



# PROCEDURE

# SO-018

## Environmental Education and Stewardship

**Board Received:** May 30, 2022

**Review Date:** June 2026

### **Purpose**

This procedure outlines the steps that board staff will take to operationalize the *Board Policy Environmental Education and Stewardship*.

### **Process:**

- Promote environmental education and practices by encouraging school, department and Board wide practices that demonstrate environmental sensitivity, stewardship and identify opportunities for environmental learning and involvement.
- Engage students and staff in including environmental, ecological, and natural pedagogy, while thinking critically about culturally responsive and relevant practices. (e.g., energy conservation, waste minimization). The participation in the Ontario Eco Schools program is strongly encouraged for all Grand Erie schools. The Student Senate, through the Student Trustees, will be asked to identify opportunities for student leadership in the area of environmental stewardship which are aligned with the Board's Multi-Year Plan, in the areas of learning, well-being and belonging.
- Seek opportunities to embed environmental education in the curriculum for all subjects and disciplines as indicated in Ministry of Education curriculum documents for specific subjects; informed by the teachings of diverse communities, including First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples, provide opportunities for environmental learning.
- Acknowledge the importance of learning about, in, for and from the environment as a way to forge a sense of belonging (for students) to their school and community.

### **References:**

- Environmental Education Stewardship Policy (SO-18)
- O. Reg. 102/94 Waste Audits and Waste Reduction Plans
- O. Reg. 103/94 Industrial, Commercial and Institutional Source Separation Programs
- Water Diversion Act 2022
- O. Reg 507/18 Broader Public Sector Energy Reporting and Conservation and Demand Management Plans
- Safe Drinking Water Act
- United Nation's Sustainable Development Guide
- Green School Construction Procedure (FT10)
- Environmental Standards for Facility Operations and Maintenance Procedure (FT14)
- Purchasing Policy (F6)
- Ministry of Education Curriculum Grades 1-8: Environmental Education
- Ministry of Education Curriculum Grades 9-12: Environmental Education
- Acting Today, Shaping Tomorrow: A Policy Framework for Environmental Education in Ontario Schools", published by the Ministry of Education