

Policy: POLICE & SCHOOL PROTOCOL**Approved: June 29, 2009****INTRODUCTION**

Violence and criminal activity in our schools are sources of concern. In the past, each school board dealt with these occurrences in accordance with agreements, both written and oral, entered into with the police agency serving its local jurisdiction. This protocol encompasses all police services and all school boards as mentioned in the preface, thereby demonstrating our unified commitment to managing the safety and security of our youth.

PURPOSES

- Ensure consistency in reporting school-related incidents.
- Facilitate adaptability of school staff, police, and students with regards to transfer from one school to another or one police service to another.
- Ensure consistency in dealing with school-related incidents from one jurisdiction to another where school boards and police services overlap.
- To recognize the partnership role of local children's services agencies.

GOALS

- Develop and maintain a safe and violence-free school environment.
- Enable students to develop the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to prevent violence and deal with potential or actual violent situations.
- Encourage staff to develop the confidence and knowledge necessary to recognize and address potential or actual violent incidents and to educate students about violence and violence prevention.
- Ensure that victims, potential victims, witnesses, and perpetrators know that the school and police will act collectively to stop and/or prevent violence or harassment.
- Foster a learning environment in which students feel comfortable reporting to school authorities inappropriate behaviour that may grow into future violent acts.