



POLICY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - AGENDA

MONDAY, JANUARY 16, 2023
1:00 P.M.
via Zoom

Facilitator: Trustee Carol Kellogg

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://sd69-bc-ca.zoom.us/j/67663447902?pwd=U1ltRU5jYitzSml2OHFBckVmeVhpZz09>

Meeting ID: 676 6344 7902

Passcode: 274668

Mandate:

To discuss and make recommendations to the Board on all matters related to By-Laws, Policy, Administrative Procedures

AGENDA

1. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES**
2. **INTRODUCTIONS**
3. **POLICIES POTENTIALLY GOING TO FIRST READING** (Intent and philosophy and edits)
 - a. Addition of Administrative Procedure II: Substance Use to Board Policy 701: Student Discipline.
 - b. 508: Career Education – NEW
 - c. 301: Living Wage – Rescind?
 - d. 502: Field Experiences Discussion
4. **POLICIES POTENTIALLY GOING TO SECOND READING** (Line by line content and edits)
5. **POLICIES POTENTIALLY GOING TO THIRD AND FINAL READING** (Final review including input on AP's)
6. **FUTURE TOPICS**
7. **NEXT MEETING DATE**
Tuesday, February 21, 2023 via Zoom
(Moved to Tuesday due to Family Day on Monday)



CONTEXT:

In order for learning to occur students must feel and be safe at school. The Board works actively and persistently to create and maintain safe, caring and inclusive school communities as per Board Policy 700. Infractions to students' feeling and being safe at school will occur and require intervention and action on the part of the school and/or the district.

POLICY STATEMENT:

The Board will maintain an environment that supports learning through ensuring schools are safe, caring and inclusive. Should incidents occur that compromise this environment, efforts at the classroom, school and district level may be used to restore the environment.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

The Board believes in modelling and using a positive discipline program that will

1. Preserve and support a safe and effective learning environment that allows students to reach their full potential.
2. Model and educate students to practice positive social behaviors, healthy life skills and habits.

The Board expects:

1. All students will always comply with the codes of conduct while on school grounds or attending school (or district) sanctioned events.
2. Incidents compromising the safety of students will be responded to in a timely, fair and reasonable manner.
3. Wherever possible, responses and interventions to incidents that compromise safety will be restorative; meaning they will repair harm, strengthen relationships and enhance a sense of belonging to school and community.
4. Should a disciplinary response be required, it will be progressive, and individualized.
5. School and community resources may provide students with additional support.
6. Interventions may happen at the classroom, school or district level and will typically progress through these levels; however, serious infractions may result in escalation to school or district.
7. Out-of-school suspension should be used judiciously in the context of a progressive discipline model and reserved for cases that impact the safety of those in the learning environment, such as bullying, violence, weapons, and illegal use of substances.
8. That all students who have been suspended for more than five (5) days and who appear before a District Review Committee, shall receive a fair and just hearing under the protection of the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*.

REFERENCES:

- Administrative Procedure to Board Policy 701: Student Discipline
- Board Policy 700: Safe, Caring and Inclusive School Communities
- The School Act: Sections 26, 85(2)(c)(ii), 85(2)(d)
- Charter of Rights and Freedoms

DATES OF ADOPTION AND AMENDMENTS:

Adopted: 1998.02.24: **2022.01.25**

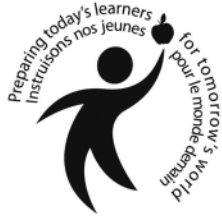
Amended: 2000.08.29: 2016.12.13: Reviewed October 2017:



Purpose

These Administrative Procedures are written in support of Policy 701: Student Discipline

1. The Board delegates the right and responsibility to teachers and school-based principals/vice-principals to require students to apply themselves to their studies and to abide by the Code of Conduct established in a school. Paramount authority in this regard rests with the administrative officers with a school.
2. The Board requires that teachers and principals/vice-principals take appropriate progressive disciplinary action when:
 - a. students fail to abide by the Code of Conduct established in a school to the extent that their behaviour is willfully disobedient or has a harmful effect on other students; or,
 - b. students fail to apply themselves to their studies.
3. School personnel shall be guided by Section 85 of the *School Act* in all of their dealings with students.
4. Students failing to comply with the Rules, Policies and/or Codes of Conduct as sanctioned by the Board of Education may be suspended according to Section 85(2) (d) of the *School Act*. Principals or Vice Principals, when suspending a student, must ensure that an educational program is available for the student during the period of suspension. Parent/guardian(s) shall be notified that the school will provide an educational program and the nature and expectation of that program.
5. Principals and Vice Principals may suspend students for up to five (5) school days as a disciplinary measure. When a student is suspended from school, the student shall remain at the school under the Principal's or Vice Principal's supervision and control until contact has been established with the student's parent/guardian(s) or the designated adult family alternative and a plan has been put in place for the student to be returned to the authority of the parent/guardian(s). The Principal or Vice Principal shall notify the student and parent/guardian(s) verbally followed by a letter to the parent/guardian(s) with a copy being forwarded to the Superintendent of Schools and/or designate.
6. The Principal or Vice Principal, where appropriate, shall arrange a meeting with the student and their parent/guardian(s) to resolve the suspension and to establish conditions and expectations which will govern the student's return to school.
7. Any recommended suspension of longer than five (5) school days must be in accordance with Section 85(2)(d) of the *School Act* and shall be immediately reported to the parent/guardian(s) verbally and confirmed in writing by mail or be delivered by hand. The Superintendent of Schools and/or designate must be notified and shall arrange a District Review Committee hearing.
8. All written reports, including pertinent student records and information, from teachers and the school administration shall be submitted to the Superintendent of Schools and/or designate within three (3) school days of the student's suspension from school. Copies of pertinent



ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES TO BOARD POLICY 701

STUDENT DISCIPLINE

written reports shall be made available to the parent/guardian(s) and the student at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the hearing.

9. When students have been suspended for more than five days the Superintendent of Schools and/or designate shall convene a District Review Committee made up of the Superintendent of Schools or designate and up to three non-involved Principals/Vice Principals and/or community professionals.

This District Review Committee shall meet with the student, the parent/guardian(s), and the referring Principal/Vice Principal to understand the circumstances leading to the suspension and to make recommendations regarding resolution of the suspension.

After the student, the parent/guardian(s) and the referring Principal/Vice Principals have left, the District Review Committee shall consider the educational and support options and/or program offerings available for the student and decide the most appropriate action to take.

10. The decision of the District Review Committee will, in most cases, be communicated by telephone, through the Superintendent of Schools and/or designate, to the parent/guardian(s) and the student and the Principal/Vice Principal within twenty-four (24) hours of the hearing.
11. Written confirmation shall be directed to the parent/guardian(s) and the student and the referring Principal/Vice Principal by the Superintendent of Schools and/or designate. A copy of Bylaw No. 5 (Appeals) shall be attached to the letter.
12. To protect the student's right to privacy, all copies of written reports originally distributed to District Review Committee members shall be collected and destroyed immediately after the committee's decision. The original documentation will be held in a confidential file under the jurisdiction of the Superintendent of Schools.

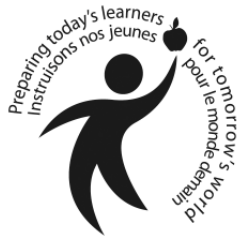
References:

- Board Policy 701: *Student Discipline*
- Board Policy 700: *Safe, Caring and Inclusive School Communities*
- *The School Act*: Sections 26, 85(2)(c)(ii), 85(2)(d)
- Charter of Rights and Freedoms

Dates of Adoption/Amendments:

Adopted: 1998.02.24

Amended: 2000.08.29: 2016.12.13: Reviewed October 2017: 2022.01.25: 2022.11.22



1. FIRST INCIDENT

- i. Any student of an ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (K-7) engaging in any of the following while under the jurisdiction of the school shall have a meeting with the principal, the school counselor and his/her parents/guardians at the earliest opportunity:
- consumes alcohol or illicit drug(s)
 - is under the influence of alcohol or illicit drug(s)
 - is in possession of alcohol or illicit drug(s) or drug paraphernalia

Taking into account the advice of this meeting, the principal will make a decision regarding the outcome of the incident or incidents. Outcomes may include disciplinary consequences for the student, recommendation for support from school staff, and/or referral to the District Drug and Alcohol Review Committee.

If referred to the District Drug and Alcohol Review Committee, the committee may recommend further disciplinary consequences, support or RCMP involvement.

- ii. Any student of a SECONDARY SCHOOL (8-12) engaging in any of the following while under the jurisdiction of the school shall immediately be placed on an "In-School Suspension" for a period of no more than four (4) days and the student shall be referred to the District Drug and Alcohol Review Committee:
- consumes alcohol or illicit drug(s)
 - is under the influence of alcohol or illicit drug(s)
 - is in possession of alcohol or illicit drug(s) or drug paraphernalia

The incident(s) shall be reported to parents/guardians verbally and confirmed immediately in writing. A copy of Board Bylaw 5: *Parent/Student Appeals to the Board of Education* will be enclosed.

The Superintendent or designate shall be notified in writing and the RCMP may be contacted. The decision as to whether criminal charges will be laid rests with the RCMP.

The District Drug and Alcohol Review Committee may make recommendations for further disciplinary consequences or support.

2. REPEAT INCIDENTS

A student of any age who is involved in a repeat incident of consumption, under the influence or possession of alcohol or drug(s) or paraphernalia while under school jurisdiction shall be immediately placed on suspension and referred to the Superintendent and/or designate for a decision as to which committee the student will be referred to: the District Drug and Alcohol Review Committee or the District Discipline Committee.



3. DISTRIBUTION/TRAFFICKING OF ALCOHOL OR ILLICIT DRUG(S)

Any student of any age who engages in the distribution, sale or proliferation of alcohol or drug(s) shall be immediately placed on "Out of School/At Home" suspension and referred to the District Discipline Committee.

In addition, the RCMP will be notified and will determine if criminal charges are warranted.

4. DISTRICT DRUG AND ALCOHOL REVIEW COMMITTEE

In most cases the District Drug and Alcohol Review Committee will consist of a minimum of:

- the Superintendent or designate
- two school administrators

Any student referred to this committee will present himself/herself with their parent/guardian at the time appointed. A representative of the student's school will also be present.

The committee will make recommendations regarding the level of support and/or intervention which might be required to assist the student to successfully continue with his/her educational program and support the student in making healthy choices.

Some of the following specific courses of action may also be recommended by the committee but it is intended that the committee would not be limited in its thinking or mandate by such a list:

- drug or alcohol counseling
- referral for family support
- school suspension in accordance with Board Policy 7030: *Suspension of Students*
- change of educational program
- suspension from all School District 69 schools while being provided with an educational program pursuant to Section 85 of the *School Act*

References:

- *Board Bylaw 5: Parent/Student Appeals to the Board of Education*
- *Board Policy 7001: Student Discipline*
- *Board Policy 7002: Substance Use (Student)*
- *Canada's Food and Drugs Act*
- *Canada's Controlled Drugs and Substances Act*

Dates of Adoption/Amendments:

Adopted: 1998.11.24:

Amended: 2000.04.25: 2000.10.24: 2008.05.27: 2009.05.26: 2010.11.23: 2014.11.25: **2016.12.13:**

RESCINDED JANUARY 25, 2022



Context

From Kindergarten through to graduation, students have the opportunity to explore a variety of career paths. Our learning, programs, resources and networks provide an opportunity for students to imagine their possible futures. The provincial Career Education curriculum offers students the opportunity to pursue this journey in ways that are personally meaningful and goal-oriented (BC Ministry of Education).

Policy Statement

The Board believes that all students should graduate with a meaningful Dogwood Diploma that gives them as many post-secondary opportunities as possible. Career Preparation Programs are important learning opportunities for students as they transition from secondary school to post-graduate learning, training and, eventually, careers. Career Preparation Programs including Work Experience, dual-credit courses and Youth Work in Trades programs including Secondary School Apprenticeships and are governed by Work Experience Ministerial Order 237/11.

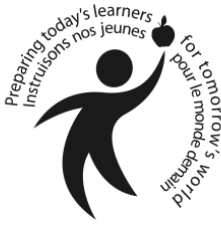
Guiding Principles

1. Students will be introduced to Career Education Programs through the curriculum Career courses and other courses taken throughout their educational journey.
2. The standards for Ministry Work Experience and Youth Work in Trades must be upheld with emphasis on work-site safety and student conduct.
3. All program and course must be approved by the Director of Instruction.
4. All Ministry and School District requirements and Administrative Procedures must be followed, including those regarding funding claims, course credit reporting, scheduling, safety considerations, collective agreements, and accepted accounting practices.

Dates of Adoption/Amendments:

Adopted:

Amended:



Context:

The Board strives to be a responsible and just employer in the Oceanside area. Paying a living wage on an hourly basis is a way to express these values. The Board understands that families may work less than part-time or have non-traditional family earnings and we share our responsibility for living wage provision with individuals, governments and community.

Policy Statement:

This Policy is to ensure that all School District 69 (Qualicum) staff service providers and sub-contractors to our School District who work on School District premises for a specified period of time earn, at a minimum, an hourly *Living Wage* based on calculations which are congruent with the methodology developed by the *Living Wage For Families Campaign*.

Guiding Principles:

1. The Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) believes that it is important to demonstrate social responsibility through actions that have a positive impact on our community, our staff and the people we serve.
2. The Board of Education believes that families should earn an hourly rate sufficient for them to pay for the basic necessities of life so that they can live with dignity and participate as active members of our communities.
3. As a responsible employer, the Board of Education recognizes that paying a *Living Wage* constitutes a critical investment in the well-being of our staff and the broader community.

Definitions:

1. Employees are all Union and Exempt Staff employed by the District in either a full-time, part-time, or casual, spare board, or replacement worker capacity.
2. *Living Wage* is the hourly rate of pay that enables wage-earners living in a family (2 parents and 2 children) household to:
 - a) Feed, clothe and provide shelter (based on rental rates) for their family
 - b) Promote healthy child development (child care expenses)
 - c) Participate in activities that are an ordinary element of life in the community
 - d) Avoid the chronic stress associated with living in poverty
 - e) Small savings to be used in emergencies.

Living Wage does not include:

- a) Debt or credit card repayment
- b) Any significant savings (for example to provide a down payment for a house or to send a student to university)
- c) Recreation or entertainment costs beyond that needed for physical and emotional health.
- d) Care of an ill, disabled or aged family member.



SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 69 (QUALICUM)

BOARD POLICY 301

LIVING WAGE

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3. Premises are all District-owned premises, roadways, and grounds.
4. Service Providers are companies and their employees that have a direct business relationship to the School District 69 (Qualicum). These employees are individuals that perform services to the District on District premises.
5. Sub-contractors are companies and their employees that have been sub-contracted by our Service Providers. They do not have a direct business relationship with School District 69 (Qualicum).

References:

- <http://www.livingwageforfamilies.ca/>
- *Living Wage - Administrative Procedure*

Adopted/Amended:

Adopted: 15.11.24
Amended: 2020.04.28



Implementation, Compliance and Communication:

1. The living wage will be set annually by staff based on the methodology developed by the Living Wage for Families Campaign (www.livingwageforfamilies.ca).
2. This policy will encompass all district employees, service providers and sub-contractor employees with the following exclusions:
 - a. Students seeking work experience credits for educational purposes;
 - b. Volunteers; and,
 - c. Employees of organizations (for profit or not-for-profit) that lease space/property from the district.
3. The district, as a living wage employer, will ensure all staff are paid no less than the living wage as established in the year of ratifying of any of the district's collective agreements with its unions. The district will not open up any existing collective agreement during its existence to adjust hourly rates in the event those hourly rates dip below the living wage for that year. For example, if in year 2 of a 3-year agreement an employee's hourly rate falls below the living wage hourly rate for that present year, no alteration to the collective agreement will be considered.
4. The District has established the following criteria to determine a service provider's or sub-contractor's eligibility under the Living Wage Policy.
 - a. An employee of a service provider or of its sub-contractor must perform services physically on district premises.
 - b. Work must last longer than one continuous hour per occasion.
5. The district requires all service providers and sub-contractors, whose services fall within the parameters established within this policy, to be compliant for the duration of their contract with the district.
6. The district will incorporate into all of its competitive bid documents (invitations to tender, requests for proposal, quotes, etc.) a sample declaration to be signed as part of the service provider's contract with the district.
7. The district will enforce the policy by performing audits of its service providers and sub-contractors when notification of non-compliance is received by the district. Non-compliance may result in the cancellation of the contract at the discretion of the district.

Reference:

- Board Policy 301: Living Wage

Dates of Adoption and Amendments:

Adopted: 2015.11.24
Amended: 2020.04.28



Context:

The School District 69 Strategic Plan includes student centred learning support for quality teaching and learning, and social emotional supports as primary areas of focus. Field experiences support all of three of those priority areas. Additionally, provision of field experiences supports the BC education system's core competencies of thinking and communicating by providing hands-on opportunities for learning.

Policy Statement

The Board of Education supports and encourages schools to plan field experiences for groups of students in order to provide supplemental opportunities which enhance curricular learning and core competencies, and which expand on athletic, cultural, musical, linguistic, or other educational endeavours.

Guiding Principles

1. Educational value as described in the policy statement is paramount in the planning of field experiences. That educational value must be balanced with considerations of safety and climate impact, meaning that field experiences should be held as close to School District 69 as possible without compromising the quality of the experience.
2. The Board further believes that in planning for any learning experience including field experiences, consideration must be given to the following:
 - a) Student safety and security for all participants including students, staff, volunteers and the District;
 - b) Curricular relevance and the appropriateness of the activity to the students' educational program;
 - c) Ensuring that the experiences are effective, affordable and accessible to all students; and,
 - d) Ensuring that field experiences are reviewed for risk and that supervising staff have the requisite skills and experience necessary to provide safe and appropriate field trip experiences.
3. The Board retains the right to review and give approval for experiences that are out of province.

References:

- <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/competencies>
- Administrative Procedure – Field Experiences (Trips)
- Vancouver School Board – Field Studies Resource Book: Guidelines and Policy for Elementary and Secondary Schools

Dates of Adoption/Amendments:

Adopted: 79.07.21

Amended: 81.01.21: 84.05.16: 89.02.22: 92.08.25: 01.04.03: 02.03.26: 03.05.27: 17.03.28:
2020.05.26



Purpose

The Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) considers the purpose of field experiences is to enable students to participate in quality off-site learning activities that are:

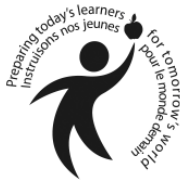
1. an integral part of the educational process.
2. closely connected to curriculum and prescribed learning outcomes, including curricular and core competencies, and/or supportive of cultural, linguistic, athletic or musical experiences; and,
3. relevant, effective, affordable and accessible.

The Board views field experience to be an outgrowth of a school program that involves a clearly defined class or group and that attends to:

1. the safety and security of all participants;
2. risk assessment and mitigation; and,
3. the protection of students, staff, volunteers and the school district from liability or harm.

Requirements

1. Field experience applications shall demonstrate clear connections to curricular or core competencies and/or be supportive of cultural, linguistic, athletic or musical experiences.
2. Given those connections, field experiences should be held as close to the district as is reasonable without compromising the quality of the experience.
3. Planning for field experiences shall take into consideration the climate impact of the activity and any related transportation, and efforts ~~must~~ shall be undertaken to minimize or offset those impacts.
4. Eligibility criteria to participate in field experiences must be established by the educator in charge of the field experience.
5. No eligible student may be denied access to participate in a day field experience held during instructional hours due to financial hardship. A Principal, or Board designate, may exclude a student from the activity if the student does not meet the eligibility criteria.
6. The Board will provide field experiences free of charge to school-age students resident in the district and enrolled in an educational program at one of its schools where attendance is mandatory and/ or assessment will take place.



7. The Board may charge fees for the expenses such as transportation, accommodation, meals, entrance fees and equipment rentals for optional supplementary field experiences. Efforts to minimize costs to students/parents should be evident in all field experience planning.
8. All details of fundraising activities and requirements for the proposed field experience must be communicated clearly to students and parents and agreed upon at the outset of the planning process.
9. All details of proposed field experiences must be clearly communicated to students and parents.
10. Field experiences should not seriously interfere with the education of neither students who remain at school nor the students who are participating on the field experience.
11. School sponsored field experiences are considered to be school program activities and as such are subject to both the regulations of the school and to all School District 69 (Qualicum) Board policies and administrative procedures, including in relation to expectations of student behaviour and deportment. Adults who attend as sponsors or chaperones are expected to abide by those same standards.
12. When other agencies (e.g., Rotary, Government of Canada) contact schools regarding opportunities for students to participate in activities sponsored by their organizations, parents should be made aware that such activities are not school field experiences.
13. For any activity which is somehow connected to the school but is not endorsed by the school or the Board as a field experience within the context of this policy and its administrative procedure, is not to be supported by the school in any way for planning or communication purposes.

Parent/Guardian Responsibilities

Parents/Guardians are responsible to determine whether their child may participate in a student field experience. In order to provide informed consent, comprehensive student field experience information that clearly describes the educational benefits and safety risks must be communicated to parents and guardians.

Student Responsibilities

Students participating in a field experience are responsible to comply with the school rules, Student Code of Conduct, Board policies, fulfill the preparatory requirements and cooperate with all supervisors.



Educator-in-Charge Responsibilities

The Educator-in-Charge is responsible to:

- a. Ensure the field experience is appropriately planned, authorized and organized
- b. Ensure parents have been provided with comprehensive student information that clearly describes the educational benefits and safety risks of the field experience
- c. Exercise supervision on a full-time basis
- d. Ensure detailed contact and trip information is left with the school Principal or designate
- e. Take whatever precautions are necessary to ensure the proper conduct, appropriate behaviour and safety of students

Field Experience Supervisor Responsibilities

Supervisors (teachers, volunteers, contracted instructors) are responsible to:

- a. To provide supervision of students 24 hours per day
- b. To serve as role models to students and as ambassadors of the school district
- c. To conduct themselves accordingly, and within the expectations of the Board
- d. Alcohol or illicit drugs are not to be consumed while on, or before, supervising students as supervisors must be capable of reasoned judgment in case of an unexpected emergency at all times during the field experience. This expectation includes international locations where the cultural norms may vary. Any over the counter or prescription medications which are necessary for a supervisor must be taken judiciously and with knowledge of the lead sponsor.

Field Experience (Trip) Categories

The Board expects all Board employees responsible for planning and authorizing field experiences to be knowledgeable of the category definitions for field experiences.

Category 1 - Same Day Field Experiences

These may last up to a full day. Destinations and activities are determined by learning outcomes; examples of such field experiences are visits to museums, law courts, art galleries, nature parks, etc.

For the purposes of this policy, local neighbourhood excursions that are based on a specific class activity/learning outcome, such as a grade 3 class going to the local park to collect leaves for an art project, or a grade 11 Physical Education class jogging in the local neighbourhood, are not considered field experiences. However, teachers must always ensure that the school Principal is aware of such neighbourhood learning activities when they are occurring and that parent consent has been granted.

Category 2 - Overnight or Outside of the Central Vancouver Island Area Field Experiences

1. Overnight Field Experiences may last for one or more days and take place within the province of British Columbia. Such excursions require an additional level of approval by the Superintendent or designate.



2. Outside of Central Vancouver Island Field Experiences require Superintendent or designate approval because of the travel required. Field experiences that extend beyond Central Vancouver Island, even if lasting only for the day, are classified as Category 2.

Category 3 - Higher Risk Outdoor Field Experiences

These are outdoor education based field experiences that may last up to a full day, or may last for two days or more, and entail a level of risk that is higher than activities in which students are normally engaged in at school.

These would typically be:

1. Outdoor Programs where an outdoor setting is important and it becomes the classroom. Examples might include Outdoor Education and Physical Education Activities. Examples could include the Rivers, Mountains and Oceans School (ROAMS) and the Vancouver Island Student Ski Patrol Program (VISSPP).
2. Outdoor Pursuits refers to activities related to self-propelled travel on land, water and snow or ice. Examples may include hiking, kayaking and surfing. The definition of outdoor pursuit includes higher risk activities, such as skiing, and extended wilderness travel. Outdoor pursuits are typically of a higher care nature and as such these environments require some more specialized awareness, planning, instruction and leadership. Outdoor pursuit does not include local ice area activities, such as skating, hockey or curling.

Category 4 - Out of Province (Canada, Continental United States, and Off-Continent)

These field experiences involve travel outside of British Columbia, but within Canada or the continental United States, and last typically for 5-14 days. These include cultural and linguistic exchanges, where students travel outside B.C. to be immersed in the language and culture of another area. Off-continent travel is to foreign countries for the purpose of broadening students' understanding of other cultures and of helping them to see their relationship in the world as a Canadians. Extended Off-Continent Field Experiences include excursions during Spring Break. It is understood that Category 4 Field Trips will only be approved pending confirmation that the destination is safe for travel according to the Government of Canada, up to and throughout the scheduled travel.

Applying for Category 4 Field Trips

Except in the case of earned experiences (athletics and music for example) where only final approval is required, usually on short notice, Category 4 Field Trips require Board approval in principle a minimum of eight months prior to travel, and final Board approval a minimum of four months prior to travel. Category 4 field trip requests will be submitted to the Board's Education Committee of the Whole for review and consideration of referral to the Board of Education. It is the responsibility of the sponsoring educator along with the school principal for ensuring that applications for approval in principle and final approval are submitted on time.



Excursions During the Non-Instructional Year (school closure in June to school opening in September)

Excursions planned for the non-instructional period of the year (typically the months of July and August) will be supported as school-sponsored field experiences provided all requisite field experience policies, guidelines, and approval processes have been followed.

Teachers, or other Board employees, who participate in a supervisory role during non-instructional year excursions do so as volunteers, without salary compensation or the expectation of time in lieu.

Liability insurance coverage under the School Protection Plan does extend to any Board employee or volunteer acting in a supervisory capacity during the non-instructional year provided the excursion is a school-sponsored field experience and all requisite field experience policies have been followed.

Inappropriate Field Experiences

Field experiences may be deemed to be inappropriate by either the school administrator, or the Board designate.

Inappropriate field experiences are characterized as those that may involve:

- a. Activities that have inordinate risk for serious injury;
- b. Absence of necessary supervision ratios, equipment, instruction and supervisors/instructors experience and training;
- c. Age or developmentally inappropriate for activities for students, individually or as a group;
- d. Inordinate expense or excessive absence from school;
- e. Travel to areas where Foreign Affairs Canada has published a travel advisory; and,
- f. Non-compliance with the policies and procedures of the Board.

References

- Board Policy 502 – Field Experiences (Trips)
- Vancouver School Board – Field Studies Resource Book: Guidelines and Policy for Elementary and Secondary Schools

Dates of Adoption/Amendments:

Adopted: 17.03.28

Amended: **2020.05.26**