



## Personal Protective Footwear

**Board Received:** February 22, 2016

**Review Date:** March 2020

### Accountability:

1. Frequency of Reports – As needed
2. Criteria for Success – Enhanced safety in workplace

### Purpose:

To reduce the potential of foot injury and risk of slipping and to ensure compliance with the Occupational Health and Safety Act and regulations and adherence to applicable codes and standards. To provide guidance for the selection of proper footwear.

### Background:

The Grand Erie District School Board is committed to preventing occupational illness and injury to staff by implementing and maintaining a safe and healthy working and learning environment. All individuals in danger of foot injury and risk of slipping, while performing a task associated with work shall wear foot protection appropriate in the circumstances.

### Procedures:

#### 1. Board Responsibilities:

As required under the Occupational Health and Safety Act the Board shall ensure that;

- Personal protective footwear is used as required and appropriate for the circumstances.
- Protective footwear is maintained in good condition.
- The areas that require protective footwear have appropriate warning signage.

#### 2. Managers/Supervisors Responsibilities:

- Managers/Supervisors will ensure that employees they supervise who are working under conditions, as set out in section 4 and 5 of this procedure, wear the required protective footwear.

#### 3. Employee Responsibilities:

- Wear the protective footwear as prescribed when exposed to a hazardous condition and in a manner recommended by the manufacturer.
- Maintain the protective footwear in suitable condition. Safety footwear with cracked uppers, worn through toe covering or smoothly worn soles are not suitable.
- Ensure warning signage is posted and students are aware of and kept clear of hazardous conditions.

#### 4. Prescribed Protective Footwear for Employees:

The following protective footwear shall be worn by the identified occupation groups during working hours while exposed to hazardous conditions. Exceptions to the following must be approved by the administrator or supervisor in consultation with the Health and Safety Officer, based on individual circumstances and risk assessment. Such approval shall be communicated to the individual in writing.

- Maintenance Personnel: CAN/CSA-Z195-M92 Standard: Class I toe protection, sole puncture protection, electrical shock resistance and leather uppers covering the ankles (Green triangle and OHM tag).
- Secondary Practical Technology Classroom Teachers while performing hands on activities in Technology Classrooms (Construction, Transportation, Welding, Woodworking, Automotive and Manufacturing): CAN/CSA-Z195-M92 Standard – Class I toe protection, sole puncture protection, electrical shock resistant (Green triangle and OHM tag).

Experiential Learning Teachers who supervise student placements and are visiting work sites where protective footwear is required: CAN/CSA-Z195-M92 Standard – Class I toe protection, sole puncture protection, electrical shock resistant (Green triangle and OHM tag).

Food Tech classrooms: CAN/CSA-Z195-M92 Standard – Class II toe protection, skid resistant impact absorbing soles (Yellow tag). Steel sole puncture protection is not required.

Note: Educational Assistants that are required to attend in a shop classroom setting are required to wear the same protective footwear.

- IT and Media Technicians: CAN/CSA-Z195-M92 Standard: Class I toe protection, sole puncture protection, electrical shock resistant (Green triangle and OHM tag).
- Custodial Personnel: CAN/CSA-Z195-M92 Standard: Class II toe protection, skid resistant impact absorbing soles (Yellow tag). Steel sole puncture protection is not required.

#### 5. Winter Operations

- During winter operations custodial personnel will wear a winter traction aid while outside, over their appropriate footwear to provide extra slip resistance in ice and snow conditions.
- School staff will wear appropriate winter footwear while outside on yard duty or during outdoor school activities suitable for ice and snow conditions. Winter traction aids will be available at every Elementary School for staff use while outside on yard duty, to wear over their appropriate footwear to provide extra slip resistance.

#### 6. Special Custodial Activities

- During activities that involve the use of floor wax stripper, custodial staff will wear floor gripping aids over their appropriate protective footwear to provide additional slip resistance.