



Multi-Year Accessibility Plan
for the
Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board
January 2016 – December 2020

Presented to:

Resource Committee

March 9, 2016

Prepared by

Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board

Accessibility Working Group

This publication is available on the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board's Website at www.kprschoools.ca and in accessible formats upon request

This current iteration of our Multi-Year Accessibility Plan outlines the policies and actions that the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board (KPR) will put in place to improve opportunities for people with disabilities. It reflects the strategic directions outlined in KPR's Strategic Plan 2015-2018: Living, Learning and Leading in a Changing World.

Statement of Commitment

The Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board values equity, diversity, inclusiveness and the dignity and humanity of each individual. It is the policy of the Board, therefore, to ensure that the principles of equity, valuing diversity and inclusion are integrated into our goals, policies, practices, structures, programs and institutional, individual and collective interactions, in order to bolster the overall culture of the Board and its contribution to the communities it serves.

The Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board is committed to:

- ▶ Maintaining an ongoing Accessibility Working Group,
- ▶ Broad-based consultations to continuously improve access to policies, programs, practices and services for students, staff, parents/guardians, volunteers and members of the community living with disabilities, particularly in customer service, employment, transportation, information and communications technology, and the built environment.

Review and Monitoring

The Accessibility Working Group (AWG) will:

- ▶ Post the Multi-year Accessibility Plan on the KPRDSB website,
- ▶ Provide the plan in an accessible format, upon request,
- ▶ Prepare an annual status report on the progress in implementing the plan, and
- ▶ Review and update the plan at least once every five years.

About the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board

The Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board includes the Municipality of Clarington as well as Northumberland and Peterborough Counties. The Board encompasses almost 7,000 square kilometers to serve the communities located in the Kawarthas to the north, and south to Lake Ontario. Hastings County is our eastern border and our western border extends to the City of Kawartha Lakes and to the edge of the City of Oshawa. KPR provides learning opportunities to approximately 31,500 students within its 14 secondary, 74 elementary schools and three adult and alternative education centers. Approximately 22% of these students receive special education services, including itinerant services for students who are vision and hearing impaired.

LIVING IN A CHANGING WORLD

Accessibility and Living in a Changing World

Our strategic plan was developed after extensive consultation with students, parents, staff and community stakeholders. Through that consultation, we heard that the mental and physical wellness of our students and staff is vital for their success in school and happiness in life. This wellness is supported by ensuring our schools and workplaces are safe and inclusive places of respect for all. Our schools need to continue to be places where our students learn and feel valued in equal measure.

For the next four years we are committed to focusing on the following aspects of Living in a Changing World:

- Health and Wellbeing
- Safe, Equitable and Inclusive Environments

The following table identifies accessibility enhancements the Board has or will put in place, to support Living in a Changing World.

Lead Department	Deliverables	Compliance Date/Status
HEALTH AND WELLBEING		
Facilities Services	<input type="checkbox"/> Develop, annually update and disseminate <u>Accessibility Features of Kawartha Pine Ridge DSB Buildings</u> , an overview of the physical accessibility features available at all KPRDSB sites.	Ongoing
All Depts.	<input type="checkbox"/> Make school library resources and printed learning material accessible	Jan. 1, 2020
SAFE, EQUITABLE AND INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENTS		
Facilities Services	<input type="checkbox"/> Ensure new or redeveloped public spaces are compliant with accessibility features.	Ongoing
	<input type="checkbox"/> Ensure all Board and school websites and content are accessible	Dec. 31, 2020
STSCO	<input type="checkbox"/> Maintain integrated, accessible student transportation services as well as alternative services as required.	Ongoing

LEARNING IN A CHANGING WORLD

Accessibility and Learning in a Changing World

First and foremost, we are committed to high achievement goals for our students. The growth and advancement of their learning and knowledge is our core purpose as an organization, and we are committed to inspiring all students to realize their full potential. To do that we need to optimize learning conditions within our schools and be conscious of learning gaps that require our focused attention. Our commitment to supporting our students with special needs is a hallmark of our legacy as a school district and remains a constant in our decision making. We also embrace our obligation to champion Aboriginal education, achievement and awareness amongst our students. We are committed to providing our students with innovative learning environments that are equipped with technologies matched to the modern world. The modern world will be led by our students, who have grown through the commitments in the area of Learning in a Changing World:

- Focus on Excellence
- Modern Learning Environments

The following table identifies training and information sharing that the Board has undertaken or will undertake, to promote awareness of accessibility issues in support of Learning in a Changing World.

Lead Department	Deliverables	Compliance Date/Status
FOCUS ON EXCELLENCE		
T&L/ICT/Schools Central Services HR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Policies, procedures, training resources and records that are publically available are in accessible formats upon request <input type="checkbox"/> Ensuring effective communication for students and staff with special needs to be provided for in a timely and appropriate manner 	Ongoing Ongoing
MODERN LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS		
All Depts. ICT/Facilities Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Consider accessibility issues and requirements with all new construction and renovation projects to ensure equity and inclusiveness <input type="checkbox"/> Maintain accessibility features checklist on Board website and manage features through to 2025 and full compliance. 	Ongoing Ongoing, with annual updates

LEADING IN A CHANGING WORLD

Accessibility and Leading in a Changing World

As an organization, we sincerely believe that public education is a cornerstone of democracy in Ontario. Our schools are places of wonder and joy, accepting of all, where every child has a chance to realize greatness.

We are proud to be ambassadors for public education, and are committed to be an organization that contributes to public confidence through our transparency and accountability. We will continue to celebrate our achievements, and to build even stronger relationships with our partners who make our success possible.

As we continue Leading in a Changing World, we are committed to:

- Enhancing Public Confidence
- Partnerships

The following table identifies accessibility enhancements the Board has undertaken, or will put in place, to support Leading in a Changing World.

Lead Department	Deliverables	Compliance Date/Status
ENHANCING PUBLIC CONFIDENCE		
Board	<input type="checkbox"/> Maintain policies governing how KPR will achieve and ensure accessibility consistent with the requirements of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA).	Ongoing
Director's Office	<input type="checkbox"/> Maintain a Multi-Year Accessibility Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Ensure the principles of equity, diversity and inclusion are included with the policy review cycle.	Ongoing
PARTNERSHIPS		
Community Use and T&L	<input type="checkbox"/> Ensure our school based partnerships, such as child care providers, are aligned with KPR's expectations regarding accessibility, and that we maintain an effective mechanism for addressing accessibility needs with partners in our buildings,	Ongoing

For More Information

For more information on the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board's accessibility and equity policies and related resources, please go to the Board website at www.kprschools.ca

For more information on this accessibility plan, or to request a free accessible format of this document, please contact the Communications Department at Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board at:

Phone: 1-877-741-4577 or (705) 742-9773 Ext. 2001

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