



STUDENT USE OF HEAD PROTECTION WHILE SKATING

Responsibility:	<i>Senior Superintendent, Student Achievement & Well-Being</i>
Related References:	<i>Ontario Physical Education Safety Guidelines CSA Standard Z262.1 Administrative Procedure 1580 – Off-Campus Categories I, II and III Administrative Procedure 3850 – Staff Use of Head Protection in Sports</i>
Revisions:	<i>March 2016</i>
Reviewed:	<i>March 2016</i>

1. Preamble

- 1.1 The following provides a procedure for the use of head protection for students while participating in Board-approved activities.

2. Overview

- 2.1 The Waterloo Region District School Board is committed to the health and safety of students. This procedure outlines the head protection requirements for students participating in Board-approved skating activities. For all other sports activities not identified in this procedure, Administrators are to follow the Ontario Physical Education Safety Guidelines (<http://safety.ophea.net/>).

3. Additional Helmet Requirements

Table 1 identifies the specific helmet type and certification requirements for students participating in Board-approved skating activities. The following section outlines additional requirements:

- 3.1 Skating
- For students participating in skating activities, refer to Table 1 for head protection requirements.
 - Only a properly fitted and worn, certified CSA hockey helmet is acceptable head protection for entering any ice skating area. Full face masks are required for participation in hockey games or scrimmages.
 - Prior to participation, teachers and supervisors are to conduct a visual inspection to ensure that the protective equipment, mandated in Table 1, is being properly worn by the students (i.e., properly fitting helmet with chin straps done up).
 - Helmets must bear the manufacturer's identification, model identity, and CSA-certification mark as identified in Table 1.
 - Bicycle helmets and ski helmets are not acceptable helmets for ice skating.

4. Definitions

- 4.1 **Active Participation:** Implies that a student will be actively participating in skating activities. Once the student steps on the ice surface, he/she is actively participating.
- 4.2 **Head Protection ('helmet'):** A properly fitted Canadian Standards Association (CSA) or other recognized certification agency (i.e., Central European Norm, American Society of Testing Materials) approved helmet made specifically for the intended sporting activity (See Table 1).

- 4.3 **Skating Activities:** Sports activities performed on ice skating surfaces including ice skating, hockey and in-line skating.

5. General Procedure

- 5.1 Head protection requirements for students actively participating in Board-approved sporting activities are outlined in *Table 1: "Head Protection Requirements for Students Participating in Board-Approved Skating Activities"* of this procedure.
- 5.2 Where it is identified in Table 1 that head protection is mandatory (or when deemed mandatory by the Principal/designate), the Principal/designate will ensure that all students participating in the activity wear the appropriate head protection, prior to participating in the activity.
- 5.3 Parents/guardians are responsible for providing appropriate helmets for students when they are required. Parents/guardians are responsible for ensuring that the head protection provided meets the specifications outlined in Table 1 of this procedure, is in good condition and fits the student who will be using it.
- 5.4 Students will use the approved helmet as per manufacturer's instructions and in accordance with this procedure.
- 5.5 Supervision requirements will be in accordance with those outlined in Administrative Procedure 1580, Off-Campus—Categories I, II & III (specifically "Day Trip to Historical or Community Sites"). In accordance with and as defined by the Ontario Physical Education Safety Guidelines, supervision will be "On-site" with a minimum of one on-ice supervisor.

6. Supply and Purchase of Head Protection

- 6.1 Individual helmets will not be purchased and/or collected for students participating in skating activities. Parents/guardians are responsible for providing appropriate helmets for students. Parents/guardians are responsible for ensuring that the head protection provided meets the specifications outlined in Table 1 of this procedure, is in good condition, not beyond the expiration date and fits the student who will be wearing it.
- 6.2 It is the responsibility of the Principal/designate to ensure that where head protection is required for skating, it is worn by students as outlined in this procedure.
- 6.3 In cases where families may experience difficulties purchasing helmets for their child(ren), principals may direct families to the appropriate community supports.

Table 1: Head Protection Requirements for Students Participating in Board Approved Skating Activities

Sport Activity	Head Protection Requirements	
	Helmet Type	Certification Required
Hockey	Hockey Helmet	CSA with compatible CSA-approved face mask, visor or shield
Skating	Hockey Helmet	CSA
In-Line Skating / Roller Skating	Bicycle Helmet, In-Line Skating or Skateboard Helmet	CSZ, Snell B-95, ASTM F-1446/ F-1447, CSPC ASTM 1492, Snell N-94

Table Information Source: *Think First Foundation, www.thinkfirst.ca (now 'Parachute Canada')*