



SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AREAS

Legal References:	<i>Education Act, S171.1.7 Planning Act</i>
Related References:	<i>Administrative Procedure 1010 - Junior and Senior Kindergarten Registration Administrative Procedure 1030 - Boundary Requests – Secondary Schools Administrative Procedure 1040 - Boundary Requests – Elementary Schools Administrative Procedure 1035 - Grade 8 to 9 Transfer Administrative Procedure 4260 - Student Transportation Administrative Procedure 4991 - Boundary Studies Administrative Procedure 4992 - Temporary Accommodation for Dev. Areas Administrative Procedure 486 0- Pupil Accommodation Review Board Policy 4000 – Pupil Accommodation Review</i>
Effective Date:	<i>November 28, 2005</i>
Revisions:	<i>June 16, 2014</i>
Reviewed:	<i>February 22, 2016, November 20, 2017</i>

1. Preamble

- 1.1 It is the mandate of the Waterloo Region District School Board (Board) to provide school accommodation for qualifying resident pupils within its jurisdiction.
- 1.2 The Board believes that effective public education requires active co-operation between students, parents, staff, Trustees and the community and is therefore committed to providing opportunities for input into decisions regarding changes to school attendance areas.
- 1.3 The Board believes that students should attend the school in their designated attendance area, unless otherwise granted an exemption in accordance with established policies and procedures (refer to Administrative Procedures 1030, 1035 and 1040).

2. Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of the Board to:

- 2.1 Determine the number of schools in the district, as well as the grade profile and attendance area for each school in the district;
- 2.2 Organize attendance areas to make efficient and economical use of the Board's facilities, programs, resources and staff;
- 2.3 Regularly review school attendance areas to maintain a viable and efficient school system.

3. Changes to School Attendance Areas

It is the policy of the Board that:

- 3.1 Adjustments to school attendance areas may be required when the Board closes a school, alters grades within or between schools, or opens a new school. Adjustments may also be required in order to address enrolment related accommodation issues.

- 3.2 Historical agreement areas with other school boards will be recognized when considering changes to school attendance areas.
- 3.3 Affected families in school attendance areas shall be consulted prior to any Board decision of adjustments to school attendance areas.
- 3.4 New school attendance areas or changes to existing attendance areas will consider appropriate planning criteria, as outlined in Administrative Procedure 4991 – Boundary Studies.
- 3.5 The Board of Trustees will make the final decision regarding changes to school attendance areas.

4. Exceptions

- 4.1 The creation or modification of attendance areas for specialized programs or the establishment of temporary attendance areas to accommodate development areas shall be addressed in accordance with established procedures, and may not necessarily adhere to the provisions outlined herein.