

Policy Committee

November 7, 2024



Policy Committee Workplan

Policy Committee Meeting Date	Policies
November 7, 2024	Property Disposition Medical Health Supports Student Behaviour & Bias-Free Progressive Discipline
December 5, 2024	Engagement Code of Conduct Volunteer
February 6, 2025	Barrier-Free Learning Environments Educational Excursions

Property Disposition

November 7, 2024



Agenda

- Overview
- Previous Process under O.Reg 444/98
- New Process under O.Reg 374/23

Overview

- The *Better Schools and Student Outcomes Act, 2023* made amendments to the Education Act (the Act) that will help maximize school board capital assets to build modern schools faster, better utilize school capacity and enhance accountability and transparency.
- To reflect the changing needs of the province, on December 31, 2023:
 - O. Reg. 374/23 (the regulation) became effective.
 - Ontario Regulation 444/98: DISPOSITION OF SURPLUS REAL PROPERTY AND ACQUISITION OF REALPROPERTY (O. Reg. 444/98) was revoked.

Property Disposition under O.Reg 444/98 (Historic)

Phase 1

Circulation to Preferred Agencies (180 day Period)

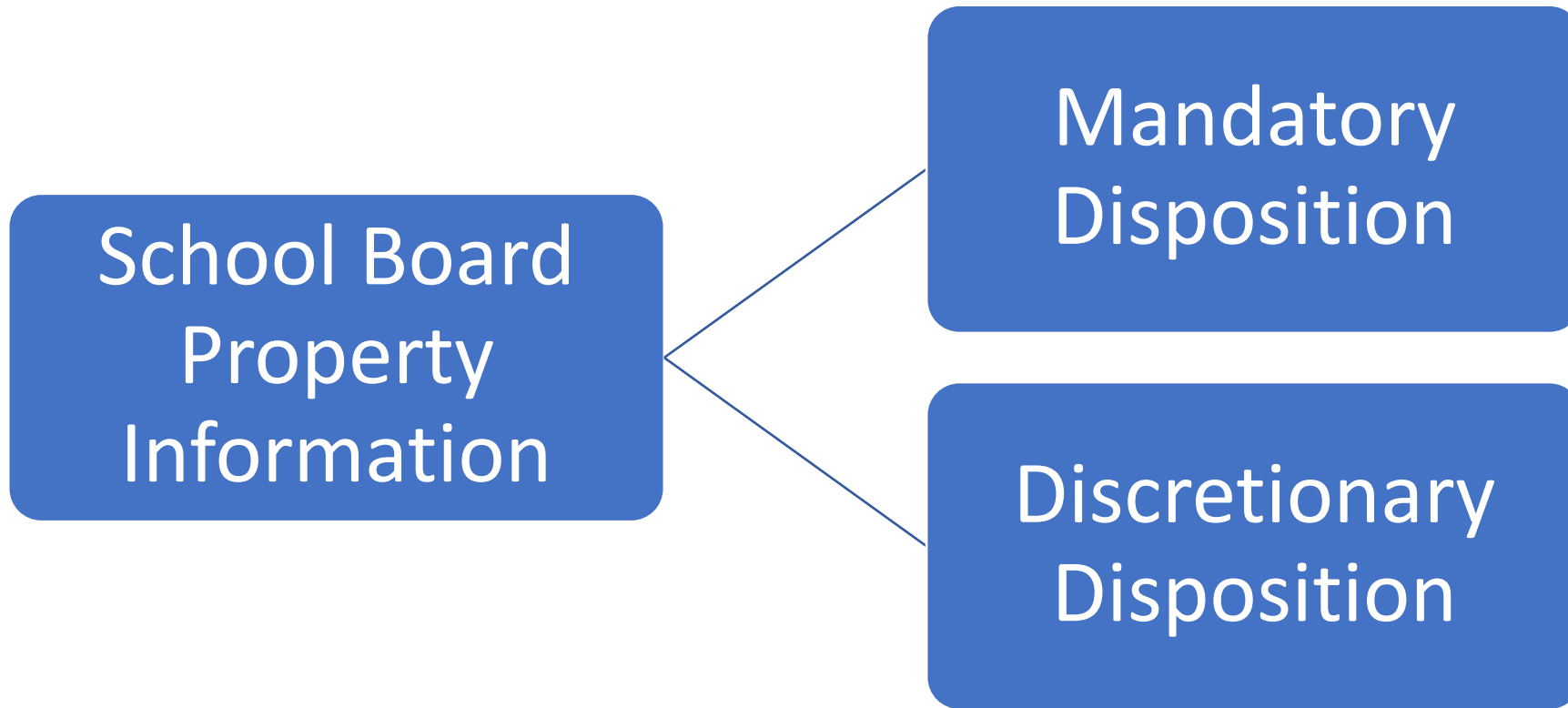
- Board resolution declaring property surplus
- Proposal circulated to Preferred Agencies to sell, lease or dispose of real property
- Public Information Session with local community within first 60 days

Phase 2

Sale of Property on the Open Market (3 yr period after 180 days)

- Board may dispose of property on open market if:
- No expression of interest was received during initial 90 day period
 - No offers were received during the second 90 day period
 - No offers were agreed upon

Property Disposition under O.Reg 374/23 (New)



School Board Property Information

- Section 193.1 of the Act states:
 - A Board shall provide to the Minister information and reports as the Minister requires respecting school sites, parts of school sites or other property of the board and respecting the board's plans for current and future school sites, parts of school sites.
 - Specific information includes condition of school sites, the board's plans for the acquisition, sale, lease or other disposition of school sites or parts of school sites.
 - The information must be sent in the form and manner and at times requested by the Minister.

Ministry Direction

- Within 120 days of receiving notice from a board, through the reports and information required, or within 120 days of the Minister giving notice to the board that the board is required to dispose of the property, the Minister shall respond to the board in one of the following ways:
 1. If the board has decided under clause 1 (1) (a) to dispose of the property, the Minister shall,
 - i. identify the person or body to whom the property must be offered, if the board intends to offer it to any person or body, or
 - ii. inform the board that it may offer the property to any person or body.
 2. If the board is required under subsection 2 (1) to dispose of the property, the Minister shall,
 - i. identify the person or body to whom the property must be offered, or
 - ii. inform the board that it must dispose of the property but may offer it to any person or body.

Mandatory and Discretionary Disposition

- The Mandatory and Discretionary disposition processes, including the granting of easements, as outlined in the Regulation will be followed.
 - Surplus property will be assessed by the provincial government first for the needs of school boards and then considered for provincial priorities, e.g., long-term care and affordable housing.
 - If there is a match for the surplus property based on need, HWDSB will be directed to work together with the identified school board or entity to negotiate the disposition at fair market value.
 - If a property is not required for the above purposes, HWDSB will be informed that it shall (under mandatory disposition) or may (under discretionary disposition) sell to any person or body, as per the Regulation. Through the Procedure, staff will offer the property to the City of Hamilton in advance of open market.

Medical Health Supports

November 7, 2024



Student Behaviour and Bias-Free Discipline Policy

November 7, 2024



Policy Development Process

- Notice of Motion
- Draft Policy Development: November 2024
 - Human Rights Impact Assessment Tool
- Public Consultation: Late Fall/Winter 2024/2025
- Draft Policy Revisions: April 2025

Discussion: Student Behaviour and Discipline Policy 5.7 Review

NOM: Program Committee Report – *June 5, 2023*, be approved including: That we initiate a policy review of the Student Behaviour and Discipline policy 5.7 immediately following the 2024 Safe Schools Report for Suspensions and Expulsions.

Key Considerations and Revisions to Date:

- Policy 5.7 “Student Behaviour and Bias-Free Progressive Discipline”, not just in name, but in learning/training that HWDSB continues to undertake with staff.
- Aligns with Ministry document “*Supporting Bias-Free Progressive Discipline in Schools*” created in collaboration with the Ontario Human Rights Commission (2013)
- Incorporation of educational materials that promote awareness of Indigenous issues, especially in the context of behaviour and discipline, to ensure that Indigenous students and staff feel understood and supported.
- Effectively manage and address both positive and disruptive student behaviours using strategies that are informed by an understanding of students' diverse identities. This approach ensures fairness and equity in behaviour management, supporting overall student well-being.
- Ensure interventions and support are sensitive to students' unique identities and backgrounds, fostering a more equitable school environment.

Consultation Planning (Nov. 2024 – March 2025)

This consultation plan, informed by the Human Rights and Impact Assessment tool, provides a foundation for a responsive, inclusive, and effective Student Behaviour and Bias-Free Progressive Discipline Policy, prioritizing a safe and respectful school environment.

Commitments to Participants Guiding commitments to ensure transparency, inclusivity, and trust-building:

- **Transparency:** Share regular updates through the website and trustee reports.
- **Student, Family, and Staff Voice:** Ensure policy is shaped by input from interested parties, with outcomes shared publicly.
- **Inclusive Engagement:** Prioritize engagement with those most affected by behaviour policies.
- **Trust-Building:** Foster relationships through listening, responsiveness, and accountability at both school and system levels.

Key Considerations: Procedure

Feedback and Considerations

- Staff training (bias)
- Disproportionality data usage
- Caregiver – communication / understanding / navigation
- *Activities Leading to Possible Suspension or Expulsion, Table*