

## **POLICY – PO426**

### **Public and Stakeholder Consultation**

---

Area: Operations  
Source: Superintendent of Education - Policy Development

Approved: June 26, 2006  
Revised: Nov. 9, 2020

---

#### **1. Introduction**

Public and stakeholder consultation is key to the Board's decision-making process. While a decision may rest with the Board and/or staff, public and stakeholder input provides a useful mechanism for gathering data which enables informed decision making.

#### **2. Definitions**

**Consultation** – process whereby input is provided for the purpose of making a recommendation and/or indicating a perceived need or desired outcome.

**Stakeholder** – any individual or group that has a direct or indirect vested interest in the affairs of the Board.

#### **3. Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to provide a framework for the process of public and stakeholder consultation.

#### **4. Application / Scope**

This policy applies to all consultation processes that require public and/or stakeholder input.

## **5. Principles**

### **5.1 The Board believes that:**

- 5.1.1 public and stakeholder consultation is critical to reaching informed decisions;
- 5.1.2 it has a mandate to develop and implement appropriate processes for consultation;
- 5.1.3 all input received through consultation provides valuable information for making decisions; and
- 5.1.4 public and stakeholder consultation processes should not be influenced by commercial and political pressure.

## **6. Requirements**

- 6.1 The Director of Education shall issue administrative procedures to support this policy and amend them thereafter as the need arises.
- 6.2 Consultation processes shall be established for policy development and implementation, the transfer of principals, budget, Pupil Accommodation Reviews, Boundary Reviews and for any other area as determined by the Board or Ministry regulations.
- 6.3 Depending on the nature of the consultation, the process established may vary.
- 6.4 Input gathered through consultation shall be considered in making decisions.
- 6.5 The Board and/or staff should seek opportunities for engagement through public and stakeholder input.

## **7. Sources**

- 7.1 Education Act, RSO 1990, c. E.2

## **8. Related Policies and Administrative Procedures**

Nil