



## YORK REGION DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

### Policy #203.0, Board Advocacy

WORKING DOCUMENT

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#### Executive Summary

The York Region District School Board supports and engages in direct ongoing communication with the Government of Ontario to identify and discuss policy and financial issues. The Board communicates indirectly with the government through established professional and interest advocacy organizations, including the Ontario Public School Boards' Association, the Ontario Public Supervisory Officers' Association, the Council of Directors of Education and the Ontario Principals' Council.

The Board Advocacy policy addresses how the York Region District School Board engages with the Government of Ontario to identify and discuss policy and financial issues.

#### What has Changed?

**Major changes to the document:** No major changes.

**Reason for review:** Four-year cyclical review.

**Who is affected by these changes and what is the impact on current practice?**

**Implementation timelines:** Immediate.

**Lead Superintendent(s)/Subject Matter Expert(s):** Licinio Miguelo, Senior Manager, Corporate Communications.

#### Stakeholder Groups with Responsibilities under this Policy

- Board of Trustees
- Director of Education
- Corporate Communications
- Supervisors/Principals

#### Relationship to Board priorities

It is important that the York Region District School Board provide sound, reasoned advice that can enable the Ontario Government to create policy direction and funding models that support and sustain increased student learning. Board advice to the Government guides and informs the development of curriculum and recommends measures that enhance stewardship of resources.

## Timelines and Next Steps

This policy is scheduled for first review at the September 14, 2021 Policy and By-Law Committee meeting.

## Providing Feedback

Questions about this policy and/or procedure should be raised with your principal, manager or supervisor. If additional clarification is required, principals, managers and supervisors may contact the lead superintendent and/or subject matter expert through Trustee Services.

In accordance with Board Policy #285.0, [Board Policies, Procedures and Supporting Documents](#), the Board welcomes all comments and suggestions on Board policy.

Input is an important component of the review process. If you feel a policy and/or procedure needs to be revised, feedback may be submitted through the school council or by submitting the on-line form. In your response please;

- outline clearly the specific section(s) of the policy and/or procedure in which you are not comfortable,
- suggest specific alternate wording to reflect your position, and
- identify the reason(s) for your concern(s).

Specific recommendations or questions about the review process should be submitted using the on-line form or sent to the Assistant Manager, Corporate Policy via email at [policy.committee@yrdsb.ca](mailto:policy.committee@yrdsb.ca), or via telephone at 905-727-0022 extension 2570 or in hard copy at [The Education Centre – Aurora](#).

## Legislative Context

[Education Act](#)

## Related Documents

[Trustee Services](#)

[Education Act](#)

[Municipal Elections Act](#)

[Municipal, Provincial and Federal Elections Guideline](#)

[Conflict of Interest](#)

It is the expectation of the York Region District School Board that all employees, students and persons invited to or visiting Board property, or partaking/volunteering in Board or school-sponsored events and activities, will respect the policies and procedures of the Board. The term “parents” refers to both biological/adoptive parents and guardians in all Board policies and procedures.



# Board Policy #203.0

## Board Advocacy

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### 1. Policy Statement

The York Region District School Board supports and engages in direct ongoing communication with the Government of Ontario to identify and discuss policy and financial issues. The Board communicates indirectly with the government through established professional and interest advocacy organizations, including the Ontario Public School Boards' Association, the Ontario Public Supervisory Officers' Association, the Council of Directors of Education and the Ontario Principals' Council.

### 2. Application

This policy applies to Board staff, trustees and affiliated groups and agencies.

### 3. Responsibilities

#### 3.1 The Board of Trustees is responsible for:

- a) reviewing for endorsement and/or information purposes, position papers, presentations and strategies, as presented by the Director of Education;
- b) reviewing for approval and/or information purposes position papers, presentations and strategies, as recommended by Chair's Committee;
- c) reviewing the Board Advocacy policy in accordance with the approved policy review cycle; and
- d) understanding and communicating with members of the community about the Board Advocacy policy.

#### 3.2 The Director of Education is responsible for:

- a) presenting position papers, presentations and strategies to the Board of Trustees for information purposes or support as required; and
- b) implementing and operationalizing the Board Advocacy policy.

**3.3 Corporate Communications is responsible for:**

- a) supporting the Director of Education in preparing draft position papers, presentations and advocacy strategies.

**3.4 Principals, Managers and Supervisors are responsible for:**

- a) identifying to their supervisors or superintendents issues of interest and concern;
- b) recommending to their supervisors or superintendents Board positions on issues of interest and concern;
- c) recommending advocacy strategies to their supervisors or superintendents; and
- d) providing materials upon request to Corporate Communications Services in order to support the preparation of position papers, presentations and advocacy strategies.

**4. Contact**

Director's Office, Corporate Communications

**5. History**

Approved: 2007

Revised: 2012, 2013, 2017, 2018, 2021

Working Document: October 2021