



PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE SCHOOL DIVISION

“Dedicated to the Pursuit of Excellence”

BOARD POLICY #13 Safe and Respectful Schools

The School Division accepts its responsibility to foster and maintain a safe, caring, respectful and inclusive school environment for its students, staff, and community. The Board expects that schools and workplaces are directed to focus on safety and responsible citizenship based on the School Division’s values and the legislative requirements of Canada and the Province of Manitoba. Specifically, the *Public Schools Act* states that every school board shall ensure that each pupil within their jurisdiction “*is provided with a safe and caring school environment that fosters and maintains respectful and responsible behaviours*”. [Sec. 41(1) (b.1)]

The Board is committed to working in collaboration with all of its education partners to ensure and enhance the safety of the School Division’s schools and school communities.

The Superintendent shall:

- ensure that the administrative procedures, operations and practices implemented in the School Division are compliant with federal and provincial legislative requirements as found in, but not limited to, the legislation identified in the Introduction to this Policy Manual;
- ensure that each principal will establish a code of conduct for pupils and staff and shall inform the Parent Advisory Council or its equivalent;
- ensure that each principal will establish an emergency response plan for the school and shall inform the Parent Advisory Council or its equivalent;
- ensure that each school’s code of conduct and emergency response plan are communicated appropriately and submitted to senior administration annually;
- ensure that the School Division and each school has a critical incident response plan and threat assessment protocol;
- ensure that the use of technology by staff and students is responsible and supports student learning and digital citizenship; and
- ensure that staff are appropriately trained, through approved professional development opportunities, in how to foster safe and respectful schools.