The Greater Essex County District School Board believes that well-planned and conducted Field Trips provide students with an enhanced educational experience and program, and therefore approves Field Trips that are conducted in accordance with the regulations.

The Greater Essex County District School Board also believes that Excursions related to a school experience can provide the opportunity for personal, cultural and social growth and school community-building, and therefore approves Excursions that are conducted in accordance with the regulations.

All out-of-school experiences occurring during school hours should be made available to all students in a designated class, grade or course.

All Field Trips and Excursions must have adequate pre-planning and organizers must be aware of, and sensitive to the liability position they are assuming on behalf of the Board and themselves.

Definitions:

For the purpose of this policy, the following definitions will apply.

a) A Field Trip is an out-of-school study which is directly and substantively related to specific expectations found in the Provincial curriculum documents.

b) An Excursion is also an out-of-school activity, however, it does not relate directly or substantively to specific expectations found in the Provincial curriculum documents. Excursions may provide the opportunity for personal, cultural and social growth and school community-building goals.

c) A Field Trip or Excursion occurs off site from the school’s and/or school board’s property beyond a distance which a student would normally be expected to walk. A Neighbourhood Study Activity takes place off site from the school’s and/or school board’s property and within reasonable walking or assisted walking distance. If a Neighbourhood Study Activities does not involve activities with increased risks to students, it would not be subject to the provisions of this policy.

d) Field Trips and Excursions can be classified as: 1) Day Trips; 2) Overnight Trips; or 3) International Trips. Trips that include accommodations are classified as Overnight Trips. Travel of any length out of the country is classified as an International Trip.

e) The Board expressly disclaims any liability for claims for personal injuries, property damage or other, that in any way arise out of, or are connected with, out-of-school activities not approved as a), b) or c) above. Trips of this kind shall be the sole responsibility of the teacher (s) who participate in any manner.