



GREATER ESSEX COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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GREATER ESSEX COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD PLAN IN ACCORDANCE WITH ONTARIANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ODA) FOR THE YEAR SEPTEMBER 2020 TO AUGUST 2021

The Ontarians With Disabilities Act 2001 requires that all public organizations such as municipalities, school boards, hospitals, universities, and colleges to prepare a plan that identifies measures the organization has taken to identify, remove and prevent barriers to persons with disabilities and consult with persons with disabilities and others in preparing the plan.

The Accessibility for Ontarians With Disabilities Act 2005 (AODA) empowers Regulation 191/11 "Integrated Accessibility Standards" that provides direction for the following areas:

1. Information and Communication Standards
2. Employment Standards
3. Transportation Standards
4. Design of Public Spaces Standards (Accessibility Standards for the Built Environment)
5. Customer Service Standards

The Greater Essex County District School Board (GECD SB) must publish this plan by September 30th of each year in accordance with the Ontarians With Disabilities Act. Every year the Ontarians With Disabilities Act Committee must update the plan for the next year.

The ODA Committee would like to provide an on-going opportunity for all staff, parents and community partners of the Greater Essex County District School Board to communicate accessibility concerns to the School Board. To share your suggestion and input, please use the following link:

ODACommittee@publicboard.ca

GREATER ESSEX COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
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For the year September 2020 to August 2021

Barrier	Objective	Means to Prevent/Remove	Performance Criteria	Resources	Timeline	Responsibility
Updating Building Construction Standards as deemed necessary or when built into funded projects	To ensure that older buildings where feasible are updated with accessible materials	As items are requested for repair or replacement, new and more accessible items are installed (e.g. door handles)	Buildings will be updated as required or students will be accommodated at the closest site that is accessible	Facility Services	2020/21 School Year projects chosen on an 'as needed basis' with students as the priority	Facility Services, Special Education Department, Information Technology Services, School Principal
Accessible Washrooms	To provide access and functionality to washrooms	Provide appropriate lifts, sinks, toilets and door operators	Meets the needs as necessary	Appropriate materials required to modify the washrooms	2020/21 School Year projects chosen on an 'as needed basis' with students as the priority	Facility Services, Special Education Department, School Principal
Accommodations for the Visually Impaired as deemed appropriate	Submit request to the Superintendent of Special Education for students and to the HR Officer – Disability Management, for staff	Provide appropriate accommodations	Meets the needs as necessary	As deemed appropriate	2020/21 School Year projects chosen on an 'as needed basis' with students and staff as the priority	Facility Services, Special Education Department, Information Technology Services, School Principal, Human Resources Department (for staff)

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Barrier	Objective	Means to Prevent/Remove	Performance Criteria	Resources	Timeline	Responsibility
Automatic Doors – graduated implementation	To provide access to schools for people with disabilities	Install automatic doors, openers and frames as needs are identified	People with disabilities will have access to schools	Doors, openers, ramps, rails, and curb-cuts	2020/21 School Year projects chosen on an 'as needed basis' with students as the priority	Facility Services, Special Education Department, School Principal

The ODA Committee has reviewed the ODA Plan for the 2020/21 school year.

In addition to this year's plan, the Committee will be focusing on the following items as the GECDSDS strives to identify, address, remove and prevent barriers to accessibility.

- The ODA Committee will continue to collect information from the various stakeholders in order to identify, remove and prevent barriers.
- The ODA Accessibility link on the GECDSDS website will be updated yearly to indicate the progress being made by the School Board.
- The ODA Committee will provide a link on the GECDSDS website inviting suggestions and input for barrier identification and reduction.

If you wish to provide suggestions and input to the ODA Committee, please click on the given link to send us your message via email. These messages will be presented to the ODA Committee for consideration. For this link, please see page 1 of this report.

Renovations completed at elementary and secondary schools during 2019/20 school year:

Sandwich SS	Hold open device installed on Cafeteria Doors to improve accessibility
Frank W Begley PS	Modifications to stairwell and washrooms to improve accessibility
King Edward PS	Lift system installed in CR164 to improve functionality
Parkview PS	Lift system installed in W7 to improve functionality
Roseville	Installed auto-operator on main entrance to improve accessibility

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Forest Glade PLC PS	Installed auto-operator on main entrance to improve accessibility
Riverside SS	Ramp and auto-operator on west side of school to improve accessibility
Queen Victoria PS	Accessible washroom stall to improve functionality
Prince Edward PS	Accessible washroom stall to improve functionality

Renovations planned at elementary and secondary schools for completion during the 2020/21 school year:

Herman	Renovations to provide a barrier free washroom
Harrow PS	Auto-operator on main entrance to improve accessibility
Princess Elizabeth PS	Ramp and Auto-operator on parking lot entrance to improve accessibility
Sandwich Secondary	Renovations to provide a third barrier free washroom

Note: Enhanced cleaning protocols will be implemented to ensure that high touch surfaces, such as elevator buttons and automatic door opener buttons are disinfected. In addition, hand sanitizing stations have been installed at all building entrances.