

## **Health and Safety Statement**

As the senior administrators of the Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board, we are committed to the protection of our employees from accidental injury and illness. To fulfill this commitment, we strive to provide a safe and healthy work environment and provide the necessary guidance and training to allow our employees to accomplish the same.

This Policy statement is issued on a yearly basis to show our continued commitment and in keeping with the requirements and spirit of the Ontario Occupational Health and Safety Act.

In keeping with the amendments to the Occupational Health and Safety Act, including taking every reasonable step to protect our employees from any form of Harassment, Sexual Harassment or Threats of Physical Violence, as defined by the current legislation, the Board has developed a detailed program consisting of prevention initiatives and investigative procedures to address these amendments.

A successful safety program, to achieve a safe workplace, depends on concern and commitment from all personnel. The ultimate responsibility for health and safety rests with senior management, but the entire management team, including principals, department heads and supervisors will be held accountable for the safety performance of their employees. All employees have responsibility for working safely and protecting the lives and health of themselves, their students and their fellow employees.

The Board strives to comply with all applicable legislation. In doing so we will:

- Develop and implement effective standards and programs that provide a safe and healthy work environment.
- Strive to eliminate the risk of personal injury and occupational illness.
- Take every reasonable precaution to ensure our work activities and services do not present an
  unacceptable level of risk to our employees, our students and our volunteers. This includes the
  monitoring of and compliance with all applicable occupational health and safety legislation, standards,
  and programs.
- Educate all of our employees regarding known occupational hazards associated with their duties.

No job is so important that time cannot be taken to do it safely.

Our Multi-Site Joint Health and Safety Committee is co-chaired by certified management and worker representatives. The committee assists us in providing a safe workplace for all of us through their input and recommendations on improving the safety of our work environment through their monthly workplace inspections and by investigating any incidents that occur involving our employees.

By each of us accepting our responsibilities and through the active participation and cooperation of all of our employees, we will reach our goal of providing quality instruction and diversified learning in a safe environment, so the potential of each learner may be realized.

Jody DiRocco, Director of Education

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