



COMMUNICATIONS

Responsibility:	<i>Executive Officer - Corporate Services</i>
Legal References:	<u>Education Act;</u> <u>Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Individual Privacy Act.</u>
Related References:	<u>Board Policy 2006 – Consultation</u> <u>Canada’s Anti-Spam Legislation (CASL)</u>
Effective Date:	<i>October 30, 2006,</i>
Revisions:	<i>September 22, 2014, May 8, 2017, October 11, 2023</i>
Reviewed:	<i>January 14, 2019, December 11, 2023</i>

1. Preamble

The following policy outlines the responsibilities and requirements of Waterloo Region District School Board (WRDSB) in maintaining effective communication with students, their families, trustees and staff, and the wider community to support the achievement and well-being of all students.

2. Communications

- 2.1 In support of its Multi-Year Strategic Plan, the WRDSB strives to engage all stakeholders to support student achievement and well-being; by embracing diversity and inclusion, and championing public education. All trustees and staff play a role in effective communication and engagement.
- 2.2 The Board has a responsibility to:
 - 2.2.1 foster a climate of transparency and accountability;
 - 2.2.2 ensure effective communication with the public (students, families/caregivers and the community at large), trustees and staff;
 - 2.2.3 provide accessible communication to- all;
 - 2.2.4 advocate for public education.
- 2.3 Thus, the board is committed to being responsive to the public and staff by:
 - 2.3.1 encouraging open and effective two-way communication and engagement;
 - 2.3.2 developing cooperative and constructive relationships and partnerships that engage internal and external stakeholders;
 - 2.3.3 being accessible to provide accurate, understandable and timely information via a variety of channels.
- 2.4 Therefore, the board strives to provide open access to information subject to appropriate legislation, and, within available resources, shall:
 - 2.4.1 provide timely public access to information;
 - 2.4.2 develop and support an effective communication strategy and plan;
 - 2.4.3 provide mechanisms for open, two-way communication for consulting with the public and staff as per the WRDSB’s Consultation Policy;
 - 2.4.4 provide information and training for trustees and staff to enhance effective communication.