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1. Rationale

Lakehead District School Board recognizes the need to promote positive play experiences within a safe and inclusive environment for all students.

2. Responsibility

2.1 Parent Committees will be responsible for:

- 2.1.1 Development of a proposal to purchase and install playground equipment that meet the standards under the current Canadian Standards Association's Children's Playspaces (CSA) and adhere to all Lakehead District School Board construction standards, accessibility standards, other guidelines, and policies.
- 2.1.2 All costs associated with the selection, purchase, site preparation materials, and manufacturer's final inspection.
- 2.1.3 Exploring potential partnerships, public and private, in accordance with Board policy.

2.2 Principals will be responsible for:

- 2.2.1 Providing Parent Committees with pertinent information as stipulated in this policy and the accompanying procedures.
- 2.2.2 Representing the interest of students in the design phase of playground equipment to ensure maximum access and equity.
- 2.2.3 The day to day safety of playground structures and the assignment of adequate supervision during school hours.
- 2.2.4 Ensuring a daily visual and a monthly recorded inspection of all playground structures is completed. (Appendix A).
- 2.2.5 Ensuring a file of monthly and annual inspections of all playground structures is maintained.
- 2.2.6 Restricting access, posting warnings and contacting the maintenance department regarding the maintenance of structures which are considered to be unsafe.
- 2.2.7 Communicating with the maintenance department and the parents in situations where structures are determined to be no longer financially viable to repair.

2.3 Plant Maintenance will be responsible for:

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- 2.3.1 Approving the playground proposal to ensure the purchase and installation of the playground structures is in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, the C.S.A. standards and adheres to all Board construction standards, guidelines and policies.
- 2.3.2 Engaging and consulting with the Board Accessibility Committee to ensure playground structure proposals provide barrier-free access to students.
- 2.3.3 Providing a written cost estimate, including all materials, for installation of the playground structures when installed by Board Maintenance employees.
- 2.3.4 Arranging for the completion of an annual inspection of all playground structures by a certified inspector. (Appendix B).
- 2.3.5 Completing the necessary repairs at the Board's expense to structures determined to be unsafe.
- 2.3.6 Determining when repairs are no longer economical and part or all of a structure must be removed. This information will be communicated in writing to the Principal and Parent Committee. Removal and disposal will be at the Board's expense.

2.4 The Board Accessibility Committee will be responsible for:

- 2.4.1 Ensuring consultation occurs with the public and persons with disabilities as part of the re-development or construction of outdoor play spaces.
- 2.4.2 Documenting and reviewing consultation notes and ensuring notes are kept as records.
- 2.4.3 Reviewing planned re-development and construction of playground structures and ensuring that (a) accessibility features, such as sensory and active play components, for children and caregivers with various disabilities into the design of outdoor play spaces and (b) outdoor play spaces have a ground surface that is firm, stable and has impact attenuating properties for injury prevention and sufficient clearance to provide children and caregivers with various disability the ability to move through, in, or around outdoor play spaces.

3. Parent Committee Proposals

3.1 Parent Committee proposals will include:

- 3.1.1 A detailed description of the type and construction of playground structures, including accessibility considerations.
- 3.1.2 A detailed plan for location of the structure(s).

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3.1.3 Costs, including purchase and site preparation materials.

3.1.4 Timeline for construction/installation. The proposal submission must be no later than four months prior to the fiscal year in which installation is required.

3.1.5 The level of community participation in all phases e.g., fundraising and purchasing.

3.1.6 Detailed information on any partnerships and the level of commitment.

4. Extenuating Circumstances

Where circumstances arise which may require action in the best interest of a school community, the Board may, at its own discretion, share part or all of the cost of new or replacement play equipment.

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5. Review

These procedures shall be reviewed in accordance with 2010 Policy Development and Review Policy.

<u>Cross Reference</u>	<u>Date Approved</u>	<u>Legal Reference</u>
Children's Playspaces and Equipment", CAN/CSA-Z614 - National Standard of Canada	September 15, 1994	Children's Playspaces and Equipment", CAN/CSA-Z614 - National Standard of Canada
Occupiers' Liability Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.2		Occupiers' Liability Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.2
8012 Fundraising in the Schools Policy	<u>Date Revised</u>	
3100 Accessibility Policy	April 24, 2001 February 21, 2006 June 28, 2011 April 26, 2016 May 28, 2024 February 25, 2025	