



Policy Committee

Wednesday, April 22, 2026

7:00 pm

BE YOU. BE EXCELLENT.



The Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board acknowledges our presence on ancestral Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee Confederacy land as determined by the Dish with One Spoon treaty.

The intent of this agreement is for all nations sharing this territory to do so responsibly, respectfully and sustainably in perpetuity.

We respect the longstanding relationships with the local Indigenous communities, the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and the Six Nations of the Grand River.

Policy Committee Workplan

Policy Committee Meeting Date	Policies
April 22, 2026	Shaping Direction: How Policies Reflect Your Leadership Procurement Integrated Accessibility Standards
May 28, 2026	Occupational Health & Safety Workplace Violence & Harassment Prevention Notice of Motion



Procurement

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Procurement Policy

- **3.0** Finance Pillar
 - **3.8** Procurement
 - **Procedure:** Procurement
- Reviewed as part of the policy review cycle.

Background

- The Procurement Policy was last approved in 2021 and scheduled for review in 2025. Since that time, expectations for public-sector procurement governance, ethical standards, audit scrutiny, and legislative compliance have continued to evolve.

Summary of Changes

- Expands the policy scope to explicitly include human rights, equity, reconciliation, accessibility, and supplier diversity
- Modernizes language to align with current procurement and equity practices
- Strengthens ethical, human rights, and inclusion expectations of suppliers

Summary of Changes

Purpose

- Retains all core intent adding:
 - Explicit commitment to human rights, equity, accessibility, reconciliation, and inclusion
 - Recognition of Indigenous Peoples, equity-deserving groups, and community-based suppliers
 - Commitment to avoiding systemic or disproportionate barriers

Recommendation

- That the Procurement Policy be recommended for approval.



Integrated Accessibility Standards

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Integrated Accessibility Standards Policy

- **1.0** Communications and Community Engagement
 - **1.4** Integrated Accessibility Standards
 - **9 Procedures:**
 - For example: Accessibility Standards for Information and Communication Procedure, Accessibility Standards for Student Transportation Procedure, Use of Assistive Devices by the General Public Procedure
- Reviewed as part of the policy review cycle

Summary of Changes

The Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation is an Ontario regulation under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA) that brings together multiple accessibility standards into one unified regulation. It sets out requirements that public and private organizations, including school boards, must follow to identify, remove, and prevent barriers for people with disabilities

Terminology aligns with the recently approved Barrier Free Physical Learning Environment Policy

Intended outcomes aligned with proactive and person first approaches to accessibility.

Recommendation

- That the Integrated Accessibility Standards Policy be recommended for approval.