

## **POLICY STATEMENT**

### **ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS**

#### **Rationale**

It is the policy of the Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board to provide an environment in all facilities that fosters independence, dignity, and respect. The Board is committed to building intentional Catholic environments that provide accessible programs, services, and environments for persons with disabilities, supporting the four principles of the [Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 \(AODA\)](#): dignity, independence, integration, and equality of opportunity. We strive to ensure that the identification, removal, and prevention of barriers in accordance with the AODA and all other applicable legislation is reflected and valued in our learning and working environments.

#### **Guiding Principles**

- The Board's guiding principles align with the core principles of the Accessibility for Ontarians Disabilities Act (AODA). As a faith community our belief is rooted in the strength that diversity brings to our communities and we seek to empower individuals to reach their full God-given potential.
- We are committed to ensuring that people with disabilities have the same opportunity of access to our programs and services in a similar way as these services are available to all others we serve. We will ensure that these services are integrated in a manner that respects the dignity and independence of persons with disabilities; free of barriers, and biases to our students, staff, parents/guardians, and the public.
- We are committed to ensuring that all communications and interactions with persons with disabilities consider individual differences and needs.
- We are committed to meeting, in a timely manner, the accessibility needs of people with disabilities in the provision of programs and services, including those related to information and communication, customer service, the built environment, employment, and student transportation.

## **References**

*Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA)*  
*Accessibility Standard for Customer Service, Ontario Regulation 429/07*  
*Integrated Accessibility Standards, Ontario Regulation 191/11*  
*Ontario Human Rights Code*  
*Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2001*

### **Administrative Procedures**

Accessibility Standards for Customer Service  
Accessibility Standards for Employment  
Accessibility Standards for Student Transportation  
Facilitating the Use of Service/Guide Dogs by Students  
Monitoring and Feedback on Accessible Customer Service  
Notification of Disruption of Service  
Providing Accessible Information and Communications Services  
Use of Assistive Devices by the General Public  
Use of Service Animals by the General Public  
Use of Support Person by the General Public

Approved: December 17, 2013

Updated : January 2022