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SPECIAL EDUCATION PROCEDURES**5010****1. Policy**

It is the policy of Lakehead District School Board (LDSB) to provide education for all students with special needs as defined by the Ontario Education Act and Regulations.

2. Special Education Plan

- 2.1 Specific information regarding programs and procedures for special education students are described in the Lakehead District School Board Special Education Plan available on the Board Web Site: www.lakeheadschoools.ca > "Special Ed Plan".
- 2.2 As required under the Ontario Education Act, the Special Education Plan of Lakehead District School Board shall be reviewed annually in accordance with Ministry of Education guidelines and under the direction of the Superintendent of Education responsible for Special Education.

3. Board Responsibilities

Lakehead District School Board shall:

- 3.1 Ensure that parents/guardians of each student with special needs are consulted, valued partners with regard to the assessment, identification, placement and review of each student. Students who have reached the age of 16 years shall also be invited to an Identification, Placement and Review Committee (IPRC). Through parental/guardian consultation, students below the age of 16 years may be invited.
- 3.2 Prepare, adopt and implement an Individual Education Plan (IEP) in accordance with current Ministry of Education regulations to define and create programs and services for students with special needs.

4. Definitions**4.1 Students with Special Needs**

For the purpose of this policy and procedures, "student with special needs" refers to a student who has been identified as exceptional through the Identification Placement and Review Committee process, a student with Individual Education Plans and any other student who requires special education services.

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4.2 Exceptional Students

Refers to those whose behavioural, communication, intellectual, physical or multiple exceptionalities, are such that the student meets the definition of exceptional.

4.3 Special Education Program

A program for students with special needs that may include accommodations or modifications determined by the results of continuous assessment and evaluation. It includes a plan containing specific education objectives, support services and equipment to meet the needs of the student.

4.4 Support Personnel

Includes specialized teachers and other professionals, as detailed in the Board's Special Education Plan, who will assist in identifying student needs, placement decisions, planning special education programs and the review process, as well as providing direct service to students, and ongoing communication with teachers and parents/guardians.

4.5 Individual Education Plan (IEP)

An IEP for students sets out the educational goals, expectations, special education programs, services and assessment methods.

4.6 Identification, Placement and Review Committee(IPCR)

A committee that identifies students as exceptional and to determine suitable placement. The committee consists of a minimum of three voting members. One member must be of the following; a principal/designate employed by the Board, a supervisory officer/designate employed by the Board, or a supervisory officer employed by another board and whose services are provided by a Minister of Education-approved agreement with another board. The two other members are school and/or Board staff

The IPCR is responsible for meeting each year to review the students' progress and education plan.

5. Programming for Students with Special Needs

5.1 Ministry of Education curriculum and policy documents provide the basis for programs for students with special needs.

5.2 Special education services, including support staff, resources, equipment, materials and appropriate programming, shall be provided within the financial resources of Lakehead District School Board.

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Opportunities for professional development related to supporting students with special needs, shall be provided to elementary and secondary school staff based on the financial resources of the Board.

7. Transportation

Appropriate home-to-school transportation shall be provided for students with special needs who meet the criteria outlined in 3040 Transportation Policy, section 16.0 of the Special Education Plan, and Ministry of Education policy.

8. Review

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

This procedure is applied subject to current Ministry of Education directives

<u>Cross Reference</u>	<u>Date Approved</u>	<u>Legal Reference</u>
Lakehead District School Board Special Education Plan	February 25, 2003	Ontario Education Act
1020 Equity and Inclusive Education Policy and Procedures	(Consolidation of 5010, 5020, 5021, 5040)	
3040 Transportation Policy and Procedures	<u>Date Revised</u>	
4021 Assessment and Evaluation Policy and Procedures	January 24, 2012 April 23, 2019	
2010 Policy Development and Review Policy and Procedures		