by the principal to undertake specified duties with respect to pupil discipline in the absence of administration.

Undue Hardship – is the standard for the provision of accommodation, or point to which accommodation must be provided, for a specific pupil by LDSB.

Violent Incident – is an occurrence of any one of the following or the occurrence of a combination of any of the following:

- possessing a weapon, including possessing a firearm;
- physical assault causing bodily harm requiring medical attention;
- sexual assault;
- robbery;
- using a weapon to cause or to threaten bodily harm to another person;
- extortion; and
- hate and/or bias-motivated occurrences.

Weapon – is any object or thing used to threaten or inflict harm on another person and includes, but is not limited to, knives, guns, replica guns and animals.