



Section: Educational Services

• **Assessment and Recognition**

Policy Code: ES-4.2

Policy: RECOGNITION OF STUDENT SUCCESS

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The Board fully supports recognition of student success and its value in honouring and encouraging the progress and learning of students from Kindergarten to Grade 12. It recognizes the importance of student recognition both on a day-to-day basis and in more formal ceremonies such as graduation exercises. The Board supports the involvement of individuals, community groups and businesses wishing to provide donations, trusts, bursaries, scholarships, and other forms of recognition, that are consistent with the principles in this policy. The policy encourages schools to assist the community to understand the principles of recognition of student achievement and to encourage the community to become involved in this essential process.

1. Principles for the Recognition of Student Success

- 1.1 The Board believes in and supports the following principles related to the recognition of student success:
 - 1.1.1 that all students must be encouraged to achieve a standard of learning that is their personal best;
 - 1.1.2 that intrinsic motivation for all students, in their pursuit of excellence in learning, is fundamental and must be encouraged;
 - 1.1.3 that scholarships, bursaries, trophies and other forms of recognition of success for all students are valuable;
 - 1.1.4 that a broad and inclusive approach, which motivates all students to desire to excel and which recognizes both effort and the outcomes of the students' efforts, should be part of each school's program;
 - 1.1.5 that social and physical development, as well as achievement in the broad range of academic areas, are equally valuable;
 - 1.1.6 that community involvement in the recognition process is a highly desirable activity;
 - 1.1.7 that schools must demonstrate the integrity of a wide variety of career paths; and
 - 1.1.8 that ceremonies, such as graduation exercises, are inclusive and effective strategies to promote recognition of student success.

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2. Board Expectations

- 2.1 To ensure that recognition of student success is implemented in the best interests of all students, and in an effective and inclusive manner, the Board expects:
- 2.1.1 that Board approval, consistent with its values, purposes and mandate, will be necessary for the initial offerings at graduation ceremonies of any bursary, scholarship, or other incentive with a monetary value;
 - 2.1.2 that a scholarship and bursary fund be maintained by the Board to receive trusts, funds, bequests and donations, as provided for in supporting administrative regulations;
 - 2.1.3 that all recognition of student success shall be consistent with the Board's commitment to equity;
 - 2.1.4 that it may, at times, use funds for the creation or provision of Board awards for presentation to students;
 - 2.1.5 that all recognition incentives or awards shall avoid undue commercial advertising and/or benefit directly a commercial entity in offering the award;
 - 2.1.6 that the Director of Education and the Chairperson of the Board shall send letters of congratulations to each Ontario Scholar and to any other student identified as a significant achiever in any program; and
 - 2.1.7 that Ministry of Education program directives that impact on student success be supported in the schools.

3. School Expectations

- 3.1 To ensure that school programs to recognize student success are designed and implemented in the best interests of all students, it is expected that each school will:
- 3.1.1 develop procedures consistent with this policy, its supporting administrative regulations and the specific needs of the students, school and school community;
 - 3.1.2 involve school councils, when appropriate, in the development of procedures related to the recognition of student success;

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- 3.1.3 inform members of the school community about the school's procedures related to the recognition of student success;
- 3.1.4 seek a variety of ways, in the school and in the school community, to recognize student progress and success;
- 3.1.5 seek, and be amenable to, community support in recognizing student progress and learning;
- 3.1.6 ensure that all students have the opportunity to excel in a variety of activities, as well as within their own programs of study;
- 3.1.7 ensure equity and diversity, in process and in outcomes, in matters of gender, program and post-secondary destinations, i.e. apprenticeships, university, college and the world of work;
- 3.1.8 publicize significant awards events in school communication instruments;
- 3.1.9 invite Board officials and other dignitaries to special student success ceremonies and involve them according to a recognized protocol; and
- 3.1.10 refer to the administrative regulations when developing student recognition procedures.

Established: January 20, 2000

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