



KAWARTHA PINE RIDGE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

POLICY STATEMENT

Policy Name: Political Activity in Schools
Section: Educational Services

Policy Code: ES-3.2

Established: May 27, 1999

Revised or

Reviewed: April 27, 2006; December 20, 2012; April 26, 2018; May 23, 2023

1. POLICY STATEMENT

The Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board (KPR) supports student learning about civic engagement, good citizenship and the role local, provincial, national and global politics play in everyday life. The Board encourages schools to provide opportunities for students to gain experience in political affairs, believing that students should be encouraged to study, discuss and debate political opinions in an open, informed and reasoned manner.

2. OBJECTIVE

The Board encourages schools to provide these valuable learning experiences through program components within the curriculum and through co-curricular opportunities. At no time shall political activity interfere with the normal operation of the school unless by resolution of the Board and/or at the request of the Ministry of Education.

3. DEFINITIONS

Board

The corporate Board which maintains the daily operation of the system; Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board; a reference specifically pertaining to Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board as a legal entity; also referred to as KPR or KPRDSB.

4. APPLICATION

This policy applies to all Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board staff and students.

5. RESPONSIBILITY

The Communications and Corporate Affairs area is responsible for the guidelines and directives within this policy.

The Superintendent of Student Achievement overseeing Student Leadership and school administration are responsible for implementing this policy in schools.

6. POLICY

6.1 Student Opportunities

To ensure that students have these opportunities, the Board endorses:

- 6.1.1 the Student Senate as a political organization in secondary schools in accordance with Board Policy B-1.5, Student Trustees, and the supporting administrative regulations;
- 6.1.2 the inclusion of two pupils as trustees of the Board in accordance with Ontario Regulation 7/07, Board Policy B-1.5, Student Trustees, and any supporting administrative regulations;
- 6.1.3 the student council, or equivalent, as a form of student government in elementary, where appropriate, and secondary schools;
- 6.1.4 the inclusion of non-partisan political clubs as co-curricular activities in secondary schools;
- 6.1.5 the holding of all-candidates' assemblies, for educational and informational purposes, in the elementary schools, where appropriate, and secondary schools during federal, provincial and municipal election campaigns;
- 6.1.6 the development, where appropriate, of political study components within the curriculum; and
- 6.1.7 staff involvement in student political opportunities. This involvement must be, as always, highly professional, free of political bias, and must refrain from denigrating, promoting, or proselytizing any political points of view.

6.2 Right to Access

The Board reserves the right to prohibit access to elementary and secondary schools or any other Board property by a candidate(s), where it deems appropriate.

7. RELATED POLICIES, ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS OR PROCEDURAL DOCUMENTS

Board Policies:

[B-1.5, Student Trustees](#)

Administrative Regulations:

[ES-3.2.1, Political Activity in Schools](#)

8. REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

Legislation:

[Education Act](#)

[Ontario Regulation 7/07: Student Trustees](#)